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First edition
2012-10-15

Energy performance of buildings — Common terms, definitions and symbols for the overall energy performance rating and certification

*Performance énergétique des bâtiments — Termes, définitions
et symboles communes pour l'évaluation de la performance et la
certification énergétique*



Reference number
ISO/TR 16344:2012(E)

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Published in Switzerland

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Contents

Page

Foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
2 Terms and definitions	1
2.1 Terms.....	1
2.2 Proposed groupings of terms.....	19
3 Symbols and abbreviations	25
3.1 General.....	25
3.2 Principal symbols.....	25
3.3 Subscripts.....	26
3.4 More details and examples.....	29
Annex A (normative) Symbols and abbreviations — Further details and examples	30
Annex B (informative) Translation of symbols and subscripts into French and German	36
Bibliography	40

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.

In exceptional circumstances, when a technical committee has collected data of a different kind from that which is normally published as an International Standard ("state of the art", for example), it may decide by a simple majority vote of its participating members to publish a Technical Report. A Technical Report is entirely informative in nature and does not have to be reviewed until the data it provides are considered to be no longer valid or useful.

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/TR 16344 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 163, *Thermal performance and energy use in the built environment*, in conjunction with TC 205, *Building environment design*.

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Introduction

This Technical Report is one of three closely linked documents dealing with definitions and general procedures for overall building energy performance rating and certification (see also Figure 1):

- ISO/TR 16344, *Energy performance of buildings — Common terms, definitions and symbols for the overall energy performance rating and certification*;
- ISO 16343, *Energy performance of buildings — Methods for expressing energy performance and for energy certification of buildings*;
- ISO 16346, *Energy performance of buildings — Assessment of overall energy performance*.

Their development greatly benefited from similar CEN documents (viz. CEN/TR 15615, EN 15217 and EN 15603, respectively) developed to support the European Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD).

The main differences between this Technical Report (i.e. ISO/TR 16344) and CEN/TR 15615 are:

- this Technical Report covers only the subjects covered in CEN/TR 15615:2008, Annex C (Definitions) and Annex D (Common symbols and subscripts);
- this Technical Report includes specific definitions added from other sources without jeopardizing the consistency and integrity of the document;
- some editorial changes have been made.

Note that a revision of the set of CEN documents to support the EPBD is anticipated in the near future. Issuing the corresponding ISO documents aims to bring the key subject of building energy performance assessment to the fore at the global level.

Given the strong demand for these documents at ISO level, it was decided not to delay the advancement of the ISO documents by waiting for these CEN developments. However, it is expected that a future revision of the ISO documents will be carried out in collaboration with CEN under the Vienna Agreement.

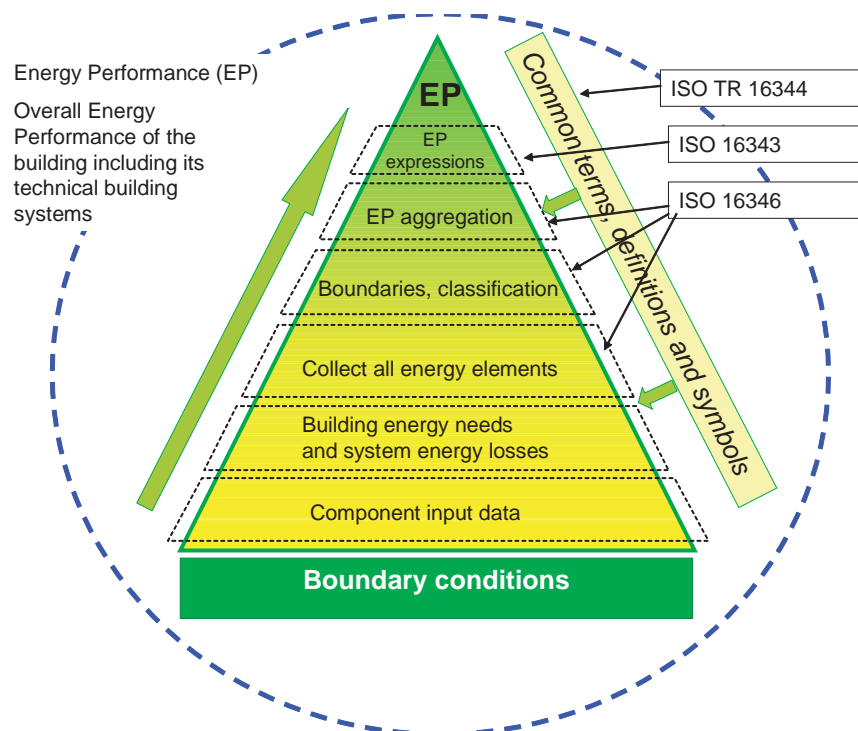


Figure 1 — Flow diagram illustrating the successive elements of the general procedures

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The difference between this Technical Report and ISO 16818, *Building environment design — Energy efficiency — Terminology*, is that ISO 16818 gives terms and definitions for use in the design of energy-efficient buildings, while this Technical Report provides an unambiguous and consistent common set of terms, definitions and symbols for all elements of the assessment of the overall energy performance of buildings. The unambiguous and consistent use of terms, definitions and symbols is essential when the energy performance is assessed in the context of national or regional building regulations, e.g. to check compliance with minimum energy performance requirements and/or to produce energy performance certificates for a building.