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Ergonomics of the thermal environment — Analytical determination and interpretation of heat stress using calculation of the predicted heat strain

Ergonomie des ambiances thermiques — Détermination analytique et interprétation de la contrainte thermique fondées sur le calcul de l'astreinte thermique prévisible



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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.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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.

ISO 7933 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 159, *Ergonomics*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Ergonomics of the physical environment*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 7933:1989), which was based on the Required Sweat Rate index. In order to avoid any confusion and, as extensive modifications are brought to the prediction model, the name of the index has been changed to Predicted Heat Strain (PHS).

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Introduction

Other International Standards of this series describe how the parameters influencing the human thermoregulation in a given environment must be estimated or quantified. Others specify how these parameters must be integrated in order to predict the degree of discomfort or the health risk in these environments. The present document was prepared to standardize the methods that occupational health specialists should use to approach a given problem and progressively collect the information needed to control or prevent the problem.

The method of computation and interpretation of thermal balance is based on the latest scientific information. Future improvements concerning the calculation of the different terms of the heat balance equation, or its interpretation, will be taken into account when they become available. In its present form, this method of assessment is not applicable to cases where special protective clothing (reflective clothing, active cooling and ventilation, impermeable, with personal protective equipment) is worn.

In addition, occupational health specialists are responsible for evaluating the risk encountered by a given individual, taking into consideration his specific characteristics that might differ from those of a standard subject. ISO 9886 describes how physiological parameters must be used to monitor the physiological behaviour of a particular subject and ISO 12894 describes how medical supervision must be organized.