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BSI Standards Publication

Protective clothing — General requirements

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National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN ISO 13688:2013/A11:2021. It is derived from ISO 13688:2013, incorporating amendment 1:2021. It supersedes BS EN ISO 13688:2013, which is withdrawn.

The text of CEN amendment A11:2021 has been provided in its entirety at the end of this document. BSI's policy of providing consolidated content remains unchanged; however, in the interest of expediency, in this instance BSI have chosen to collate the relevant content at the end of this document.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee PH/3/1, General Personal Protective Equipment.

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

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For the Northern Ireland market, UK law will continue to implement relevant EU law subject to periodic confirmation. Therefore Annex ZA/ZZ in the European text, and references to EU legislation, are still valid for this market.

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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
31 May 2022	Implementation of CEN amendment A11:2021

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EUROPÄISCHE NORM

July 2013

ICS 13.340.10

Supersedes EN 340:2003

English Version

Protective clothing - General requirements (ISO 13688:2013)

Vêtements de protection - Exigences générales (ISO
13688:2013)

Schutzkleidung - Allgemeine Anforderungen (ISO
13688:2013)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 25 April 2013.

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.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
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Foreword

This document (EN ISO 13688:2013) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 94 "Personal safety - Protective clothing and equipment" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 162 "Protective clothing including hand and arm protection and lifejackets" 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 January 2014, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by January 2014.

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 340:2003.

This document has been prepared under a mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association, and supports essential requirements of EU Directive.

For relationship with EU Directive, see informative Annex ZA, which is an integral part of this document.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations 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.

Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 13688:2013 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 13688:2013 without any modification.

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Annex ZA
(informative)
Relationship between this European Standard and the Essential Requirements of EU Directive 89/686/EEC

This European Standard has been prepared under a mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association to provide a means of conforming to Essential Requirements of the New Approach Directive 89/686/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to personal protective equipment.

Once this standard is cited in the Official Journal of the European Communities under that Directive and has been implemented as a national standard in at least one Member State, compliance with the clauses of this European Standard given in Table ZA.1 confers, within the limits of the scope of this European Standard, a presumption of conformity with the corresponding Essential Requirements of that Directive and associated EFTA regulations.

Table ZA.1 — Correspondence between this European Standard and Directive 89/686/EEC

Clause(s)/sub-clause(s) of this EN	Essential Requirements (ERs) of Directive 89/686/EEC, Annex II
5.3	1.2.1. Absence of risks and other inherent nuisance factors
4.2	1.2.1.1. Suitable constituent materials
4.4	1.2.1.2. Satisfactory surface condition of all PPE parts in contact with the user
8	1.4. Information supplied by the manufacturer
6, 7	2.12. PPE bearing one or more identification or recognition marks directly or indirectly relating to health and safety

WARNING — Other requirements and other EU Directives may be applicable to the product(s) falling within the scope of this European Standard.

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Second edition
2013-07-15

Protective clothing — General requirements

Vêtements de protection — Exigences générales



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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

ISO 13688 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 94, *Personal safety - Protective clothing and equipment*, Subcommittee SC 13, *Protective clothing* and by Technical Committee CEN/TC 162, *Protective clothing including hand and arm protection and lifejackets* in collaboration.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 13688:1998), which has been technically revised to include the following changes:

- A statement that this International Standard (and pictogram) is intended to be used in combination with another product standard was added to the Scope.
- Additional definitions on waist to waist over the shoulder length, and torso.
- Notes on level of performance moved to informative [Annex A](#).
- [Clause 4](#) on ergonomics changed to basic health and ergonomic requirements and revised into separate sub-sections: general ([4.1](#)), innocuousness ([4.2](#)), design ([4.3](#)) and comfort ([4.4](#)).
- Informative [Annex C](#) added on ergonomic features.
- Subclause [5.2](#) on colour fastness removed.
- Subclause [5.3](#) on cleaning renamed as washing and dry-cleaning ([5.2](#)) now includes reference to standardised processes, including industrial washing.
- Strengthened provisions in [5.3](#) on dimensional change due to cleaning.
- The size designation system in [Clause 6](#) was simplified with regard to intervals and ranges to allow more freedom to obtain a better individual fit.
- Subclause [7.2](#) on specific marking amended to include qualification labelling for industrial laundry care.
- Informative [Annex B](#) (Flow chart) added on acceptability of materials.
- Informative [Annex F](#) added on environmental aspects.

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Introduction

This International Standard is a reference standard to be called up as appropriate by specific standards. This International Standard is not intended to be used alone but only in combination with another standard containing requirements for the specific performance of the product which provides protection.

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Protective clothing — General requirements

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies general performance requirements for ergonomics, innocuousness, size designation, ageing, compatibility and marking of protective clothing and the information to be supplied by the manufacturer with the protective clothing.

This International Standard is only intended to be used in combination with other standards containing requirements for specific protective performance and not on a stand-alone basis.

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 3071, *Textiles — Determination of pH of aqueous extract*

ISO 3175-1, *Textiles — Professional care, drycleaning and wetcleaning of fabrics and garments — Part 1: Assessment of performance after cleaning and finishing*

ISO 3635, *Size designation of clothes — Definitions and body measurement procedure*

ISO 3758, *Textiles — Care labelling code using symbols*

ISO 4045, *Leather — Chemical tests — Determination of pH*

ISO 5077, *Textiles — Determination of dimensional change in washing and drying*

ISO 7000, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment — Registered symbols*

ISO 17075, *Leather — Chemical tests — Determination of chromium(VI) content*

ISO 30023, *Textiles — Qualification symbols for labelling workwear to be industrially laundered*

EN 1811, *Reference test method for release of nickel from products intended to come into direct and prolonged contact with the skin*

EN 14362-1, *Textiles — Methods for determination of certain aromatic amines derived from azo colorants — Part 1: Detection of the use of certain azo colorants accessible with and without extracting the fibres*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

ageing

change of one or more initial properties of protective clothing materials during the passage of time