

English Version

**Textiles for healthcare and social services facilities**

Textiles dans les établissements de santé et de services  
sociaux

Textilien im Gesundheitswesen

This Technical Specification (CEN/TS) was approved by CEN on 29 May 2015 for provisional application.

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## European foreword

This document (CEN/TS 14237:2015) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 248 "Textiles and textile products", the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

This document supersedes ENV 14237:2002.

In this new edition, the purpose was specified in the Introduction, normative references were updated and requirements were modified following past experiences with the use of ENV 14237.

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## Introduction

This Technical Specification provides minimum specifications for the purchase of unused textiles for healthcare and social service facilities. It is intended to assist healthcare and social services organisations select textiles products produced from these textiles and which they intend to be maintained by industrial laundering.

It is recognized that textile materials are currently available which outperform these minimum specifications in this Technical Specification and it is unable to provide information to correlate these minimum specifications with textile life and value in typical industrial processing. Furthermore these minimum specifications are not correlated with textile life as measure by industrial launder-use trials. Consequently it is strongly recommended that purchasers discuss the quality of materials and their expected performance requirement with any prospective laundry company prior to making a purchase. Moreover, there is a need for safety of patients and clients which needs to be ensured by hygienic cleanliness according to EN 14065, which is not reachable by domestic washing.

Production technologies in laundries places a requirement for high performance characteristics on the textile to ensure sufficient durability, and which could increase acquisition costs, It is therefore encouraged to carry out some trial processing in the prospective laundry, to better assess textile life and lifecycle costing.

The properties, references and specifications for textiles shown in Tables 1 to 8 provide guidance as a starting point for products to be industrially laundered. It is possible that National Standards may set a higher level of characteristics for textile products.

## 1 Scope

This Technical Specification recommends characteristics, test methods and minimum performance specifications for unused textile for the healthcare and social service facilities (hospitals, residential care homes, etc.) to give guidance on the suitability of products intended to be maintained by industrial laundering.

This Technical Specification is not applicable to surgical textiles under the Medical Devices Directive nor protective clothing under the PPE Directive.

## 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 410, *Glass in building — Determination of luminous and solar characteristics of glazing*

EN 1103, *Textiles — Fabrics for apparel — Detailed procedure to determine the burning behaviour*

EN 12590, *Textiles — Industrial sewing threads made wholly or partly from synthetic fibres*

EN 13773, *Textiles and textile products — Burning behaviour — Curtains and drapes — Classification scheme*

EN 14697, *Textiles — Terry towels and terry towel fabrics — Specification and methods of test*

EN 20105-N01, *Textiles — Tests for colour fastness — Part N01: Colour fastness to bleaching: Hypochlorite (ISO 105-N01)*

EN 20811, *Textiles — Determination of resistance to water penetration — Hydrostatic pressure test*

EN ISO 105-B02, *Textiles — Tests for colour fastness — Part B02: Colour fastness to artificial light: Xenon arc fading lamp test (ISO 105-B02)*

EN ISO 105-C06, *Textiles — Tests for colour fastness — Part C06: Colour fastness to domestic and commercial laundering (ISO 105-C06)*

EN ISO 105-E04, *Textiles — Tests for colour fastness — Part E04: Colour fastness to perspiration (ISO 105-E04)*

EN ISO 105-N02, *Textiles — Tests for colour fastness — Part N02: Colour fastness to bleaching — Peroxide (ISO 105-N02)*

EN ISO 105-P01, *Textiles — Tests for colour fastness — Part P01: Colour fastness to dry heat (excluding pressing) (ISO 105-P01)*

EN ISO 105-X12, *Textiles — Tests for colour fastness — Part X12: Color fastness to rubbing (ISO 105-X12:2001)*

EN ISO 5077, *Textiles — Determination of dimensional change in washing and drying (ISO 5077)*

EN ISO 6330, *Textiles — Domestic washing and drying procedures for textile testing (ISO 6330)*

EN ISO 9237:1995, *Textiles — Determination of permeability of fabrics to air (ISO 9237:1995)*

EN ISO 11092:2014, *Textiles — Physiological effects — Measurement of thermal and water-vapour resistance under steady-state conditions (sweating guarded-hotplate test) (ISO 11092:2014)*

EN ISO 12945-1:2000, *Textiles — Determination of fabric propensity to surface fuzzing and to pilling — Part 1: Pilling box method (ISO 12945-1:2000)*

EN ISO 12945-2, *Textiles — Determination of fabric propensity to surface fuzzing and to pilling — Part 2: Modified Martindale method (ISO 12945-2)*

EN ISO 12952-1, *Textiles — Assessment of the ignitability of bedding items — Part 1: Ignition source: smouldering cigarette (ISO 12952-1)*

EN ISO 12952-2, *Textiles — Assessment of the ignitability of bedding items — Part 2: Ignition source: match-flame equivalent (ISO 12952-2)*

EN ISO 13934-1, *Textiles — Tensile properties of fabrics — Part 1: Determination of maximum force and elongation at maximum force using the strip method (ISO 13934-1)*

EN ISO 13936-1, *Textiles — Determination of the slippage resistance of yarns at a seam in woven fabrics — Part 1: Fixed seam opening method (ISO 13936-1)*

EN ISO 13936-2, *Textiles — Determination of the slippage resistance of yarns at a seam in woven fabrics — Part 2: Fixed load method (ISO 13936-2)*

EN ISO 13938-1:1999, *Textiles — Bursting properties of fabrics — Part 1: Hydraulic method for determination of bursting strength and bursting distension (ISO 13938-1:1999)*

EN ISO 13938-2, *Textiles — Bursting properties of fabrics — Part 2: Pneumatic method for determination of bursting strength and bursting distension (ISO 13938-2)*

ISO 4915, *Textiles — Stitch types — Classification and terminology*

ISO 4916, *Textiles — Seam types — Classification and terminology*

### 3 Terms and definitions

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

#### 3.1 Products

NOTE This Technical Specification classifies the requirements for the fabrics according to its use in the following product groups.

##### 3.1.1

##### **accessories**

components different from the main materials of the product (e.g. cuffs, buttons, sewing thread, press studs, zippers, etc.)

##### 3.1.2

##### **baby clothing**

garment being provided by the hospital that is worn by babies during their stay