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Non-destructive testing - Ultrasonic testing -  
Characterization and sizing of discontinuities (ISO  
16827:2025)

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

## NATIONAL FOREWORD

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN ISO 16827

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

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Supersedes EN ISO 16827:2014

English Version

## Non-destructive testing - Ultrasonic testing - Characterization and sizing of discontinuities (ISO 16827:2025)

Essais non destructifs - Contrôle par ultrasons -  
Caractérisation et dimensionnement des discontinuités  
(ISO 16827:2025)

Zerstörungsfreie Prüfung - Ultraschallprüfung -  
Beschreibung und Größenbestimmung von  
Inhomogenitäten (ISO 16827:2025)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 7 June 2025.

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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

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

## European foreword

This document (EN ISO 16827:2025) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 135 "Non-destructive testing" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 138 "Non-destructive testing" the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by December 2025, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by December 2025.

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 16827:2014.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users' national standards body/national committee. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

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## Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 16827:2025 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 16827:2025 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 document 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](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

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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](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 135, *Non-destructive testing*, Subcommittee SC 3, *Ultrasonic testing*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 138, *Non-destructive testing*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 16827:2012), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- figures have been updated;
- references have been updated;
- information added in the scope that the technique can also be used with phased array.

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](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

## Introduction

The following documents on ultrasonic testing are linked:

ISO 16810, *Non-destructive testing — Ultrasonic testing — General principles*

ISO 16811, *Non-destructive testing — Ultrasonic testing — Sensitivity and range setting*

ISO 16823, *Non-destructive testing — Ultrasonic testing — Through transmission technique*

ISO 16826, *Non-destructive testing — Ultrasonic testing — Testing for discontinuities perpendicular to the surface*

ISO 16827, *Non-destructive testing — Ultrasonic testing — Characterization and sizing of discontinuities*

ISO 16828, *Non-destructive testing — Ultrasonic testing — Time-of-flight diffraction technique as a method for detection and sizing of discontinuities*

# Non-destructive testing — Ultrasonic testing — Characterization and sizing of discontinuities

## 1 Scope

This document specifies the general principles and techniques for the characterization and sizing of previously detected discontinuities in order to ensure their evaluation against applicable acceptance criteria.

This document is applicable, in general terms, to discontinuities in those materials and applications covered by ISO 16810.

Phased array techniques can also be applied but additional steps or verifications can be needed.

## 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 5577, *Non-destructive testing — Ultrasonic testing — Vocabulary*

ISO 16810, *Non-destructive testing — Ultrasonic testing — General principles*

ISO 16811, *Non-destructive testing — Ultrasonic testing — Sensitivity and range setting*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 5577 apply.

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

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

## 4 Principles of characterization of discontinuities

### 4.1 General

Characterization of a discontinuity involves the determination of those features which are necessary for its evaluation with respect to specified acceptance criteria.

Characterization of a discontinuity can include:

- a) determination of basic ultrasonic parameters (echo height, time of flight);
- b) determination of its basic shape and orientation;
- c) sizing, which may take the form of either:
  - 1) the determination of one or more dimensions (or area/volume), within the limitations of the methods; or