

## General principles of cathodic protection in seawater

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## English Version

## General principles of cathodic protection in seawater

Principes généraux de la protection cathodique en eau de mer

Allgemeine Grundsätze des kathodischen Korrosionsschutzes in Meerwasser

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 16 November 2013.

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# Contents

Page

|                                                           |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Foreword.....                                             | 4  |
| 1 Scope.....                                              | 5  |
| 2 Normative references .....                              | 5  |
| 3 Terms, definitions, abbreviations and symbols .....     | 5  |
| 4 Application of cathodic protection in seawater.....     | 9  |
| 4.1 General.....                                          | 9  |
| 4.2 Galvanic anode method .....                           | 9  |
| 4.3 Impressed current method .....                        | 10 |
| 4.4 Hybrid systems .....                                  | 10 |
| 5 Determination of level of cathodic protection .....     | 12 |
| 5.1 Measurement of protection level.....                  | 12 |
| 5.2 Reference electrodes .....                            | 12 |
| 5.3 Potentials of reference electrodes.....               | 12 |
| 5.4 Verification of reference electrodes.....             | 12 |
| 5.5 Potential measurement .....                           | 12 |
| 6 Cathodic protection potential criteria.....             | 13 |
| 6.1 General.....                                          | 13 |
| 6.2 Carbon-manganese and low alloy steels .....           | 13 |
| 6.3 Other metallic materials .....                        | 15 |
| 6.3.1 General.....                                        | 15 |
| 6.3.2 Stainless steels .....                              | 15 |
| 6.3.3 Nickel alloys .....                                 | 16 |
| 6.3.4 Aluminium alloys .....                              | 16 |
| 6.3.5 Copper alloys .....                                 | 17 |
| 7 Design considerations .....                             | 17 |
| 7.1 Introduction .....                                    | 17 |
| 7.2 Technical and operating data .....                    | 17 |
| 7.2.1 Design life .....                                   | 17 |
| 7.2.2 Materials of construction .....                     | 17 |
| 7.3 Surfaces to be protected.....                         | 18 |
| 7.4 Protective coatings.....                              | 18 |
| 7.5 Availability of electrical power .....                | 18 |
| 7.6 Weight limitations .....                              | 18 |
| 7.7 Adjacent structures .....                             | 18 |
| 7.8 Installation considerations .....                     | 18 |
| 7.9 Current demand .....                                  | 19 |
| 8 Effect of environmental factors on current demand ..... | 19 |
| 8.1 Introduction .....                                    | 19 |
| 8.2 Dissolved oxygen .....                                | 19 |
| 8.3 Sea currents .....                                    | 19 |
| 8.4 Calcareous deposits.....                              | 19 |
| 8.5 Temperature .....                                     | 20 |
| 8.6 Salinity .....                                        | 20 |
| 8.7 pH .....                                              | 21 |
| 8.8 Marine fouling .....                                  | 21 |
| 8.9 Effect of depth.....                                  | 21 |
| 8.10 Seasonal variations and storms.....                  | 21 |

|                |                                                                                                                                                                  |           |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>9</b>       | <b>Secondary effects of cathodic protection.....</b>                                                                                                             | <b>21</b> |
| <b>9.1</b>     | <b>General .....</b>                                                                                                                                             | <b>21</b> |
| <b>9.2</b>     | <b>Alkalinity.....</b>                                                                                                                                           | <b>22</b> |
| <b>9.3</b>     | <b>Environmentally-assisted cracking .....</b>                                                                                                                   | <b>22</b> |
| <b>9.3.1</b>   | <b>General .....</b>                                                                                                                                             | <b>22</b> |
| <b>9.3.2</b>   | <b>Hydrogen embrittlement.....</b>                                                                                                                               | <b>22</b> |
| <b>9.3.3</b>   | <b>Corrosion fatigue.....</b>                                                                                                                                    | <b>22</b> |
| <b>9.4</b>     | <b>Chlorine .....</b>                                                                                                                                            | <b>23</b> |
| <b>9.5</b>     | <b>Stray currents and interference effects .....</b>                                                                                                             | <b>23</b> |
| <b>10</b>      | <b>Use of cathodic protection in association with coatings .....</b>                                                                                             | <b>24</b> |
| <b>10.1</b>    | <b>Introduction.....</b>                                                                                                                                         | <b>24</b> |
| <b>10.2</b>    | <b>Coating selection.....</b>                                                                                                                                    | <b>24</b> |
| <b>10.3</b>    | <b>Coating breakdown .....</b>                                                                                                                                   | <b>25</b> |
| <b>Annex A</b> | <b>(informative) Corrosion of carbon-manganese and low-alloy steels.....</b>                                                                                     | <b>26</b> |
| <b>A.1</b>     | <b>Nature of metallic corrosion.....</b>                                                                                                                         | <b>26</b> |
| <b>A.2</b>     | <b>Polarization .....</b>                                                                                                                                        | <b>27</b> |
| <b>Annex B</b> | <b>(informative) Principles of cathodic protection.....</b>                                                                                                      | <b>30</b> |
| <b>Annex C</b> | <b>(informative) Reference electrodes .....</b>                                                                                                                  | <b>33</b> |
| <b>C.1</b>     | <b>General .....</b>                                                                                                                                             | <b>33</b> |
| <b>C.2</b>     | <b>Silver/silver chloride/seawater electrode.....</b>                                                                                                            | <b>33</b> |
| <b>C.3</b>     | <b>The zinc/seawater electrode.....</b>                                                                                                                          | <b>35</b> |
| <b>C.4</b>     | <b>Verification of reference electrodes .....</b>                                                                                                                | <b>35</b> |
| <b>Annex D</b> | <b>(informative) Corrosion of metallic materials other than carbon-manganese and low-alloy steels typically subject to cathodic protection in seawater .....</b> | <b>37</b> |
| <b>D.1</b>     | <b>Stainless steels.....</b>                                                                                                                                     | <b>37</b> |
| <b>D.2</b>     | <b>Nickel alloys .....</b>                                                                                                                                       | <b>37</b> |
| <b>D.3</b>     | <b>Aluminium alloys.....</b>                                                                                                                                     | <b>37</b> |
| <b>D.4</b>     | <b>Copper alloys .....</b>                                                                                                                                       | <b>38</b> |
|                | <b>Bibliography.....</b>                                                                                                                                         | <b>39</b> |

## Foreword

This document (EN 12473:2014) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 219 "Cathodic protection", the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

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 August 2014, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by August 2014.

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

This document supersedes EN 12473:2000.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations 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.

## 1 Scope

This European Standard covers the general principles of cathodic protection when applied in seawater, brackish waters and marine mud. It is intended to be an introduction, to provide a link between the theoretical aspects and the practical applications, and to constitute a support to the other European Standards devoted to cathodic protection of steel structures in seawater.

This European Standard specifies the criteria required for cathodic protection. It provides recommendations and information on reference electrodes, design considerations and prevention of the secondary effects of cathodic protection.

The practical applications of cathodic protection in seawater are covered by the following standards:

- EN 12495, *Cathodic protection for fixed steel offshore structures*;
- EN ISO 13174, *Cathodic protection of harbour installations (ISO 13174)*;
- EN 12496, *Galvanic anodes for cathodic protection in seawater and saline mud*;
- EN 13173, *Cathodic protection for steel offshore floating structures*;
- EN 16222, *Cathodic protection of ship hulls*;
- EN 12474, *Cathodic protection of submarine pipelines*;
- ISO 15589-2, *Petroleum, petrochemical and natural gas industries — Cathodic protection of pipeline transportation systems — Part 2: Offshore pipelines*.

For cathodic protection of steel reinforced concrete whether exposed to seawater or to the atmosphere, EN ISO 12696 applies.

## 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 50162, *Protection against corrosion by stray current from direct current systems*

EN ISO 8044, *Corrosion of metals and alloys — Basic terms and definitions (ISO 8044)*

## 3 Terms, definitions, abbreviations and symbols

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN ISO 8044 and the following apply.

NOTE The definitions given below prevail on their versions in EN ISO 8044.

### 3.1

#### **acidity**

presence of an excess of hydrogen ions over hydroxyl ions ( $\text{pH} < 7$ )

### 3.2

#### **alkalinity**

presence of an excess of hydroxyl ions over hydrogen ions ( $\text{pH} > 7$ )