



BSI Standards Publication

Workplace first aid kits

Part 1: Specification for the contents of workplace first aid kits

Publishing and copyright information

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, and inside front cover, pages i to ii, pages 1 to 8, an inside back cover and a back cover.

Foreword

Publishing information

This part of BS 8599 is published by BSI Standards Limited, under licence from The British Standards Institution, and came into effect on 31 January 2019. It was prepared by Technical Committee CH/100, *Healthcare and medical equipment*. A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

Supersession

This part of BS 8599 supersedes [BS 8599-1:2011](#), which will be withdrawn on 31 December 2019.

Relationship with other publications

BS 8599 is published in the following parts:

BS 8599-1, *Workplace first aid kits — Part 1: Specification for the contents of workplace first aid kits*; and

[BS 8599-2](#), *First aid kits — Part 2: Specification for the contents of motor vehicle first aid kits*

Information about this document

This is a full revision of the standard, and introduces the following principal changes:

- Personal issue kit and critical injury pack categories have been added;
- The travel kit has been altered to match the medium vehicle kit (see [BS 8599-2](#)) and renamed "travel and motoring kit"; and
- The quantities of first aid components in the small, medium and large first aid kits have been changed.

The technical committee recognizes that suppliers of products and services within the scope of this standard require time to comply. For this reason, [BS 8599-1:2011](#) will be withdrawn on 31 December 2019.

Presentational conventions

The provisions of this standard are presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Its requirements are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is "shall".

Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.

Contractual and legal considerations

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

1 Scope

This part of BS 8599 specifies requirements for the compilation of first aid components in first aid kits for use in a workplace environment. Requirements are also given for the container holding the components.

NOTE 1 [Annex A](#) gives recommendations on the quantities and sizes of first aid kits necessary for different workplace environments based on the category of risk and the number of employees at the workplace.

NOTE 2 [Annex B](#) gives guidance for employers on quantities of supplementary first aid kits (Personal issue first aid kits and Critical injury packs).

NOTE 3 For the avoidance of doubt, this standard does not supersede [BS 8599-2](#) for vehicle first aid kits, employers should refer to [BS 8599-2](#) when equipping vehicles with first aid kits.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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.

BS EN 455-1, *Medical gloves for single use — Part 1: Requirements and testing for freedom from holes*

BS EN 455-2, *Medical gloves for single use — Part 2: Requirements and testing for physical properties*

BS EN ISO 7010:2012+A7:2017, *Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs — Registered safety signs*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this part of BS 8599, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1 critical injury pack

pack designed for environments where a person could sustain a severe injury, contains items to help manage catastrophic blood loss

NOTE 1 Examples of such environments are given in [Annex B](#).

NOTE 2 Designed to be issued as a supplementary resource to small, medium or large first aid kits, as required.

NOTE 3 Where a critical injury pack is issued in a workplace, appropriate training should be provided. See HSE guidance [1].

3.2 emergency dressing

absorbent wound contact pad attached to a bandage, for use on lacerations and cuts to the skin

3.3 first aid kit container

vessel used to hold first aid components, facilitating easy transportation and retrieval

NOTE Typically this can be a box, case or bag.

3.4 personal issue kit

small first aid kit, containing basic first aid components for one person

NOTE Designed to be issued to individual employees, as a supplementary resource to small, medium and large first aid kits being available in the workplace, as required.