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Space engineering — Structural factors of safety for spaceflight hardware

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National foreword

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The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee ACE/68, Space systems and operations.

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

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Foreword

This document (EN 16603-32-10:2014) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/CLC/TC 5 "Space", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This standard (EN 16603-32-10:2014) originates from ECSS-E-ST-32-10C Rev.1.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by February 2015, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by February 2015.

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.

This document has been developed to cover specifically space systems and has therefore precedence over any EN covering the same scope but with a wider domain of applicability (e.g. : aerospace).

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1 Scope

The purpose of this Standard is to define the **F**actors **O**f **S**afety (FOS), Design Factor and additional factors to be used for the dimensioning and design verification of spaceflight hardware including qualification and acceptance tests.

This standard is not self standing and is used in conjunction with the ECSS-E-ST-32, ECSS-E-ST-32-02 and ECSS-E-ST-33-01 documents.

Following assumptions are made in the document:

- that recognized methodologies are used for the determination of the limit loads, including their scatter, that are applied to the hardware and for the stress analyses;
- that the structural and mechanical system design is amenable to engineering analyses by current state-of-the-art methods and is conforming to standard aerospace industry practices.

Factors of safety are defined to cover chosen load level probability, assumed uncertainty in mechanical properties and manufacturing but not a lack of engineering effort.

The choice of a factor of safety for a program is directly linked to the rationale retained for designing, dimensioning and testing within the program. Therefore, as the development logic and the associated reliability objectives are different for:

- unmanned scientific or commercial satellite,
- expendable launch vehicles,
- man-rated spacecraft, and
- any other unmanned space vehicle (e.g. transfer vehicle, planetary probe)

specific values are presented for each of them.

Factors of safety for re-usable launch vehicles and man-rated commercial spacecraft are not addressed in this document.

For all of these space products, factors of safety are defined hereafter in the document whatever the adopted qualification logic: proto-flight or prototype model.

For pressurized hardware, factors of safety for all loads except internal pressure loads are defined in this standard. Concerning the internal pressure, the factors

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of safety for pressurised hardware can be found in ECSS-E-ST-32-02. For loads combination refer to ECSS-E-ST-32-02.

For mechanisms, specific factors of safety associated with yield and ultimate of metallic materials, cable rupture factors of safety, stops/shaft shoulders/recess yield factors of safety and limits for peak Hertzian contact stress are specified in ECSS-E-ST-33-01.

Alternate approach

The factors of safety specified hereafter are applied using a deterministic approach i.e. as generally applied in the Space Industry to achieve the structures standard reliability objectives. Structural safety based on a probabilistic analysis could be an alternate approach but it has to be demonstrated this process achieves the reliability objective specified to the structure. The procedure is approved by the customer.

This standard may be tailored for the specific characteristics and constraints of a space project in conformance with ECSS-S-ST-00.

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2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this ECSS Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revision of any of these publications, do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this ECSS Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the more recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

EN reference	Reference in text	Title
EN 16601-00-01	ECSS-S-ST-00-01	ECSS system – Glossary of terms
EN 16603-10-02	ECSS-E-ST-10-02	Space engineering – Verification
EN 16603-10-03	ECSS-E-ST-10-03	Space engineering – Testing
EN 16603-32	ECSS-E-ST-32	Space engineering – Structural general requirements
EN 16603-32-02	ECSS-E-ST-32-02	Space engineering – Structural design and verification of pressurized hardware

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