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BSI Standards Publication

Road traffic noise reducing devices — Test method for determining the acoustic performance

Intrinsic characteristics of airborne sound insulation
under diffuse sound field conditions

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National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 1793-2:2018.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee B/509/6, Fences for the attenuation of noise.

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

The UK committee draws users' attention to the fact that a barrier test certificate is not accepted in the UK without the Test Report in Clause 8 being provided and checked in full to ensure the tested product sample and conditions are the same as for the installed barrier. Test certification that is provided without the Clause 8 Test Report being provided and checked in full is deemed invalid by the UK authorities.

The Test Report needs to include the full description of the test specimen with photographs of the mounting conditions. No material or substance is to be applied to the test specimen that would not form an integral part of the installed system. Sealants are only to be applied around the perimeter of the test sample. Conditions around the individual posts and panels are to be identical to those on-site.

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Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
30 September 2022	National foreword text updated

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

June 2018

ICS 17.140.30; 93.080.30

Supersedes EN 1793-2:2012

English Version

Road traffic noise reducing devices - Test method for determining the acoustic performance - Part 2: Intrinsic characteristics of airborne sound insulation under diffuse sound field conditions

Dispositifs de réduction du bruit du trafic routier
- Méthode d'essai pour la détermination de la performance acoustique - Partie 2 : Caractéristiques intrinsèques de l'isolation aux bruits aériens dans des conditions de champ acoustique diffus

Lärmschutzvorrichtungen an Straßen - Prüfverfahren zur Bestimmung der akustischen Eigenschaften - Teil 2: Produktspezifische Merkmale der Luftschalldämmung in diffusen Schallfeldern

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 19 February 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: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

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European foreword

This document (EN 1793-2:2018) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 226 "Road equipment", the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

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 December 2018, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by December 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 1793-2:2012.

With respect to the superseded document, the following changes have been made:

- The declaration of measurement uncertainty and the related confidence level is now mandatory.
- The categories of single number rating have been removed from [Annex A](#). The performance of the noise reducing device is, from now on, only to be reported in terms of the numeric values of the single number rating.

EN 1793-2 is part of a series of documents and will be read in conjunction with the following:

- EN 1793-1, *Road traffic noise reducing devices - Test method for determining the acoustic performance - Part 1: Intrinsic characteristics of sound absorption under diffuse sound field conditions*;
- EN 1793-3, *Road traffic noise reducing devices - Test method for determining the acoustic performance - Part 3: Normalized traffic noise spectrum*;
- EN 1793-4, *Road traffic noise reducing devices - Test method for determining the acoustic performance - Part 4: Intrinsic characteristics - In situ values of sound diffraction*;
- EN 1793-5, *Road traffic noise reducing devices - Test method for determining the acoustic performance - Part 5: Intrinsic characteristics - In situ values of sound reflection under direct sound field conditions*;
- EN 1793-6, *Road traffic noise reducing devices - Test method for determining the acoustic performance - Part 6: Intrinsic characteristics - In situ values of airborne sound insulation under direct sound field conditions*.

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

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Introduction

Noise reducing devices alongside roads should provide adequate sound insulation so that sound transmitted through the device is not significant compared with the sound diffracted over the top. This document specifies a test method for qualifying the intrinsic airborne sound insulation performance for noise reducing devices designed for roads in reverberant conditions, e.g. inside tunnels or deep trenches or under covers.

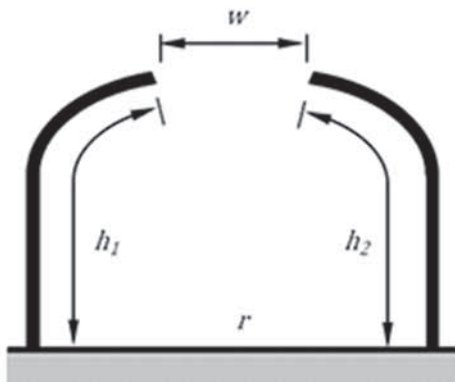
The measurement results of this method for airborne sound insulation are comparable but not identical with the results of the test method EN 1793-6, mainly because the present method uses a diffuse sound field, while the other method assumes a directional sound field. Research studies suggest that good correlation exists between field data, measured according to EN 1793-6 and laboratory data, measured according to the method described in the present document [1], [2], [3], [4].

This document is not concerned with determining insertion loss (extrinsic performance) which additionally depends on factors which are not related to the product itself; e.g. the dimensions of the barrier and quality of installation work and site factors such as ground impedance, site geometry, etc. The test is designed to allow the intrinsic airborne sound insulation performance of the device to be measured; the resulting rating should aid the selection of devices for reverberant roadside applications.

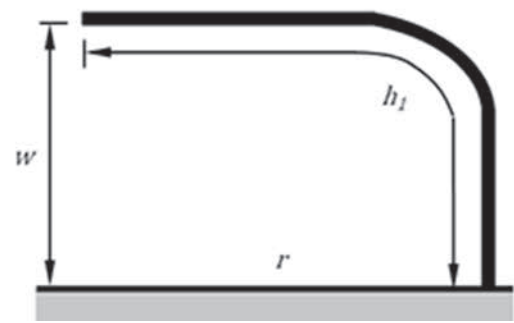
For the purpose of this document reverberant conditions are defined based on the geometric envelope, e , across the road formed by the barriers, trench sides or buildings (the geometric envelope does not include the road surface) as shown by the dashed lines in [Figure 1](#). Conditions are defined as being reverberant when the percentage of open space in the geometric envelope is less than or equal to 25 %, i.e. reverberant conditions occur when $w/e \leq 0,25$, where $e = (w+h_1+h_2)$.

NOTE This method can be used to qualify noise reducing devices for other applications, e.g. to be installed nearby industrial sites. In this case, the single-number ratings can preferably be calculated using an appropriate spectrum.

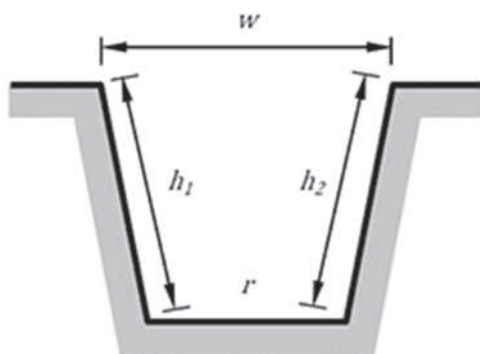
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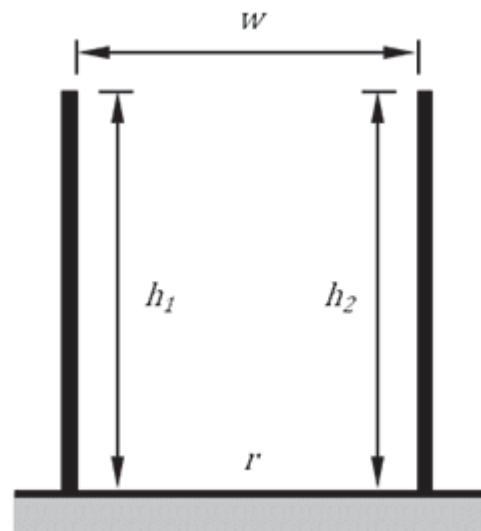
a) Partial cover on both sides of the road;
geometric envelope, $e = w + h_1 + h_2$



b) Partial cover on one side of the road;
geometric envelope, $e = w + h_1$



c) Deep trench;
geometric envelope, $e = w + h_1 + h_2$



d) Tall barriers or buildings;
geometric envelope, $e = w + h_1 + h_2$

Key

- r road surface
- w width of open space
- h_1 developed length of element, e.g. cover, trench side, barrier or building
- h_2 developed length of element, e.g. cover, trench side, barrier or building

NOTE [Figure 1](#) is not to scale.

Figure 1 — Sketch of the reverberant condition check in four cases

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1 Scope

This document specifies the laboratory method for measuring the airborne sound insulation performance of road traffic noise reducing devices in reverberant conditions. It covers the assessment of the intrinsic performance of barriers that can reasonably be assembled inside the testing facility described in EN ISO 10140-2 and EN ISO 10140-4.

This method is not intended for the determination of the intrinsic characteristics of airborne sound insulation of noise reducing devices to be installed on roads in non-reverberant conditions.

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 1793-3, *Road traffic noise reducing devices - Test method for determining the acoustic performance - Part 3: Normalized traffic noise spectrum*

EN ISO 10140-1, *Acoustics - Laboratory measurement of sound insulation of building elements - Part 1: Application rules for specific products (ISO 10140-1)*

EN ISO 10140-2, *Acoustics - Laboratory measurement of sound insulation of building elements - Part 2: Measurement of airborne sound insulation (ISO 10140-2)*

EN ISO 10140-4, *Acoustics - Laboratory measurement of sound insulation of building elements - Part 4: Measurement procedures and requirements (ISO 10140-4)*

ISO/IEC Guide 98-3, *Uncertainty of measurement - Part 3: Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement (GUM:1995)*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions 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>

3.1 noise reducing device

device that is designed to reduce the propagation of traffic noise away from the road environment

NOTE This may be a noise barrier, cladding, a road cover or an added device. These devices may include both acoustic and structural elements.

3.2 acoustic element

element whose primary function is to provide the acoustic performance of the device

3.3 structural element

element whose primary function is to support or hold in place acoustic elements

4 Symbols and abbreviations

For the purposes of this document, the following symbols apply.