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Framework for specifying performance in buildings

*Cadre de travail pour la spécification de la performance dans les
bâtiments*



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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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 59, *Buildings and civil engineering works*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Functional/user requirements and performance in building construction*.

This first edition of ISO 19208 cancels and replaces ISO 6240:1980, ISO 6241:1984, ISO 7162:1992, ISO 9699:1994 and ISO/PAS 22539:2007, which have been technically revised.

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Introduction

The performance concept has historically been used to address fitness for intended use of attributes of a building as a whole or a part thereof. Each characteristic is assessed in terms of whether or not it meets assumed performance.

Over the last decade, this concept has been expanded to be used to address the beneficial or adverse impact of choices made regarding building materials, construction methods and resources, operating energy, water services and sanitary systems on economic conditions, the environment, a society or the quality of life, i.e. the contribution which a building makes to sustainable development. This document provides the necessary framework and principles to describe the performance of a building or a part thereof either in terms of fitness of purpose or beneficial and adverse impacts and to provide the means of evaluation for solutions for all these applications.

This document is intended to assist anyone concerned with specifying performance of attributes and aspects of a building or a part thereof. Those include regulators, specifiers and suppliers, as well as international and national standards committee members.

Specifying performance of a building ranges from fundamental to specific. This document is intended primarily to assist those who are involved in specifying performance in buildings by stating general principles. It includes tables aimed at identifying the main factors to be considered in their elaboration.

- a) User requirements and societal expectations,
- b) possible uses of the buildings and their spaces,
- c) building subsystems of which the product is a part, and
- d) agents, of any nature and origin, which are relevant to the performance of a building and related entities in use, and affecting factors.

Documents that specify performance may take various forms or features, such as regulations, specifications, or product standards. [Annex B](#) gives an example of application of the principles embodied in this document.