



SWEDISH  
STANDARDS  
INSTITUTE

**SVENSK STANDARD  
SS-EN ISO 14978:2006**

Fastställd 2006-07-13

Utgåva 1

**Geometriska produktspecifikationer (GPS) –  
Generella begrepp och krav för mätutrustning  
(ISO 14978:2006)**

**Geometrical Product Specifications (GPS) –  
General concepts and requirements for GPS  
measuring equipment (ISO 14978:2006)**

ICS 17.040.30

Språk: engelska

Publicerad: september 2006

Europastandarden EN ISO 14978:2006 gäller som svensk standard. Detta dokument innehåller den officiella engelska versionen av EN ISO 14978:2006.

The European Standard EN ISO 14978:2006 has the status of a Swedish Standard. This document contains the official English version of EN ISO 14978:2006.

---

Uppllysningar om **sakinnehållet** i standarden lämnas av SIS, Swedish Standards Institute, telefon 08 - 555 520 00.

Standarder kan beställas hos SIS Förlag AB som även lämnar **allmänna uppllysningar** om svensk och utländsk standard.

*Postadress:* SIS Förlag AB, 118 80 STOCKHOLM  
*Telefon:* 08 - 555 523 10. *Telefax:* 08 - 555 523 11  
*E-post:* [sis.sales@sis.se](mailto:sis.sales@sis.se). *Internet:* [www.sis.se](http://www.sis.se)

EUROPEAN STANDARD

**EN ISO 14978**

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

July 2006

---

ICS 17.040.30

English Version

**Geometrical Product Specifications (GPS) - General concepts  
and requirements for GPS measuring equipment (ISO  
14978:2006)**

Spécification géométrique des produits (GPS) - Concepts  
et exigences généraux pour les équipements de mesure  
GPS (ISO 14978:2006)

Geometrische Produktspezifikation (GPS) - Allgemeine  
Begriffe und Anforderungen für GPS Messeinrichtungen  
(ISO 14978:2006)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 19 June 2006.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Central Secretariat or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the Central Secretariat has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

**Management Centre: rue de Stassart, 36 B-1050 Brussels**

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
Foreword.....	iv
Introduction .....	v
<b>1 Scope .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Normative references .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4 Abbreviations .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>5 Design characteristics.....</b>	<b>13</b>
5.1 General.....	13
5.2 Indicating measuring equipment .....	14
5.3 Material measures.....	14
<b>6 Metrological characteristics .....</b>	<b>15</b>
6.1 General.....	15
6.2 Identification, definition and choice of metrological characteristics .....	16
6.3 Indicating measuring equipment — identification of general metrological characteristics.....	17
6.4 Material measures — Identification of general metrological characteristics .....	19
<b>7 Types of presentation and types of specifications for characteristics.....</b>	<b>21</b>
7.1 General.....	21
7.2 Presentation of characteristic curves — Fixed and floating zero .....	21
7.3 Presentation of a characteristic — Statistical .....	24
7.4 Specifications for single-value metrological characteristics.....	25
7.5 Specification for metrological characteristics defined in a range.....	25
7.6 Specification for metrological characteristics defined in a two- or three-dimensional range .....	29
<b>8 Calibration of metrological characteristics.....</b>	<b>29</b>
8.1 Manufacturer and supplier of measuring instruments .....	29
8.2 User of measuring instruments.....	29
8.3 Measurement uncertainty .....	29
<b>9 Marking .....</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Annex A (normative) General minimum requirements and guidance for clauses in GPS standards for specific measuring equipment .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Annex B (informative) Data sheet for measuring equipment requirements.....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Annex C (normative) Relation to the GPS matrix model.....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Bibliography .....</b>	<b>37</b>

## **Foreword**

This document (EN ISO 14978:2006) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 213 "Dimensional and geometrical product specifications and verification" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 290 "Dimensional and geometrical product specification and verification", the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

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 January 2007, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by January 2007.

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, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

## **Endorsement notice**

The text of ISO 14978:2006 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 14978:2006 without any modifications.

## EN ISO 14978:2006 (E)

### Introduction

This International Standard is a geometrical product specification (GPS) standard and is to be regarded as a global GPS standard (see ISO/TR 14638). It influences chain links 5 and 6 of all chains of standards in the general GPS matrix.

For more detailed information of the relation of this International Standard to other standards and the GPS matrix model, see Annex C.

This International Standard contains guidance for writing the standards for specific measuring equipment.

This International Standard is intended to give the user a basic understanding of the use of ISO standards for GPS measuring equipment. This International Standard presents and defines general concepts to be used in connection with GPS measuring equipment to avoid multiple repetitions in the ISO standards for specific GPS measuring equipment. This International Standard is also intended as guidance for the manufacturer to evaluate and present specifications for characteristics for GPS measurement equipment.

This International Standard should be close at hand when reading and using ISO standards for a specific GPS measuring equipment.

# Geometrical product specifications (GPS) — General concepts and requirements for GPS measuring equipment

## 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the general requirements, terms and definitions of characteristics of simple GPS measuring equipment, e.g. micrometers, dial gauges, callipers, surface plates, height gauges, gauge blocks, but not necessarily excluding more complicated equipment. It forms the basis for standards defining and describing the design characteristics and metrological characteristics for measuring equipment. It also gives guidance for the development and content of standards for GPS measuring equipment.

This International Standard is intended to ease the communication between manufacturer/supplier and customer/user and to make the specification phase of GPS measuring equipment more accurate. This International Standard is also intended as a tool to be used in companies in the process of defining and selecting relevant characteristics for measuring equipment to be used in the quality assurance of measuring processes, i.e. in calibration and in workpiece measurements.

This International Standard also includes terms which are frequently used in connection with the characterization of specific measuring equipment.

## 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 1:2002, *Geometrical Product Specifications (GPS) — Standard reference temperature for geometrical product specification and verification*

ISO 1101:2004, *Geometrical Product Specifications (GPS — Geometrical tolerancing — Tolerances of form, orientation, location and run-out*

ISO 5459:—<sup>1)</sup>, *Geometrical Product Specifications (GPS) — Geometrical tolerancing — Datums and datum systems*

ISO 14253-1:1998, *Geometrical Product Specifications (GPS) — Inspection by measurement of workpieces and measuring equipment — Part 1: Decision rules for proving conformance or non-conformance with specifications*

ISO/TS 14253-2:1999, *Geometrical Product Specifications (GPS) — Inspection by measurement of workpieces and measuring equipment — Part 2: Guide to the estimation of uncertainty in GPS measurement, in calibration of measuring equipment and product verification*

ISO/TS 17450-2, *Geometrical product specifications (GPS) — General concepts — Part 2: Basic tenets, specifications, operators and uncertainties*

*International vocabulary of basic and general terms in metrology (VIM)*, BIPM, IEC, IFCC, ISO, IUPAC, IUPAP, 1987

---

1) To be published. (Revision of ISO 5459:1981.)

## EN ISO 14978:2006(E)

*International vocabulary of basic and general terms in metrology (VIM)*, BIPM, IEC, IFCC, ISO, IUPAC, IUPAP, 1993

*Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement (GUM)*, BIPM, IEC, IFCC, ISO, IUPAC, IUPAP, OIML, 1993<sup>2)</sup>

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 14253-1, ISO/TS 14253-2, ISO/TS 17450-2, VIM and GUM and the following apply.

#### 3.1 measuring equipment

**ME**  
any instrument, measurement standard, reference material and/or auxiliary apparatus or any combination thereof necessary to implement a measurement process for carrying out a specified and defined measurement

NOTE 1 This definition is necessarily wider than that of a measuring instrument [VIM:1993, 4.1] since it includes all the means necessary for producing a measurement result.

NOTE 2 The concept measuring equipment includes, for example, **indicating measuring instruments** (3.2) and **material measures** (3.3).

#### 3.2 indicating measuring instrument

measuring equipment that displays an indication

NOTE 1 The display can be analog (continuous or discontinuous) or digital.

NOTE 2 Values of more than one quantity can be displayed simultaneously.

NOTE 3 A displaying measuring instrument can also provide a record.

[VIM:1993, 4.6]

#### EXAMPLES

- a) Analog mechanical dial gauge,
- b) digital calliper,
- c) micrometer.

NOTE 4 The examples given in VIM are changed here to examples in length units.

#### 3.3 material measure

device intended to reproduce or supply, in a permanent manner during its use, one or more known values of a given quantity

NOTE 1 The quantity concerned can be called the supplied quantity.

[VIM:1993, 4.2]

---

2) Corrected and reprinted in 1995.

## EXAMPLES

- a) Gauge block,
- b) ball plate,
- c) angle block,
- d) limit gauge (e.g. gap gauge),
- e) functional gauge,
- f) surface texture standard,
- g) reference ring,
- h) tape measure.

NOTE 2 Material measure is included in the concept measuring equipment.

NOTE 3 The examples given in VIM are changed here to examples in length units.

### 3.4

#### **mono-characteristic measuring equipment**

measuring equipment which can be characterised by a single metrological characteristic

NOTE 1 Mono-characteristic measuring equipment is a simplifying theoretical concept which is described in this standard as a contrast to the case of actual multi-characteristic measuring equipment.

NOTE 2 For simplification, especially when evaluating uncertainty contributions, **multi-characteristic measuring equipment** (3.5) can be considered as a “black box” and therefore can be assumed to be a mono-characteristic measuring equipment.

### 3.5

#### **multi-characteristic measuring equipment**

measuring equipment which is characterised by two or more metrological characteristics

NOTE All GPS measuring equipment is multi-characteristic (see 3.4 NOTE 2).

### 3.6

#### **measurement process**

set of interrelated resources, activities and influences which produce a measurement

NOTE 1 This term is commonly used for the calibration of measuring equipment and the measurement of workpieces.

NOTE 2 Resources can be human or material.

### 3.7

#### **intended use**

(measuring equipment) measurement process in which specific measuring equipment is to be used

NOTE 1 Knowledge about intended use usually reduces the number of metrological requirements to be calibrated.

NOTE 2 Knowledge about intended use of the maximum permissible errors (MPE, see 3.21) for the metrological requirements that need to be calibrated usually allows adjustment to more economical and less restrictive values.

### 3.8

#### **calibration**

(measuring equipment) set of operations that establish, under specified conditions, the relationship between values of quantities indicated by a measuring instrument or measuring system, or values represented by a material measure or a reference material, and the corresponding values realized by standards

NOTE 1 The result of a calibration permits either the assignment of values of measurands to the indications, or the determination of corrections with respect to indications.

NOTE 2 A calibration can also determine other metrological properties, such as the effect of influence quantities.

## EN ISO 14978:2006(E)

NOTE 3 The result of a calibration can be recorded in a document, sometimes called a calibration certificate or a calibration report.

[VIM:1993, 6.11]

NOTE 4 The VIM definition of calibration only applies to mono-metrological characteristic measuring equipment and therefore usually does not apply to GPS measuring equipment (see 3.4 and 3.5).

**3.9  
calibration of a metrological characteristic**  
set of operations that establish, under specified conditions, the relationship between values of quantities of a metrological characteristic, and the corresponding values realized by standards

NOTE Metrological characteristics can be defined and calibrated as quantities that need mathematical or geometrical transformations to be compatible with the measurement result of the measuring equipment, e.g. flatness and parallelism of the measuring faces of an external micrometer.

**3.10  
global calibration**  
<measuring equipment> calibration of all metrological characteristics for measuring equipment

NOTE 1 Global calibration can be used if the intended use of the equipment is not known at the time of calibration, or as an acceptance test to verify the agreed specifications in connection with the delivery of new measuring equipment.

NOTE 2 In cases of daily operation of the metrology system in a company, global calibration is usually not needed (see 3.11).

**3.11  
task-related calibration**  
<measuring equipment> calibration of only those metrological characteristics which influence the measurement uncertainty for the intended use

NOTE 1 Usually a task-related calibration will include the calibration of only those metrological characteristics that have a major influence on the measurement uncertainty for the intended use.

NOTE 2 Task-related calibrations can be performed using other, more economical procedures than those used in global calibration; and a task-related calibration can be designed to deliver information (values and conditions) optimised for use in the specific uncertainty budget.

NOTE 3 This definition of task-related calibration is intentionally formulated differently from that in ISO 12179, but the meaning is the same. The difference in the text indicates a development in the GPS field.

**3.12  
metrological characteristic  
MC**  
<measuring equipment> characteristic of measuring equipment, which may influence the results of measurement

NOTE 1 The influence on the results of measurement is an immediate (short-term) uncertainty contribution (see Clause 6).

NOTE 2 A metrological characteristic is expressed in numerical values and can be evaluated in a unit other than that of the measurement result of the actual measuring equipment.

NOTE 3 Measuring equipment usually has several metrological characteristics.

NOTE 4 Metrological characteristics can be subject to calibration (see 3.10 and 3.11).

### 3.13

#### design characteristic

##### DC

⟨measuring equipment⟩ characteristic of measuring equipment which does not influence the measurement directly, but which may be of interest for other reasons when the measuring equipment is used

NOTE 1 Design characteristics can influence interchangeability, readability of line scales and digital read-outs, wear resistance, etc. (see Clause 5).

NOTE 2 Some design characteristics can influence the equipment's long-term capacity to make measurements (influencing design characteristics), e.g. its wear resistance, its environmental resistance, etc. Other design characteristics have no influence the measurements (non-influencing design characteristics).

### 3.14

#### metrological requirement

##### MR

⟨measuring equipment⟩ requirement for a metrological characteristic

NOTE 1 Metrological requirements can be derived from specified requirements for a product/feature to be measured, or can be decided on a general basis.

NOTE 2 A metrological requirement can be presented as a maximum permissible error (MPE, see 3.21) or as permissible limits (MPL, see 3.20).

NOTE 3 Measuring equipment usually has several metrological requirements, one for each metrological characteristic.

### 3.15

#### design requirement

##### DR

⟨measuring equipment⟩ requirement for a design characteristic

NOTE 1 Design requirements can be derived from the intended use of the measuring equipment or decided on a general basis, and can be given in a standard.

NOTE 2 A design requirement can be given in the form of dimensions, material requirements, interface protocols, etc. (see Clause 5).

### 3.16

#### error (of indication)

⟨measuring equipment⟩ indication of measuring equipment minus a true value of the corresponding input quantity

NOTE 1 Since a true value cannot be determined, in practice a conventional true value is used (see VIM:1993, 1.19 and 1.20).

NOTE 2 This concept applies mainly where the instrument is compared to a reference standard.

NOTE 3 For a material measure, the indication is the value assigned to it.

[VIM:1993, 5.20]

NOTE 4 The VIM term and definition generally do not apply to set-up specifications for GPS measuring equipment and certainly not to the concept of a metrological characteristic in multi-characteristic measuring equipment. Term 3.18 is used instead.

### 3.17

#### value of the actual metrological characteristic

value found by calibration and characterising the metrological characteristic