

Conservation of cultural heritage - Guidelines for the
management of waterlogged wood on archaeological
terrestrial sites

EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

NATIONAL FOREWORD

See Eesti standard EVS-EN 16873:2016 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN 16873:2016 ingliskeelset teksti.	This Estonian standard EVS-EN 16873:2016 consists of the English text of the European standard EN 16873:2016.
Standard on jõustunud sellekohase teate avaldamisega EVS Teatajas	This standard has been endorsed with a notification published in the official bulletin of the Estonian Centre for Standardisation.
Euroopa standardimisorganisatsioonid on teinud Euroopa standardi rahvuslikele liikmetele kättesaadavaks 09.11.2016.	Date of Availability of the European standard is 09.11.2016.
Standard on kättesaadav Eesti Standardikeskusest.	The standard is available from the Estonian Centre for Standardisation.

Tagasisidet standardi sisu kohta on võimalik edastada, kasutades EVS-i veebilehel asuvat tagasiside vormi või saates e-kirja meiliaadressile standardiosakond@evs.ee.

ICS 79.040, 97.195

Standardite reprodutseerimise ja levitamise õigus kuulub Eesti Standardikeskusele

Andmete paljundamine, taastekitamine, kopeerimine, salvestamine elektroonsesse süsteemi või edastamine ükskõik millises vormis või millisel teel ilma Eesti Standardikeskuse kirjaliku loata on keelatud.

Kui Teil on küsimusi standardite autorikaitse kohta, võtke palun ühendust Eesti Standardikeskusega:
Koduleht www.evs.ee; telefon 605 5050; e-post info@evs.ee

The right to reproduce and distribute standards belongs to the Estonian Centre for Standardisation

No part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without a written permission from the Estonian Centre for Standardisation.

If you have any questions about copyright, please contact Estonian Centre for Standardisation:

Homepage www.evs.ee; phone +372 605 5050; e-mail info@evs.ee

English Version

Conservation of cultural heritage - Guidelines for the management of waterlogged wood on archaeological terrestrial sites

Conservation du patrimoine culturel - Lignes directrices pour la gestion du bois gorgé d'eau sur les sites terrestres présentant un intérêt archéologique

Erhaltung des kulturellen Erbes - Leitlinien für die Handhabung von Nassholz an terrestrischen archäologischen Stätten

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 26 September 2016.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of 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 United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

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

Contents

Page

European foreword.....	3
Introduction	4
1 Scope.....	5
2 Normative references	5
3 Terms and definitions	5
4 Guidelines for management of waterlogged archaeological wood	7
4.1 Introduction	7
4.2 Pre excavation project planning.....	8
4.3 Management and protection on site during excavation	8
4.3.1 General.....	8
4.3.2 Revealing.....	8
4.3.3 Labelling.....	9
4.3.4 Cleaning	9
4.3.5 Recording and documentation.....	9
4.4 Lifting.....	9
4.4.1 General.....	9
4.4.2 Lifting small finds.....	9
4.4.3 Lifting large and heavy finds.....	10
4.5 Management of the finds after lifting.....	10
4.5.1 General.....	10
4.5.2 Packaging for handling and transport.....	10
4.6 Transport	10
Bibliography.....	12

European foreword

This document (EN 16873:2016) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 346 “Conservation of Cultural Heritage”, the secretariat of which is held by UNI.

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.

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

The successful management of archaeological wood finds from waterlogged sites starts in the planning phase of any excavation. From the moment of exposure, waterlogged wood finds are extremely vulnerable to a range of man-made and natural threats. There is a real risk of losing the artefact if it is not handled and conserved properly. To minimize these threats and prevent damage, several actions shall be taken in the field which shall include proper management of the site and handling of the finds. These activities should be carried out by professionals, specifically qualified in the management and handling of waterlogged archaeological wood.

1 Scope

This European standard provides guidelines for safeguarding waterlogged wood on terrestrial sites of archaeological or historical significance. It deals with the protection of archaeological and historical waterlogged wood, from the time of exposure during and after excavation, until it reaches the conservation laboratory. The standard cannot be applied to the management of controlled reburial, *in situ* preservation, long term post excavation storage or excavations under water. Composite artefacts, and other waterlogged materials are specifically excluded from this standard.

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.

Not applicable.

3 Terms and definitions

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

3.1

deposition archive

formal handing over of the entire excavation record, including the conserved artefacts, to a museum or other receiving institution

3.2

block-lifting

removal of a fragile find by lifting from the ground with surrounding burial matrix, with or without extra support, limiting the risk of damage

3.3

burial matrix

soil, peat, sediment or other medium found in direct contact with an artefact

3.4

cleaning

removal of unwanted material from an object

Note 1 to entry the criteria for something being “unwanted” always have to be stated, e.g. potentially damaging, obscuring detail, un-aesthetic

[SOURCE: EN 15898:2011, definition 3.5.3]

3.5

condition

physical state of an object at a particular time

[SOURCE: EN 15898:2011, definition 3.2.1, modified, Note 1 to entry deleted]

3.6

conservation

active remedial treatment of waterlogged wooden finds designed to prevent further deterioration or degradation and bring them into a stabilized condition for research, archiving or museum display