



BSI Standards Publication

**Tractors and machinery for agriculture  
and forestry — Power take-off (PTO) drive  
shafts and their guards — Safety**

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## National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 12965:2019+A1:2025. It supersedes BS EN 12965:2019, which is withdrawn.

The start and finish of text introduced or altered by amendment is indicated in the text by tags. Tags indicating changes to CEN text carry the number of the CEN amendment. For example, text altered by CEN amendment A1 is indicated by A1 A1.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee AGE/6, Agricultural tractors and forestry machinery.

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

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**EUROPÄISCHE NORM**

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English Version

## Tractors and machinery for agriculture and forestry - Power take-off (PTO) drive shafts and their guards - Safety

Tracteurs et matériels agricoles et forestiers - Arbres  
de transmission à cardans de prise de force et leurs  
protecteurs - Sécurité

Traktoren und Maschinen für die Land- und  
Forstwirtschaft - Gelenkwellen und ihre  
Schutzeinrichtungen - Sicherheit

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 16 September 2019 and includes Amendment 1 approved by CEN on 29 December 2024.

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**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

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## European foreword

This document (EN 12965:2019+A1:2025) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 144 “Tractors and machinery for agriculture and forestry”, 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by September 2025, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by September 2025.

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 A1 EN 12965:2019 A1

The main changes [in EN 12965:2019] compared to the previous edition [EN 12965:2003+A2:2009] are as follows:

- precision of the general requirements;
- addition of PTO type 4;
- precision of the requirements for the restraining system;
- addition and precision of the requirements for service and maintenance;
- addition of requirements for the locking system;
- addition of an entanglement test;
- addition of new pictogram required to highlight compatibility of guarding systems of PTO drive shaft with tractor and machinery.

The following technical modifications have been made [in EN 12965:2019 for EN 12965:2019+A1:2025]:

- Modification to subclause 4.1;
- Modification to subclause 4.2.1;
- Modification to subclause 4.2.2.

These modifications require that also on PIC side, the guard covers the transmission to the ends of the inner jaws in the case of simple universal joints and at least to the centre of the outer joint or joints in the case of wide-angle universal joints.

This document includes Amendment 1 approved by CEN on 29 December 2024.

The start and finish of text introduced or altered by amendment is indicated in the text by tags A1 A1.

This document has been prepared under a standardization request addressed to CEN by the European Commission. The Standing Committee of the EFTA States subsequently approves these requests for its Member States.

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

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users' national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

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, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.

## Introduction

This document is a type C standard as defined in EN ISO 12100:2010.

The machinery concerned and the extent to which hazards, hazardous situations and events are covered are indicated in the scope of this document.

When provisions of this type C standard are different from those which are stated in type A or B standards, the provisions of this type C standard take precedence over the provisions of the other standards, for machines that have been designed and built according to the provisions of this type C standard.

Hazards that are common to agricultural machines (self-propelled, mounted, semi-mounted and trailed) are dealt with in EN ISO 4254-1:2015. EN 12965 provides requirements for power take-off (PTO) drive shafts in addition to those of EN ISO 4254-1.

This document is of relevance, in particular, for the following stakeholder groups representing the market players with regard to machinery safety:

- machine manufacturers (small, medium and large enterprises);
- health and safety bodies (regulators, accident prevention organizations, market surveillance, etc.).

Others can be affected by the level of machinery safety achieved with the means of the document by the above-mentioned stakeholder groups:

- machine users/employers (small, medium and large enterprises);
- machine users/employees (e.g. trade unions, organizations for people with special needs);
- service providers, e.g. for maintenance (small, medium and large enterprises);
- consumers (in case of machinery intended for use by consumers).

The above-mentioned stakeholder groups have been given the possibility to participate at the drafting process of this document.

## 1 Scope

This document specifies safety requirements and their verification for the design and construction of power take-off (PTO) drive shafts and their guards linking a tractor or self-propelled machinery to the first fixed bearing of recipient machinery. It describes methods for the elimination or reduction of risks that need specific requirements including such risks arising from misuse, reasonably foreseeable by the manufacturer. It is applicable only to those PTO drive shafts and guards mechanically linked to the shaft by at least two bearings. When used with compatible guards for power take-off (PTO) of the tractor (master shield) or self-propelled machine and the power input connection (PIC) of the power receiving machine, the requirements for power take-off drive shafts are complete.

NOTE 1 Fully enclosing PIC guard cones alone provide full protection.

NOTE 2 ISO 500-1 and ISO 500-2 give requirements for the guarding of tractor power take-offs (PTO) and ISO 4254-1 gives requirements for power input connections (PIC) of power receiving machinery that are compatible with the guarding required by this document.

In addition, it specifies the type of information on safe working practices to be provided by the manufacturer.

This document does not deal with:

- the guards totally covering, but not mechanically linked to, the PTO drive shaft;
- the mechanical characteristics of PTO drive shafts, overrun devices and torque limiters;
- general hazards which are dealt with in EN ISO 4254-1:2015 (see introduction).

Environmental aspects have not been considered in this document.

This document is not applicable to PTO drive shafts and their guards that are manufactured before the date of publication of this document by CEN.

## 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 15811:2014, *Agricultural machinery — Fixed guards and interlocked guards with or without guard locking for moving transmission parts (ISO/TS 28923:2012 modified)*

☐<sup>A1</sup> EN ISO 1140:2021, *Fibre ropes — Polyamide — 3-, 4-, 8- and 12-strand ropes (ISO 1140:2021)* ☐<sup>A1</sup>

☐<sup>A1</sup> EN ISO 4254-1:2015<sup>1</sup> ☐<sup>A1</sup>, *Agricultural machinery — Safety — Part 1: General requirements (ISO 4254-1:2013)*

EN ISO 5674:2009, *Tractors and machinery for agriculture and forestry — Guards for power take-off (PTO) drive-shafts — Strength and wear tests and acceptance criteria (ISO 5674:2004, corrected version 2005-07-01)*

EN ISO 12100:2010, *Safety of machinery — General principles for design — Risk assessment and risk reduction (ISO 12100:2010)*

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<sup>1</sup> As impacted by EN ISO 4254-1:2015/A1:2021.