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Security of drinking water supply — Guidelines for risk and crisis management

Part 2: Risk management

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National foreword

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The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee B/504, Water supply.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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Sécurité de l'alimentation en eau potable - Lignes directrices pour la gestion des risques et des crises - Partie 2: Gestion des risques

Sicherheit der Trinkwasserversorgung - Leitlinien für das Risiko- und Krisenmanagement - Teil 2: Risikomanagement

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Foreword

This document (EN 15975-2:2013) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 164 "Water supply", 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by February 2014, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by February 2014.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

In crisis situations, which are difficult to forecast and, therefore, impossible to make complete provision for in risk management, appropriate crisis response management applies. Such situations are addressed in EN 15975-1.

This second part of guidelines for risk and crisis management describes a risk management approach for routine operations. This standard is complemented by Part 1 addressing crisis management procedures.

This is the second part of the European Standard "*Security of drinking water supply — Guidelines for risk and crisis management*" consisting of two parts as follows:

- *Part 1: Crisis management;*
- *Part 2: Risk management.*

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According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

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Introduction

A risk management approach, which is focused on all the elements of the drinking water supply chain (protection of sources, water abstraction, transport, treatment, storage and distribution), will contribute to meeting the drinking water supplier's requirements to ensure the safe, reliable, sustainable, environmentally friendly and economical operation of its drinking water supply system in order to provide safe drinking water up to consumers' taps. This standard supports the holistic Water Safety Plans (WSP) approach of the World Health Organization (WHO) (see [2], [3]).

Across Europe, there are many different ways to organise drinking water supply. The responsibility for risk management may differ depending on legislation and the nature of the organisations involved (public or private). National legislation can impose definitions that differ from the ones defined in this standard. In this case, the necessary adaptations should be made in the application of this standard.

This document incorporates fundamental elements of the WHO Water Safety Plan approach. As it is based on risk management, the approach helps to prevent a potential impairment of supply. The goal of the approach is to support water suppliers to actively address safety issues in the context of routine water supply management and operations.

Implementing a risk management approach is of added value as it supports systematic evaluation of the drinking water supply system's setup, diligent performance of system management as well as identification and prioritisation of improvement and upgrade needs. Furthermore, it improves communication among stakeholders, particularly those who share responsibility for the water supply chain.

The overall drinking water risk management approach employs the more general principles of value analysis which can be applied across many fields of business activity. This approach helps reinforce the significance of drinking water supply risk management within the organization.