

**Ergonomi för termiskt klimat – Analytisk
bestämning och bedömning av värme-
belastning genom beräkning av indexet PHS
(ISO 7933:2004)**

**Ergonomics of the thermal environment –
Analytical determination and interpretation of
heat stress using calculation of the predicted
heat strain (ISO 7933:2004)**

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**Ergonomics of the thermal environment - Analytical
determination and interpretation of heat stress using calculation
of the predicted heat strain (ISO 7933:2004)**

Ergonomie des ambiances thermiques - Détermination analytique et interprétation de la contrainte thermique fondées sur le calcul de l'astreinte thermique prévisible (ISO 7933:2004)

Ergonomie der thermischen Umgebung - Analytische Bestimmung und Interpretation der Wärmebelastung durch Berechnung der vorhergesagten Wärmebeanspruchung (ISO 7933:2004)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 8 August 2004.

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Foreword

This document (EN ISO 7933:2004) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 159 "Ergonomics" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 122 "Ergonomics", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by February 2005, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by February 2005.

This document supersedes EN 12515:1997.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

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The text of ISO 7933:2004 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 7933:2004 without any modifications.

Introduction

Other International Standards of this series describe how the parameters influencing the human thermoregulation in a given environment must be estimated or quantified. Others specify how these parameters must be integrated in order to predict the degree of discomfort or the health risk in these environments. The present document was prepared to standardize the methods that occupational health specialists should use to approach a given problem and progressively collect the information needed to control or prevent the problem.

The method of computation and interpretation of thermal balance is based on the latest scientific information. Future improvements concerning the calculation of the different terms of the heat balance equation, or its interpretation, will be taken into account when they become available. In its present form, this method of assessment is not applicable to cases where special protective clothing (reflective clothing, active cooling and ventilation, impermeable, with personal protective equipment) is worn.

In addition, occupational health specialists are responsible for evaluating the risk encountered by a given individual, taking into consideration his specific characteristics that might differ from those of a standard subject. ISO 9886 describes how physiological parameters must be used to monitor the physiological behaviour of a particular subject and ISO 12894 describes how medical supervision must be organized.

Ergonomics of the thermal environment — Analytical determination and interpretation of heat stress using calculation of the predicted heat strain

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a method for the analytical evaluation and interpretation of the thermal stress experienced by a subject in a hot environment. It describes a method for predicting the sweat rate and the internal core temperature that the human body will develop in response to the working conditions.

The various terms used in this prediction model, and in particular in the heat balance, show the influence of the different physical parameters of the environment on the thermal stress experienced by the subject. In this way, this International Standard makes it possible to determine which parameter or group of parameters should be modified, and to what extent, in order to reduce the risk of physiological strains.

The main objectives of this International Standard are the following:

- a) the evaluation of the thermal stress in conditions likely to lead to excessive core temperature increase or water loss for the standard subject;
- b) the determination of exposure times with which the physiological strain is acceptable (no physical damage is to be expected). In the context of this prediction mode, these exposure times are called “maximum allowable exposure times”.

This International Standard does not predict the physiological response of individual subjects, but only considers standard subjects in good health and fit for the work they perform. It is therefore intended to be used by ergonomists, industrial hygienists, etc., to evaluate working conditions.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 7726, *Ergonomics of the thermal environment — Instruments for measuring physical quantities*

ISO 8996, *Ergonomics of the thermal environment — Determination of metabolic rate*

ISO 9886, *Ergonomics — Evaluation of thermal strain by physiological measurements*

ISO 9920, *Ergonomics of the thermal environment — Estimation of the thermal insulation and evaporative resistance of a clothing ensemble*

3 Symbols

For the purposes of this document, the symbols and abbreviated terms, designated below as “symbols” with their units, are in accordance with ISO 7726.

However, additional symbols are used to for the presentation of the Predicted Heat Strain index.

A complete list of symbols is presented in Table 1.

Table 1 — Symbols and units

Symbol	Term	Unit
—	code = 1 if walking speed entered, 0 otherwise	—
—	code = 1 if walking direction entered, 0 otherwise	—
α	fraction of the body mass at the skin temperature	dimensionless
α_i	skin-core weighting at time t_i	dimensionless
α_{i-1}	skin-core weighting at time t_{i-1}	dimensionless
ε	emissivity	dimensionless
θ	angle between walking direction and wind direction	degrees
A_{Du}	DuBois body surface area	square metre
A_p	fraction of the body surface covered by the reflective clothing	dimensionless
A_r	effective radiating area of a body	dimensionless
C	convective heat flow	watts per square metre
c_e	water latent heat of vaporization	joules per kilogram
$C_{orr,cl}$	correction for the dynamic total dry thermal insulation at or above 0,6 clo	dimensionless
$C_{orr,la}$	correction for the dynamic total dry thermal insulation at 0 clo	dimensionless
$C_{orr,tot}$	correction for the dynamic clothing insulation as a function of the actual clothing	dimensionless
$C_{orr,E}$	correction for the dynamic permeability index	dimensionless
c_p	specific heat of dry air at constant pressure	joules per kilogram of dry air kelvin
C_{res}	respiratory convective heat flow	watts per square metre
c_{sp}	specific heat of the body	watts per square meter per kelvin
D_{lim}	maximum allowable exposure time	minutes
$D_{lim tre}$	maximum allowable exposure time for heat storage	minutes
$D_{limloss50}$	maximum allowable exposure time for water loss, mean subject	minutes
$D_{limloss95}$	maximum allowable exposure time for water loss, 95 % of the working population	minutes
D_{max}	maximum water loss	grams
D_{max50}	maximum water loss to protect a mean subject	grams
D_{max95}	maximum water loss to protect 95 % of the working population	grams
DRINK	1 if workers can drink freely, 0 otherwise	dimensionless

Symbol	Term	Unit
dS_i	body heat storage during the last time increment	watts per square metre
dS_{eq}	body heat storage rate for increase of core temperature associated with the metabolic rate	watts per square meter
E	evaporative heat flow at the skin	watts per square metre
E_{max}	maximum evaporative heat flow at the skin surface	watts per square metre
E_p	predicted evaporative heat flow	watts per square metre
E_{req}	required evaporative heat flow	watts per square metre
E_{res}	respiratory evaporative heat flow	watts per square metre
f_{cl}	clothing area factor	dimensionless
$F_{cl,R}$	reduction factor for radiation heat exchange due to wearing clothes	dimensionless
F_r	emissivity of the reflective clothing	dimensionless
H_b	body height	meters
h_{cdyn}	dynamic convective heat transfer coefficient	watts per square metre kelvin
h_r	radiative heat transfer coefficient	watts per square metre kelvin
$I_{a\ st}$	static boundary layer thermal insulation	square meters kelvin per watt
$I_{cl\ st}$	static clothing insulation	square meters kelvin per watt
I_{cl}	clothing insulation	clo
$I_{tot\ st}$	total static clothing insulation	square meters kelvin per watt
$I_{a\ dyn}$	dynamic boundary layer thermal insulation	square meters kelvin per watt
$I_{cl\ dyn}$	dynamic clothing insulation	square meters kelvin per watt
$I_{tot\ dyn}$	total dynamic clothing insulation	square meters kelvin per watt
i_{mst}	static moisture permeability index	dimensionless
i_{mdyn}	dynamic moisture permeability index	dimensionless
$incr$	time increment from time t_{i-1} to time t_i	minutes
k_{Sw}	fraction k of predicted sweat rate	dimensionless
K	conductive heat flow	watts per square metre
M	metabolic rate	watts per square meter
p_a	water vapour partial pressure	kilopascals
$p_{sk,s}$	saturated water vapour pressure at skin temperature	kilopascals
R	radiative heat flow	watts per square metre
r_{req}	required evaporative efficiency of sweating	dimensionless
R_{tdyn}	dynamic total evaporative resistance of clothing and boundary air layer	square metres kilopascals per watt
S	body heat storage rate	watts per square metre
S_{eq}	body heat storage for increase of core temperature associated with the metabolic rate	watts per square metre
Sw_{max}	maximum sweat rate	watts per square metre
Sw_p	predicted sweat rate	watts per square metre
$Sw_{p,i}$	predicted sweat rate at time t_i	watts per square metre

Symbol	Term	Unit
$\dot{S}w_{p,i-1}$	predicted sweat rate at time t_{i-1}	watts per square metre
$\dot{S}w_{req}$	required sweat rate	watts per square metre
t	time	minutes
t_a	air temperature	degrees celsius
t_{cl}	clothing surface temperature	degrees celsius
t_{cr}	core temperature	degrees celsius
$t_{cr,eqm}$	steady state value of core temperature as a function of the metabolic rate	degrees celsius
$t_{cr,eq}$	core temperature as a function of the metabolic rate	degrees celsius
$t_{cr,eq i}$	core temperature as a function of the metabolic rate at time t_i	degrees celsius
$t_{cr,eq i-1}$	core temperature as a function of the metabolic rate at time t_{i-1}	degrees celsius
$t_{cr,i}$	core temperature at time t_i	degrees celsius
$t_{cr,i-1}$	core temperature at time t_{i-1}	degrees celsius
t_{ex}	expired air temperature	degrees celsius
t_r	mean radiant temperature	degrees celsius
t_{re}	rectal temperature	degrees celsius
$t_{re, max}$	maximum acceptable rectal temperature	degrees celsius
$t_{re,i}$	rectal temperature at time t_i	degrees celsius
$t_{re,i-1}$	rectal temperature at time t_{i-1}	degrees celsius
$t_{sk,eq}$	steady state mean skin temperature	degrees celsius
$t_{sk,eq nu}$	steady state mean skin temperature for nude subjects	degrees celsius
$t_{sk,eq cl}$	steady state mean skin temperature for clothed subjects	degrees celsius
$t_{sk,i}$	mean skin temperature at time t_i	degrees celsius
$t_{sk,i-1}$	mean skin temperature at time t_{i-1}	degrees celsius
V	respiratory ventilation rate	litres per minute
v_a	air velocity	metres per second
v_{ar}	relative air velocity	metres per second
v_w	walking speed	metres per second
w	skin wettedness	dimensionless
W	effective mechanical power	watts per square metre
W_a	humidity ratio	kilograms of water per kilogram of dry air
W_b	body mass	kilograms
W_{ex}	humidity ratio for the expired air	kilograms of water per kilogram of dry air
w_{max}	maximum skin wettedness	dimensionless
w_p	predicted skin wettedness	dimensionless
w_{req}	required skin wettedness	dimensionless

4 Principles of the method of evaluation

The method of evaluation and interpretation calculates the thermal balance of the body from

a) the parameters of the thermal environment:

- air temperature, t_a ;
- mean radiant temperature, t_r ;
- partial vapour pressure, p_a ;
- air velocity, v_a ;

(These parameters are estimated or measured according to ISO 7726.)

b) the mean characteristics of the subjects exposed to this working situation:

- the metabolic rate, M , estimated on the basis of ISO 8996;
- the clothing thermal characteristics estimated on the basis of ISO 9920.

Clause 5 describes the principles of the calculation of the different heat exchanges occurring in the thermal balance equation, as well as those of the sweat loss necessary for the maintenance of the thermal equilibrium of the body. The mathematical expressions for these calculations are given in Annex A.

Clause 6 describes the method of interpretation which leads to the determination of the predicted sweat rate, the predicted rectal temperature, and the maximum allowable exposure times and work-rest regimens to achieve the predicted sweat rate. This determination is based on two criteria: maximum body core temperature increase and maximum body water loss. Maximum values for these criteria are given in Annex B.

The precision with which the predicted sweat rate and the exposure times are estimated is a function of the model (i.e. of the expressions proposed in Annex A) and the maximum values, which are adopted. It is also a function of the accuracy of estimation and measurement of the physical parameters and of the precision with which the metabolic rate and the thermal insulation of the clothing are estimated.

5 Main steps of the calculation

5.1 General heat balance equation

5.1.1 General

The thermal balance equation of the body may be written as:

$$M - W = C_{\text{res}} + E_{\text{res}} + K + C + R + E + S \quad (1)$$

This equation expresses that the internal heat production of the body, which corresponds to the metabolic rate (M) minus the effective mechanical power (W), is balanced by the heat exchanges in the respiratory tract by convection (C_{res}) and evaporation (E_{res}), as well as by the heat exchanges on the skin by conduction (K), convection (C), radiation (R), and evaporation (E), and by the eventual balance, heat storage (S), accumulating in the body.

The different terms of Equation (1) are successively reviewed in terms of the principles of calculation (detailed expressions are shown in Annex A).