BSI Standards Publication

Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of tensile strength perpendicular to faces
National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 1607:2013. It supersedes BS EN 1607:1997 which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee B/540, Energy performance of materials components and buildings.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

© The British Standards Institution 2013.
Published by BSI Standards Limited 2013

ISBN 978 0 580 78034 9
ICS 91.100.60

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 30 November 2013.

Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Text affected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thermal insulating products for building applications -
Determination of tensile strength perpendicular to faces

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 15 December 2012.

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 CEN-CENELEC Management Centre 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 CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foreword</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Scope</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Normative references</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Terms and definitions</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Principle</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Apparatus</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Test specimens</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Procedure</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Calculation and expression of results</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Accuracy of measurement</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Test report</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Foreword

This document (EN 1607:2013) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 88 “Thermal insulating materials and products”, 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 September 2013, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by September 2013.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN 1607:1996.

The revision of this standard contains no major changes, only minor corrections and clarifications of an editorial nature.


This European Standard has been drafted for applications in building, but it may also be used in other areas where it is relevant.

This European test standard is one of the following group of interrelated standards on test methods for determining dimensions and properties of thermal insulation materials and products, all of which fall within the scope of CEN/TC 88:

- EN 822, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of length and width
- EN 823, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of thickness
- EN 824, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of squareness
- EN 825, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of flatness
- EN 826, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of compression behaviour
- EN 1602, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of the apparent density
- EN 1603, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of dimensional stability under constant normal laboratory conditions (23 °C/50 % relative humidity)
- EN 1604, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of dimensional stability under specified temperature and humidity conditions
- EN 1605, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of deformation under specified compressive load and temperature conditions
- EN 1606, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of compressive creep
EN 1607:2013

— EN 1607, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of tensile strength perpendicular to faces

— EN 1608, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of tensile strength parallel to faces

— EN 1609, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of short-term water absorption by partial immersion

— EN 12085, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of linear dimensions of test specimens

— EN 12086, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of water vapour transmission properties

— EN 12087, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of long-term water absorption by immersion

— EN 12088, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of long-term water absorption by diffusion

— EN 12089, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of bending behaviour

— EN 12090, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of shear behaviour

— EN 12091, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of freeze-thaw resistance

— EN 12429, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Conditioning to moisture equilibrium under specified temperature and humidity conditions

— EN 12430, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of behaviour under point load

— EN 12431, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of thickness for floating floor insulating products

— EN 13793, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of behaviour under cyclic loading

— EN 13820, Thermal insulating materials for building applications — Determination of organic content

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

This European Standard specifies the equipment and procedures for determining the tensile strength of a product perpendicular to its faces. It is applicable to thermal insulating products.

2 Normative references

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

EN 12085, Thermal insulating products for building applications — Determination of linear dimensions of test specimens

ISO 5725-1, Accuracy (trueness and precision) of measurement methods and results — Part 1: General principles and definitions

ISO 5725-2, Accuracy (trueness and precision) of measurement methods and results — Part 2: Basic method for the determination of repeatability and reproducibility of a standard measurement method

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following term and definition applies.

3.1 tensile strength perpendicular to faces

\[ \sigma_{\text{mt}} \]

maximum recorded tensile force perpendicular to the product faces during the pulling operation, divided by the cross-sectional area of the test specimen

4 Principle

A test specimen is attached between two rigid plates or blocks, fastened in a tensile testing machine and pulled apart at a given speed.

The maximum tensile force is recorded and the tensile strength of the test specimen is calculated.

5 Apparatus

5.1 Tensile testing machine, appropriate for the range of force and displacement involved, capable of having a constant crosshead speed adjusted to \((10 \pm 1) \text{ mm/min}\) and capable of measuring the force to an accuracy of \(\pm 1\%\).

5.2 Rigid plates or blocks, with self-aligning attachment to avoid uneven distribution of tensile stress during the test.

Examples of suitable arrangement to bond the test specimen are shown in Figure 1.

5.3 Adhesive, used to bond the test specimen between the rigid plates or blocks:

— The adhesive shall not reinforce or damage the surface layers of the product.

— Hot adhesives shall be avoided if they damage the product.

— Any solvent used shall be compatible with the product.

Any test equipment which provides the same result with at least the same accuracy may be used.
6 Test specimens

6.1 Dimensions of test specimens

The thickness of test specimens shall be equal to the original product thickness including any skins, facings and/or coatings.

The test specimens shall be prisms of square cross section having sides of the following recommended dimensions:

- 50 mm × 50 mm or
- 100 mm × 100 mm or
- 150 mm × 150 mm or
- 200 mm × 200 mm or
- 300 mm × 300 mm.

Dimensions used shall be as specified in the relevant product standard.

In the absence of a product standard or any other European technical specification, the dimensions of test specimens may be agreed between parties.

The linear dimensions shall be determined in accordance with EN 12085 to an accuracy of ±0.5%.
Figure 1 — Examples of suitable arrangement to bond the specimen

**Figure 1 a)**

**Key**
1. bolt
2. connecting shaft
3. metal blocks
4. adhesive
5. test specimen

**Figure 1 b)**

**Key**
1. rigid plate
2. adhesive
3. test specimen
6.2 Number of test specimens

The number of test specimens shall be as specified in the relevant product standard. If the number is not specified, then at least five test specimens shall be used.

In the absence of a product standard or any other European technical specification, the number of test specimens may be agreed between parties.

6.3 Preparation of test specimens

The test specimens shall be cut from the product so that the test specimen base is normal to the direction of the tensile force applied to the product in use.

Test specimens shall be prepared by methods that do not change the original structure of the product. Any skins, facings and/or coatings shall be retained. The test specimens shall be representative of the product and preferably not taken closer than 15 mm from the edges of the product to avoid the influence of any handling damage. For products with non-plane or non-parallel faces, or which have skins, facings and/or coatings, preparation of test specimens shall as specified in the relevant product standard.

The tolerance on parallelism and flatness between the two faces of a test specimen shall be not more than 0,5 % of the test specimen side length, with a maximum of 0,5 mm.

Before conditioning, the test specimens shall be attached to the two rigid plates or blocks using a suitable adhesive.

6.4 Conditioning of test specimens

The test specimens (including the two rigid plates or blocks) shall be conditioned for at least 6 h at (23 ± 5) °C. In cases of dispute, they shall be conditioned at (23 ± 2) °C and (50 ± 5) % relative humidity for the time specified in the relevant product standard.

Other conditions may be used, provided that they give the same results.

7 Procedure

7.1 Test conditions

Testing shall be carried out at (23 ± 5) °C. In cases of dispute, testing shall be carried out at (23 ± 2) °C and (50 ± 5) % relative humidity.

7.2 Test procedure

Determine the cross-sectional area of the test specimens in accordance with EN 12085.

NOTE Carry out this determination preferably before the test specimen is attached to the two rigid plates or blocks.

Attach the test specimen in the tensile testing machine by means of the plate/block fixings and increase the tensile force with a constant speed of the crosshead (see 5.1) until failure occurs.

Record the maximum force, in kN.

Note the way in which the material or the skin, facing and/or coating failed.

Discard any test specimen showing total or partial failure in the adhesive layer between the test specimen and the rigid plates or blocks.
8 Calculation and expression of results

Calculate the tensile strength perpendicular to faces, $\sigma_{mt}$, in kilopascals, using the formula:

$$\sigma_{mt} = \frac{F_m}{A} = \frac{F_m}{l \times b}$$  \hspace{1cm} (1)

where

- $F_m$ is the maximum tensile force recorded, in kN;
- $A$ is the cross-sectional area of the test specimen, in $m^2$;
- $l, b$ are length and width of the test specimen, in m.

The result shall be expressed as the mean value of the measured values, to two significant figures.

NOTE The test results obtained with test specimens of different dimensions can be different.

9 Accuracy of measurement

Following the experience of a “round robin test”, where comparable test equipment and test specimen preparation were used, the accuracy for tensile strength perpendicular to faces, $\sigma_{mt}$, can be estimated as given below.

- 95 % repeatability limit: approximately 5 %;
- 95 % reproducibility limit: approximately 15 %.

The above-mentioned terms are applied as described in ISO 5725-1 and ISO 5725-2.

10 Test report

The test report shall include the following information:

a) reference to this European Standard;

b) product identification

1) product name, factory, manufacturer, or supplier;

2) production code number;

3) type of product;

4) packaging;

5) the form in which the product arrived at the laboratory;

6) other information as appropriate (e.g. nominal thickness, nominal density);

c) test procedure

1) pre-test history and sampling (e.g. who sampled and place of sampling);

2) conditioning;
3) any deviations from Clauses 6 and 7;

4) date of testing;

5) dimensions and number of test specimens;

6) general information relating to the test (e.g. type of adhesive and where the failure occurs);

7) any events which may have affected the results. Information about the apparatus and identity of the person responsible for the test should be available in the laboratory but it need not be recorded in the report;

d) results: all individual values and the mean value.
British Standards Institution (BSI)

BSI is the national body responsible for preparing British Standards and other standards-related publications, information and services.

BSI is incorporated by Royal Charter. British Standards and other standardization products are published by BSI Standards Limited.

About us

We bring together business, industry, government, consumers, innovators and others to shape their combined experience and expertise into standards-based solutions.

The knowledge embodied in our standards has been carefully assembled in a dependable format and refined through our open consultation process. Organizations of all sizes and across all sectors choose standards to help them achieve their goals.

Information on standards

We can provide you with the knowledge that your organization needs to succeed. Find out more about British Standards by visiting our website at bsigroup.com/standards or contacting our Customer Services team or Knowledge Centre.

Buying standards

You can buy and download PDF versions of BSI publications, including British and adopted European and international standards, through our website at bsigroup.com/shop, where hard copies can also be purchased.

If you need international and foreign standards from other Standards Development Organizations, hard copies can be ordered from our Customer Services team.

Subscriptions

Our range of subscription services are designed to make using standards easier for you. For further information on our subscription products go to bsigroup.com/subscriptions.

With British Standards Online (BSOL) you’ll have instant access to over 55,000 British and adopted European and international standards from your desktop. It’s available 24/7 and is refreshed daily so you’ll always be up to date.

You can keep in touch with standards developments and receive substantial discounts on the purchase price of standards, both in single copy and subscription format, by becoming a BSI Subscribing Member.

PLUS is an updating service exclusive to BSI Subscribing Members. You will automatically receive the latest hard copy of your standards when they’re revised or replaced.

To find out more about becoming a BSI Subscribing Member and the benefits of membership, please visit bsigroup.com/shop.

With a Multi-User Network Licence (MUNL) you are able to host standards publications on your intranet. Licences can cover as few or as many users as you wish. With updates supplied as soon as they’re available, you can be sure your documentation is current. For further information, email bsmusales@bsigroup.com.

BSI Group Headquarters

389 Chiswick High Road London W4 4AL UK