Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices

Part 5: Sealable pouches and reels of porous materials and plastic film construction – Requirements and test methods
National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 868-5:2018. It supersedes BS EN 868-5:2009, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee CH/198, Sterilization and Associated Equipment and Processes.

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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Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices -
Part 5: Sealable pouches and reels of porous materials
and plastic film construction - Requirements and
test methods

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 20 August 2018.

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European foreword

This document (EN 868-5:2018) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 102 “Sterilizers and associated equipment for processing of medical devices”, 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2019, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2019.

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 868-5:2009.

Annex A provides details of significant technical changes between this European Standard and the previous edition.

EN 868 consists of the following parts, under the general title Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices:

— Part 2: Sterilization wrap — Requirements and test methods;
— Part 3: Paper for use in the manufacture of paper bags (specified in EN 868-4) and in the manufacture of pouches and reels (specified in EN 868-5) — Requirements and test methods;
— Part 4: Paper bags — Requirements and test methods;
— Part 5: Sealable pouches and reels of porous materials and plastic film construction — Requirements and test methods;
— Part 6: Paper for low temperature sterilization processes — Requirements and test methods;
— Part 7: Adhesive coated paper for low temperature sterilization processes — Requirements and test methods;
— Part 8: Re-usable sterilization containers for steam sterilizers conforming to EN 285 — Requirements and test methods;
— Part 9: Uncoated nonwoven materials of polyolefines — Requirements and test methods;
— Part 10: Adhesive coated nonwoven materials of polyolefines — Requirements and test methods.

In addition, ISO/TC 198 “Sterilization of health care products” in collaboration with CEN/TC 102 “Sterilizers and associated equipment for processing of medical devices” has prepared the EN ISO 11607 series “Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices”. The EN ISO 11607 series specifies general requirements for materials, sterile barrier systems and packaging systems (Part 1) and validation requirements for forming, sealing and assembly processes (Part 2).

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.
Introduction

The EN ISO 11607 series consists of two parts under the general title “Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices”. Part 1 of this series specifies general requirements and test methods for materials, preformed sterile barrier systems, sterile barrier systems and packaging systems that are intended to maintain sterility of terminally sterilized medical devices to the point of use. Part 2 of this series specifies validation requirements for forming, sealing and assembly processes.

General requirements for all types of sterile barrier systems are provided by EN ISO 11607-1.

The EN 868 series can be used to demonstrate compliance with one or more of the requirements specified in EN ISO 11607-1.

CEN/TC 102/WG 4 also appreciates the initiatives of CEN with regard to the minimization of adverse environmental impacts by standards. It was agreed that this subject should be given priority during the next edition of the EN ISO 11607 series that is the basic reference for all parts of the EN 868 series.
1 Scope

This document specifies test methods and values for sealable pouches and reels manufactured from porous materials complying with either EN 868 part 2, 3, 6, 7, 9 or 10 and plastic film complying with Clause 4. These sealable pouches and reels are used as sterile barrier systems and/or packaging systems that are intended to maintain sterility of terminally sterilized medical devices to the point of use.

Other than the general requirements as specified in EN ISO 11607-1 and EN ISO 11607-2 this part of EN 868 specifies materials, test methods and values that are specific to the products covered by this document.

The materials specified in this part of EN 868 are intended for single use only.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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.

EN 868:2017, Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices — Part 2: Sterilization wrap — Requirements and test methods

EN 868-3:2017, Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices — Part 3: Paper for use in the manufacture of paper bags (specified in EN 868-4) and in the manufacture of pouches and reels (specified in EN 868-5) — Requirements and test methods


EN 868-7:2017, Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices — Part 7: Adhesive coated paper for low temperature sterilization processes — Requirements and test methods


EN ISO 11140-1, Sterilization of health care products — Chemical indicators — Part 1: General requirements (ISO 11140-1)


ISO 8601, Data elements and interchange formats — Information interchange — Representation of dates and times


3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN ISO 11607-1:2017 apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at http://www.iso.org/obp