BS EN 868-6:2017

BSI Standards Publication

Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices

Part 6: Paper for low temperature sterilization processes — Requirements and test methods

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National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 868-6:2017. It supersedes BS EN 868-6:2009 which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee CH/198, Sterilization and Associated Equipment and Processes.

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

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

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

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

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English Version

Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices - Part 6: Paper for low temperature sterilization processes - Requirements and test methods

Emballages des dispositifs médicaux stérilisés au stade terminal - Partie 6: Papier pour des procédés de stérilisation à basse température - Exigences et méthodes d'essai

Verpackungsmaterialien für in der Endverpackung zu sterilisierende Medizinprodukte - Teil 6: Papier für Niedertemperatur-Sterilisationsverfahren - Anforderungen und Prüfverfahren

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 4 December 2016.

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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 foreword

This document (EN 868-6:2017) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 102 "Sterilizers and associated equipment for processing of medical devices", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by August 2017, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by August 2017.

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 868-6:2009.

Annex A provides details of significant technical changes between this European Standard and the previous edition.

EN 868 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices*:

— *Part 2: Sterilization wrap — Requirements and test methods;*

— *Part 3: Paper for use in the manufacture of paper bags (specified in* EN 868-4*) and in the manufacture of pouches and reels (specified in* EN 868-5*) — Requirements and test methods;*

— *Part 4: Paper bags — Requirements and test methods;*

— *Part 5: Sealable pouches and reels of porous materials and plastic film construction — Requirements and test methods;*

— *Part 6: Paper for low temperature sterilization processes — Requirements and test methods;*

— *Part 7: Adhesive coated paper for low temperature sterilization processes — Requirements and test methods;*

— *Part 8: Re-usable sterilization containers for steam sterilizers conforming to* EN 285 *— Requirements and test methods;*

— *Part 9: Uncoated nonwoven materials of polyolefines — Requirements and test methods;*

— *Part 10: Adhesive coated nonwoven materials of polyolefines — Requirements and test methods.*

In addition, ISO/TC 198 "Sterilization of health care products" in collaboration with CEN/TC 102 "Sterilizers and associated equipment for processing of medical devices" has prepared the EN ISO 11607- series "Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices". The EN ISO 11607- series specifies general requirements for materials, sterile barrier systems and packaging systems (Part 1) and validation requirements for forming, sealing and assembly processes (Part 2).

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, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

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Introduction

The EN ISO 11607 series consists of two parts under the general title "Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices". Part 1 of this series specifies general requirements and test methods for materials, preformed sterile barrier systems, sterile barrier systems and packaging systems that are intended to maintain sterility of terminally sterilized medical devices to the point of use. Part 2 of this series specifies validation requirements for forming, sealing and assembly processes.

General requirements for all types of sterile barrier systems are provided by EN ISO 11607-1.

The EN 868 series can be used to demonstrate compliance with one or more of the requirements specified in EN ISO 11607-1.

CEN/TC 102/WG 4 also appreciates the initiatives of CEN with regard to the minimization of adverse environmental impacts by standards. It was agreed that this subject should be given priority during the next edition of the EN ISO 11607 series that is the basic reference for all parts of the EN 868 series.

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1 Scope

This European Standard specifies test methods and values for paper used in the manufacture of preformed sterile barrier systems and/or packaging systems that are intended to maintain sterility of terminally sterilized medical devices to the point of use.

Other than the general requirements as specified in EN ISO 11607-1 and EN ISO 11607-2 this part of EN 868 specifies materials, test methods and values that are specific to the products covered by this European Standard.

Paper specified in this European Standard is intended for use in part or complete manufacture of pouches and form and fill packs and lidding material for trays.

NOTE 1 The paper specified in this part of the EN 868 series is suitable for the manufacture of sterile barrier systems to be used in ethylene oxide, irradiation or low temperature steam formaldehyde sterilization processes and to produce coated paper according to EN 868–7.

NOTE 2 Paper according to EN 868–3 can also be used for these sterilization processes.

The materials specified in this part of EN 868 are intended for single use only.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 20187, *Paper, board and pulps - Standard atmosphere for conditioning and testing and procedure for monitoring the atmosphere and conditioning of samples (ISO 187)*

EN ISO 535, *Paper and board - Determination of water absorptiveness - Cobb method (ISO 535)*

EN ISO 536, *Paper and board - Determination of grammage (ISO 536)*

EN ISO 1924-2, *Paper and board - Determination of tensile properties - Part 2: Constant rate of elongation method (20 mm/min) (ISO 1924-2)*

EN ISO 1974, *Paper - Determination of tearing resistance - Elmendorf method (ISO 1974)*

EN ISO 2758, *Paper - Determination of bursting strength (ISO 2758)*

EN ISO 11607-1:2009+A1:2014, *Packaging for terminally sterilized medical devices - Part 1: Requirements for materials, sterile barrier systems and packaging systems (ISO 11607-1:2006+AMD1:2014)*

ISO 2470-2, *Paper, board and pulps — Measurement of diffuse blue reflectance factor — Part 2: Outdoor daylight conditions (D65 brightness)*

ISO 3689, *Paper and board — Determination of bursting strength after immersion in water*

ISO 3781, *Paper and board — Determination of tensile strength after immersion in water*

ISO 5636-3, *Paper and board — Determination of air permeance (medium range) — Part 3: Bendtsen method*

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ISO 6588-2:2012, *Paper, board and pulps — Determination of pH of aqueous extracts — Part 2: Hot extraction*

ISO 8601, *Data elements and interchange formats — Information interchange — Representation of dates and times*

ISO 9197, *Paper, board and pulps — Determination of water-soluble chlorides*

ISO 9198, *Paper, board and pulp — Determination of water-soluble sulfates*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN ISO 11607-1:2009+A1:2014 apply.

4 Requirements

4.1 General

For any material, preformed sterile barrier system or sterile barrier system, the requirements of EN ISO 11607-1 shall apply.

This part of EN 868 only introduces performance requirements and test methods that are specific to the products covered by this part of EN 868 but does not add or modify the general requirements specified in EN ISO 11607-1.

As such, the particular requirements in 4.2 can be used to demonstrate compliance with one or more but not all of the requirements of EN ISO 11607-1.

NOTE 1 Compliance to EN 868–6 does not automatically mean compliance to EN ISO 11607-1.

A confirmation of compliance to EN 868-6 shall contain a statement whether EN ISO 11607-1 is covered.

NOTE 2 When additional materials are used inside the sterile barrier system in order to ease the organization, drying or aseptic presentation (e.g. inner wrap, container filter, indicators, packing lists, mats, instrument organizer sets, tray liners or an additional envelope around the medical device) then other requirements, including the determination of the acceptability of these materials during validation activities, can apply.

4.2 Performance requirements and test methods

NOTE See Annex D for repeatability and reproducibility of the test methods: pore diameters, sulphate content, chloride content and water repellency. For information on statement of precision and/or bias, repeatability and reproducibility of other test methods, see EN ISO 11607-1:2009+A1:2014, Table B.1.

4.2.1 When the paper is to be used to manufacture packaging intended to be irradiation sterilized only, it is not necessary for it to have wet strength properties or any permeability to air, so 4.2.11, 4.2.12 and 4.2.15 need not apply.

4.2.2 No colour shall leach out of the paper. Compliance shall be tested by visual examination of a hot aqueous extract prepared in accordance with the method given in ISO 6588-2.

4.2.3 The average mass of 1 m^2 of the conditioned paper when tested in accordance with EN ISO 536 shall be within ± 5 % of the nominal value stated by the manufacturer.

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