

Chemicals used for treatment of water intended for human consumption — Aluminium sulfate

The European Standard EN 878 : 1997 has the status of a
British Standard

ICS 71.100.80

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Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted to Technical Committee CII/59, Chemicals for drinking water treatment, upon which the following bodies were represented:

- Association of Consulting Scientists
- British Association for Chemical Specialities
- British Compressed Gases Association
- British Lime Association
- British Water
- Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management
- Chemical Industries Association
- Department of the Environment (Drinking Water Inspectorate)
- Industrial Water Society
- Salt Manufacturers' Association
- Water Companies Association
- Water Research Centre
- Water Services Association of England and Wales

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Sector Board for Materials and Chemicals, was published under the authority of the Standards Board and comes into effect on 15 September 1997

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The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:
Committee reference CII/59
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Amendments issued since publication

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National foreword

This British Standard has been prepared by Technical Committee CII/59, and is the English language version of EN 878 : 1997 *Chemicals used for treatment of water intended for human consumption — Aluminium sulfate*, published by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN).

The United Kingdom did not support this standard at the CEN Enquiry stage and voted against its acceptance at the Formal Vote stage. The principle UK objections were as follows:

- a) the first paragraph of **4.2** contains a requirement which is impossible to verify;
- b) there are no requirements in **4.2** for the purity of the product.

In **6.4** there is a requirement to mark the 'grade' of product on the container and/or delivery documentation. There is no requirement to mark the container or documentation with the 'type' (see **4.4**) but the BSI technical committee recommends that this information is always included.

Additional information

Article 8 of the Council of the European Community Directive 80/778/EEC relating to the quality of water intended for human consumption requires Member States to ensure that substances used in the preparation of drinking water do not cause any contravention of the maximum admissible concentrations prescribed in annex 1 to the Directive.

This requirement is given effect in England and Wales by regulation 25 of the Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations 1989 (similar provisions apply in Scotland and Northern Ireland). Regulation 25 makes provision for attaching conditions of use to chemicals which are authorized for use in public water supplies.

Details of conditions of use are contained in the Secretary of State's *List of Approved Products* published by the Drinking Water Inspectorate, Room B153, Romney House, 43 Marsham Street, London SW1P 3PY.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.

Summary of pages

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