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Leather - Identification of leather with microscopy (ISO 17131:2020)

EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

NATIONAL FOREWORD

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ICS 59.140.30

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN ISO 17131

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

April 2020

ICS 59.140.30

Supersedes EN ISO 17131:2012

English Version

Leather - Identification of leather with microscopy (ISO 17131:2020)

Cuir - Identification du cuir par microscopie (ISO 17131:2020)

Leder - Identifizierung von Leder per Mikroskopie (ISO 17131:2020)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 25 March 2020.

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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.

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

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European foreword

This document (EN ISO 17131:2020) has been prepared by Technical Committee IULTCS "International Union of Leather Technologists and Chemists Societies" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 289 "Leather" 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by October 2020, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by October 2020.

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.

This document supersedes EN ISO 17131:2012.

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, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 17131:2020 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 17131:2020 without any modification.

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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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 289, *Leather*, the secretariat of which is held by UNI, in collaboration with the Physical Tests Commission of the International Union of Leather Technologists and Chemists Societies (IUP Commission, IULTCS) in accordance with the agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

IULTCS, originally formed in 1897, is a world-wide organization of professional leather societies to further the advancement of leather science and technology. IULTCS has three Commissions, which are responsible for establishing international methods for sampling and the testing of leather. ISO recognizes IULTCS as an international standardizing body for the preparation of test methods for leather.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 17131:2012), which has been technically revised. The main changes to the previous edition are as follows:

- light microscope phase contrast cross-section photographs added in a new normative [Annex C](#);
- [Clauses 5](#) and [6](#) have been modified to include the preparation for this light microscopy technique.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

The identification of leather is best made by operators experienced in material identification using microscopy, which is the preferred method. With other methods, such as chemical analysis, it can be difficult to absolutely determine that the material is leather.

Leather — Identification of leather with microscopy

1 Scope

This document specifies a method using microscopy to identify leather and distinguish it from other materials. The method is not applicable for identifying specific leathers (e.g. sheep leather).

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 17186, *Leather — Physical and mechanical tests — Determination of surface coating thickness*

EN 15987, *Leather — Terminology — Key definitions for the leather trade*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN 15987 apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

4 Principle

A cross-section of the material is cut perpendicular to the surface. The material structure is compared with typical pictures or known samples by means of microscopy.

The method should be carried out by operators experienced in material identification by microscopy.

5 Apparatus and materials

5.1 Light microscope (optical, phase-contrast or stereo) or scanning electron microscope, capable of giving a normal magnification of at least 20 ×.

NOTE For some materials it is necessary to use a microscope with a magnification of 500 ×.

5.2 Razor blade, capable of cutting a clean cross-section in leather, if the microscope illuminates from above or a scanning electron microscope is used.

5.3 Cryomicrotome, if the microscope illuminates from below or a phase-contrast microscope is used.

5.4 Coating unit, sputter or evaporation, including a suitable element or alloy (e.g. gold) for coating, if a scanning electron microscope is used.

5.5 Specimen stubs, suitable for a scanning electron microscope, if used.