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BSI Standards Publication

Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices

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

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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 It supersedes BS EN 868-5:2009, which is withdrawn.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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Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

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Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
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English Version

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

Emballages des dispositifs médicaux stérilisés au
stade terminal - Partie 5: Sachets et gaines scellables
constitués d'une face matière poreuse et d'une face
film plastique - Exigences et méthodes d'essai

Verpackungen für in der Endverpackung
zu sterilisierende Medizinprodukte - Teil 5:
Siegelfähige Klarsichtbeutel und -schläuche aus
porösen Materialien und Kunststoff-Verbundfolie
- Anforderungen und Prüfverfahren

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

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



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

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels

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Contents		Page
European foreword		iii
Introduction		iv
1	Scope	5
2	Normative references	5
3	Terms and definitions	5
4	Requirements	6
4.1	General	6
4.2	Materials	6
4.2.1	Porous material	6
4.2.2	Plastic film	6
4.3	Construction and design	7
4.4	Process indicator	7
4.5	Performance requirements and test methods	7
4.6	Marking	8
4.6.1	Pouches and reels	8
4.6.2	Transport and/or storage packaging	8
5	Information to be supplied by the manufacturer	9
Annex A (informative) Details of significant technical changes between this document and the previous edition		10
Annex B (normative) Method for the determination of resistance to the intended sterilization process		11
Annex C (normative) Method for the determination of pinholes in plastic laminate		12
Annex D (normative) Method for the determination of the strength of the seal for pouches and reel material		14
Annex E (normative) Method for the determination of peel characteristics of paper/plastic laminate products		17
Annex F (normative) Method for the determination of fibre orientation		19
Bibliography		20

This is a preview of "BS EN 868-5:2018". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

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.

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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.

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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 868-2:2017, *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 868-6:2017, *Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices — Part 6: Paper for low temperature sterilization processes — 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 868-9:2018, *Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices — Part 9: Uncoated nonwoven materials of polyolefines — Requirements and test methods*

EN 868-10:2018, *Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices — Part 10: Adhesive coated nonwoven materials of polyolefines — Requirements and test methods*

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

EN ISO 11607-1:2017, *Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices — Part 1: Requirements for materials, sterile barrier systems and packaging systems (ISO 11607-1:2006, including Amd 1:2014)*

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

ASTM D882:2012, *Test Methods for Tensile Properties of the Thin Plastic Sheeting*

ASTM F88/F88M:2015, *Standard Test Method for Seal Strength of Flexible Barrier Materials*

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:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>