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Mechanical vibration and shock — Coupling forces at the man-machine interface for hand-transmitted vibration

Vibrations et chocs mécaniques — Forces de couplage à l'interface homme-machine en cas de vibrations transmises par les mains



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Foreword

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Introduction

The coupling forces between the hand-arm system and a hand-held or hand-guided machine during its use are very important factors. Although these forces are of interest for both vibrating and non-vibrating machines, the primary focus of this International Standard is to provide a set of descriptions of the forces at the man-machine interface that are primarily for the hand-arm system in contact with a vibrating surface of a machine.

The coupling forces involved in the operation of a vibrating machine generally consist of two different components. The first component is the force applied by the hand-arm system, which is used to provide necessary control and guidance of the machine and to achieve desired productivity. This quasi-static force (frequency below 5 Hz) is the focus of this International Standard. The second component is the biodynamic force which results from the biodynamic response of the hand-arm system to a vibration.

Different couplings of the hand to a vibrating surface can affect the human body in two different ways.

- The relationship between the measured handle vibration and the resultant transmission of vibration to the hand-arm system might be altered. This alteration modifies the exposure and the vibration effect to the hand-arm system.
- The coupling can result in a synergistic effect with vibration exposure which affects anatomical structures, such as the vascular system, nerves, joints, tendons.

Currently, many machine situations have been modelled by numerous basic physiological studies investigating the effect of vibration on the human body, which use push force and gripping force to describe the coupling force between the hand and the machine handle.

This International Standard can assist in the reporting of coupling data in epidemiological or laboratory research.

In the future, the measurements taken at the workplace for the determination and evaluation of mechanical vibration affecting human beings could need to take into account the influence of the contact of the hand-arm system in the vibrating surface. The measurements of relevant coupling forces and the vibration acceleration will need to be taken simultaneously to account for the potential interactions.