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Performance of buildings — Detection of heat, air and moisture irregularities in buildings by infrared methods —

Part 3: Qualifications of equipment operators, data analysts and report writers

Performance des bâtiments — Détection d'irrégularités de chaleur, air et humidité dans les bâtiments par des méthodes infrarouges —

Partie 3: Qualification des opérateurs de l'équipement, des analystes de données et des rédacteurs de rapports



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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 WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 163 *Thermal performance and energy use in the built environment*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Test and measurement methods*.

ISO 6781 consists of the following parts under the general title *Performance of buildings — Detection of heat, air and moisture irregularities in buildings by infrared methods*

— *Part 3: Qualifications of equipment operators, data analysts and report writers*

The following parts are under development:

— *Part 1: General procedures*

— *Part 2: Equipment requirements*

— *Part 4: Conducting thermographic inspections and reporting of results for residential and small buildings*

— *Part 5: Conducting thermographic inspections and reporting of results for commercial buildings*

— *Part 6: Conducting thermographic inspections and reporting of results for institutional and special use buildings*

[A.1](#), [A.2](#) and [Annex B](#) form *normative* parts of this part of ISO 6781.

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Introduction

Reducing energy use in buildings is paramount to improving our environment. Infrared building thermography provides a tool to quantitatively and qualitatively identify the presence of energy-wasting defects and anomalies within building structures. These defects and anomalies can include, for example, thermal insulation defects, moisture content, and / or unwanted air movement or leakage within the building envelope.

Building thermography is carried out by means of an infrared radiation sensing system, which produces an image based on the apparent radiance temperature of the target surface area. The thermal radiation (infrared radiation density) from the target area is converted by the infrared radiation sensing system to produce a thermal image (thermogram). This image (thermogram) represents the relative intensity of thermal radiation from different parts of the surface. The radiation intensity indicated by the image is directly related to (i) the surface temperature and distribution, (ii) the characteristics of the surface, (iii) the ambient conditions, and (iv) the sensor itself. Also included in the thermographic process is valid interpretation of the thermal images.

As a result, surface temperature distribution can be a key parameter for monitoring the performance of building components, building envelopes and the diagnostics of problems. In use, via analysis of surface temperature distributions, irregularities in the heat and moisture properties of building envelopes and components, and air movement within the building envelope, can be indicated. These irregularities can be due to, for example, thermal insulation defects, moisture content, air leakage within components, or incorrect installation of components which comprise the construction of the building.

To realize its full utility as an initial qualitative screening technique, or in-depth diagnostic technique, thermography is often supported and / or validated by other methods. Such methods include, but are not limited to, infrared photosensitive tracer gas methods, fan pressurization of the building envelope, heat-flow meters, smoke diffusion, anemometry, etc.

The effectiveness of the investigations depends on the competence of individuals who perform the measurements and analyse the data. A person or entity wishing to use or implement infrared thermographic services for buildings can refer to this part of ISO 6781 to understand and specify (i) the competence required of operators of the thermographic equipment, and (ii) the qualifications required of interpreters of data gathered from the thermographic surveys.

This part of ISO 6781 sets out the requirements and levels of competence that equipment operators, data analysts and report writers shall possess in order to undertake thermographic investigations and the analysis and reporting of thermographic results stemming from investigations.

For validity of requirements to this part of ISO 6781, assessment of competence will be undertaken by bodies qualified to train and assess the competence of personnel whose duties require the appropriate theoretical and practical knowledge applicable to thermography of buildings.