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BSI Standards Publication

Natural stone - Denomination criteria

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National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 12440:2017. It supersedes BS EN 12440:2008, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee B/545, Natural stone.

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.

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

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English Version

Natural stone - Denomination criteria

Pierres naturelles - Critères de dénomination

Naturstein - Kriterien für die Bezeichnung

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 20 July 2017.

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

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European foreword

This document (EN 12440:2017) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 246 "Natural stones", the secretariat of which is held by UNI.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2018, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2018.

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

This document supersedes EN 12440:2008.

This European Standard is one of a series of European Standards for natural stone products including terminology, test methods and product standards.

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, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

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Introduction

The International marketing of natural stone has introduced a great number of names to designate the different varieties of stone. Most of them are traditional names and usually reflect the typical colour and/or other natural features and the place of origin of the stone, although this is not always the case.

Sometimes, the name of a variety includes terms related to the geological classification of the rock (such as granite, marble, quartzite, etc) that may or may not coincide with the accurate petrological name of the rock. Other times the same name is used to denominate different stones or similar varieties are denominated with different names.

The objective of this standard is to unify the designation criteria of natural stone varieties, maintaining the traditional names and introducing terms related to its petrologic nature, typical colour and place of origin.

Informative Annex A provides a non-exhaustive provisional list of the names under which most stones from each contributing European country are known. This list is subjected to revision in future editions.

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1 Scope

This European Standard establishes the criteria for the designation of natural stone from raw material to finished 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 1469, *Natural stone products - Slabs for cladding - Requirements*

EN 12407, *Natural stone test methods - Petrographic examination*

EN 12670:2001, *Natural stone - Terminology*

3 Denomination of natural stone

The denomination of natural stones shall include the following parts:

3.1 Name of the natural stone (traditional or commercial name):

The name of the natural stone under which it is marketed corresponding to a particular type of rock and with a specific place of origin. Geographical names not related with the actual place of origin of the stone and company names shall be avoided.

3.2 Petrological family/group:

Scientific name of the rock obtained by petrographic examination according to EN 12407 and EN 12670. Examples of petrological families/groups are included in of EN 12670:2001, Annex A.

3.3 Typical colour:

The range of colour that a stone variety shows. A visual impression on one or more dry bulk samples observed under shadow natural light. It is noted that moisture, dust, surface finish and other features affect the visual colour impression of the stone, thus whatever the observation conditions might be, these shall be reported. See EN 1469 *Natural stone products - Slabs for cladding - Requirements*.

3.4 Place of origin:

The location of the area or quarry shall be as precise as possible, including at least, the city or village, municipality or community, county, province or department and country, separated by a comma (see Annex A). Geo-coordinates could be used with a reference to the coordinate system used.

4 Other information

If available or if agreed between buyer and seller, the following data can also be provided:

4.1 Process conditions:

For prepared products, the surface conditions should be described using an adequate term from EN 12670.