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VÄLIMÕÕTMISTE TEEL. OSA 1: RASTERMEETOD

Ambient air - Determination of odour in ambient air by
using field inspection - Part 1: Grid method

EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

NATIONAL FOREWORD

See Eesti standard EVS-EN 16841-1:2016 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN 16841-1:2016 ingliskeelset teksti.	This Estonian standard EVS-EN 16841-1:2016 consists of the English text of the European standard EN 16841-1:2016.
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English Version

Ambient air - Determination of odour in ambient air by using field inspection - Part 1: Grid method

Air ambiant - Détermination de la présence d'odeurs
par mesures de terrain - Partie 1 : Méthode de la grille

Außenluft - Bestimmung von Geruchsstoffimmissionen
durch Begehungen - Teil 1: Rastermessung

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 10 September 2016.

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CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels

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European foreword

This document (EN 16841-1:2016) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 264 "Air quality", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2017, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2017.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

EN 16841, *Ambient air - Determination of odour in ambient air by using field inspection* consists of the following parts:

— *Part 1: Grid method*

— *Part 2: Plume method*

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

Introduction

Part 1 (grid method) and Part 2 (plume method) of this European Standard describe methods for direct assessment of odours in ambient air.

This European Standard supplements the dynamic olfactometry method described in EN 13725 which is generally only suitable for measurement of odour emissions at source. As the practical lower detection limit is typically $\geq 10 \text{ ou}_E/\text{m}^3$, EN 13725 cannot be applied to directly determine odour exposure in the field (i.e. measure faint odours at the concentration where they can just be recognized).

The methods for measuring odour presented in this European Standard make direct use of odour perception, the effect of odorants on the human sense of smell. The standard involves the use of qualified human panel members in the field to directly assess the presence of recognizable odour in ambient air, and provide data that can be used to characterize odour exposure in a defined assessment area. The standard presents two key approaches summarized as follows:

- Part 1 (presented in this document) describes a **grid method** which uses direct assessment of ambient air by panel members to characterize odour exposure in a defined assessment area.
- Part 2 describes a **plume method** to characterize the presence of odour by determining the extent of the downwind odour plume of a source.

Although the ultimate application of this method is in monitoring the risk of exposure to odours and the resulting odour annoyance, there is no direct relation between the presence of recognizable odours and the occurrence of odour annoyance. The process leading to odour annoyance being experienced by an individual or a community is highly complex. Additional investigations are necessary to establish a link between odour exposure and the risk of odour annoyance, which is profoundly influenced by odour exposure frequency, by the type and hedonic tone of the odour perceived, and by the characteristics of those exposed to the odour (the receptor). The relationship between odour exposure and annoyance is not within the scope of this European Standard.

The sensory methods described here are only suitable for the assessment of odour in ambient air. They are not suitable for the assessment of substances that cannot be detected by sensory methods, in particular when these substances may cause health effects not directly related to their perceived smell.

1 Scope

This part of the European Standard describes the grid method for the determination of the level of odour exposure in ambient air. It provides a set of instructions for measurement of ambient odour exposure within a defined assessment area, using qualified human panel members, over a sufficiently long period of time to be representative for the meteorological conditions of that location, and hence determine the distribution of the frequency of exposure to odours within the assessment area. The sources of the odorant under study may be located within or outside the assessment area.

The primary application of this European Standard is to provide a common basis for evaluation of exposure to ambient odours in the member states of the European Union. The field of application of this type of measurement is to characterize the level of odour exposure within the study area, in order to assess whether the impact of that exposure on resident population could be a justified cause for annoyance, using exposure criteria. The unit of measurement of the method is the frequency of odour hours for an assessment square, defined by four measurement points as a representative value for odour exposure for local conditions, e.g. local odour sources and the meteorology of that location.

This European Standard does not include:

- the measurement of intensity of ambient odours,
- the measurement of hedonic tone of ambient odours,
- the calculation of odour exposure in specific weather conditions in order to determine the frequency distribution of recognizable odour in an odorant plume,
- the calculation of estimated source emission rate from plume assessment using reverse dispersion modelling.

An overview of the interaction between existing odour exposure assessment methods is given in Annex A, including grid method (Part 1), plume method (Part 2) and olfactometry according to EN 13725.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 13725:2003, *Air quality - Determination of odour concentration by dynamic olfactometry*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

assessment area

area which covers all assessment squares of a grid

Note 1 to entry: The size and shape depend on the objective of the assessment and on the number and type of odorant sources that have an influence on the odour exposure in the area of study.

3.2

assessment square

element of the assessment area, defined by four adjoining measurement points on the grid

Note 1 to entry: Assessment squares are only necessary at locations where an odour assessment is required. These are generally residential areas or stand-alone houses.