BRITISH STANDARD

BS 2739:1975

Specification for

Thick PVC sheeting (calendered, flexible, unsupported)

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Co-operating organizations

The Plastics Industry Standards Committee, under whose supervision this British Standard was prepared, consists of representatives from the following Government departments and scientific and industrial organizations.

British Resin Manufacturers' Association
British Plastics Federation*
Chemical Industries' Association
Department of the Environment — Building Research Establishment
Department of Industry
Electrical and Electronic Insulation Association
Electrical Installation Equipment Manufacturers' Association
Electrical Research Association*
Engineering Equipment Users' Association
Ministry of Defence*
Plastics Institute
Post Office*
Royal Institute of British Architects
Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene
Rubber and Plastics Research Association of Great Britain*
Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders Ltd.*

The Government department and industrial organizations marked with an asterisk in the above list, together with the following, were directly represented on the committee entrusted with the preparation of this British Standard.

Consumer Standards Advisory Committee of BSI
Packaging and Industrial Films Association
PIRA (Research Association for the Paper and Board Printing and Packaging Industries)
Retail Trading Standards Association
Telecommunication Engineering and Manufacturing Association

This British Standard, having been approved by the Plastics Industry Standards Committee, was published under the authority of the Executive Board on
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The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:
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Foreword

This British Standard, prepared under the authority of the Plastics Industry Standards Committee, is one of a series for flexible polyvinyl chloride materials. It was first published in 1956 and subsequently revised in 1967.

The standard is based on technical data provided by the British Plastics Federation. Other standards in the series are:

BS 1763, *Thin PVC sheeting (calendered, flexible, unsupported).*

BS 1774, *Rainwear from PVC sheeting.*

BS 1776, *Fabrication of lightweight articles (other than rainwear) from polyvinyl chloride sheeting.*

BS 3878, *Flexible PVC sheeting for hospital use.*

In this revision, the principle change is to the use of metric units. Clauses **10** to **21** in the 1967 edition have been deleted as they were considered to be superfluous.

The principle of statistical control of certain properties has been retained as it has been shown by experience that the variability of results both within the material itself and from certain test methods is such that very low single-level limits would need to be specified if satisfactory material was not to be rejected.

The value of statistical control to the purchaser is as follows.

a) It gives an assurance that in a sequence of samples tested, only occasional samples will have a quality as represented by the specified limit (L) for single samples and that over a period the average quality will be at least as good as the specified limit ($\bar{X}$) for a large number of samples. In practice the $\bar{X}$ limits can be, and frequently are, exceeded in individual manufacturing "batches".

b) In the long run, differences of quality will be readily distinguished, and relatively small trends will be detected.

c) Control chart or other statistical control techniques can be applied whereby test data obtained by the purchaser can be effectively compared with the much greater amount of data obtained by the manufacturer, if appropriate arrangements are made to do so.

Those purchasers of PVC sheeting for whom it would be inconvenient to carry out sampling and testing on their own account may wish to rely on the independent assurance of the BSI quality assurance mark.

By the application of this principle it is intended to bring about a general improvement in quality of material complying with this standard. Further details of the principle are given in the notes to the appropriate clause.

It will be noted that the thickness range of this standard overlaps that of BS 1763. This is because the uses of thin and thick sheeting have been shown to require these thickness ranges and, in the overlapping region, thickness is not the feature determining the suitability of the sheeting.

The test method for extensibility after heat ageing is known not to be entirely reliable and a new method is being developed. It is hoped to issue an appropriate amendment in due course.

Consideration has been given to providing a means whereby the readiness with which sheeting can be welded could be assessed, but attempts to produce a laboratory test which measures this property have failed, due to the wide variation in electrode systems, machines and techniques in common use.

Certification. Attention is drawn to the certification facilities described on the inside back cover of this standard.

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i to iv, pages 1 to 12, an inside back cover and a back cover.

This standard has been updated (see copyright date) and may have had amendments incorporated. This will be indicated in the amendment table on the inside front cover.

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