BS EN ISO 12402-2:2020

BSI Standards Publication

Personal flotation devices

Part 2: Lifejackets, performance level 275 — Safety requirements

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National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN ISO 12402-2:2020. It is identical to ISO 12402-2:2020. It supersedes BS EN ISO 12402-2:2006+A1:2010, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee PH/3/6, Buoyancy garments.

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

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Personal flotation devices - Part 2: Lifejackets, performance level 275 - Safety requirements (ISO 12402-2:2020)

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European foreword

This document (EN ISO 12402-2:2020) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 188 "Small craft" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 162 “Protective clothing including hand and arm protection and lifejackets” 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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by March 2021, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by March 2021.

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 ISO 12402-2:2006.

This document has been prepared under a mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association, and supports essential requirements of EU Directive.

For the relationship with EU Directive(s) see informative Annex ZA, which is an integral part of this document.

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

Endorsement notice

The text of ISO 12402-2:2020 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO 12402-2:2020 without any modification.

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Annex ZA
(informative)

Relationship between this European Standard and the essential requirements of Regulation (EU) 2016/425 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on personal protective equipment aimed to be covered

This European Standard has been prepared under a Commission's standardization request to provide one voluntary means of conforming to essential requirements of Regulation (EU) 2016/425 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on personal protective equipment.

Once this standard is cited in the Official Journal of the European Union under that Regulation (EU) 2016/425, compliance with the normative clauses of this standard given in Table ZA.1 confers, within the limits of the scope of this standard, a presumption of conformity with the corresponding essential requirements of that Regulation (EU) 2016/425 and associated EFTA regulations.

Table ZA.1 — Correspondence between this European Standard and Regulation (EU) 2016/425

Essential Requirements of Regulation (EU) 2016/425		Clause(s)/sub-clause(s) of this EN	Remarks/ Notes
1.1.1	Ergonomics	5.6	
1.1.2.1	Optimum level of protection	5.6	
1.1.2.2	Classes of protection appropriate to different levels of risk	4.2	
1.2.1	Absence of inherent risks and other nuisance factors	5.1.2; 5.1.3; 5.1.5; 5.1.7; 5.2; 5.3.1.1; 5.3.1.2; 5.3.2.2; 5.3.2.3; 5.3.4.3; 5.3.4.4; 5.6.1.4; 5.6.1.7; 5.6.1.8; 5.6.1.9; 5.6.1.10; 5.6.1.11	
1.2.1.1	Suitable constituent materials	5.1	
1.2.1.2	Satisfactory surface condition of all PPE parts in contact with the user	5.1	
1.2.1.3	Maximum permissible user impediment	5.6.1.3	
1.3.1	Adaption of PPE to user morphology	5.6.2	
1.3.2	Lightness and design strength	5.3.2.1; 5.3.3.1; 5.5; 5.6.1.6	
1.4	Manufacturer's instructions and information	5.1.6; 5.3.4.1; 6.2; 7; 8	
2.1	PPE incorporating adjustment systems	5.1.3	
2.4	PPE subject to ageing	6.2 l)	
2.8	PPE for intervention in very dangerous situations	5.1.4	
2.12	PPE bearing one or more identification	6	

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	markings or indicators directly or indirectly relating to health and safety		
2.13	PPE capable of signalling the user's presence visually	5.4	
3.4.1	Prevention of drowning	5.1.2; 5.2; 5.3.1.1; 5.3.2.2; 5.3.4.2; 5.3.4.4; 5.6.3; 5.7	

WARNING 1 — Presumption of conformity stays valid only as long as a reference to this European Standard is maintained in the list published in the Official Journal of the European Union. Users of this standard should consult frequently the latest list published in the Official Journal of the European Union.

WARNING 2 — Other Union legislation may be applicable to the product(s) falling within the scope of this standard.

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 188, *Small craft*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Personal safety equipment*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 12402-2:2006), which has been technically revised. It also incorporates the Amendment ISO 12402-2:2006/Amd. 1:2010.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

a) new terms and definitions added;

b) level 50 was modified (see 4.2.1);

c) general requirements were modified (see 5.1);

d) requirements for lifting loops were moved to ISO 12402-8:2020;

e) requirements for different types of buoyancy were modified (see 5.3 and Table 2);

f) requirements on strength were added (see 5.5);

g) requirements on performance were modified (see 5.6).

A list of all parts in the ISO 12402 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

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Introduction

ISO 12402 (all parts):2020 deals with personal floatation devices (PFDs) for persons engaged in activities, whether in relation to their work or their leisure, in or near water. PFDs manufactured, selected, and maintained to this International Standard give a reasonable assurance of safety from drowning to a person who is immersed in water. ISO 12402 (all parts):2020 does not include the following:

— requirements for lifejackets on seagoing ships, which are regulated by the International Maritime Organization (IMO)[1)] under the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS);

— throwable devices and flotation cushions.

ISO 12402 (all parts):2020 allows for the buoyancy of a PFD to be provided by a variety of materials or designs, some of which can require preparation before entering the water (e.g. inflation of chambers by gas from a cylinder or blown in orally). PFDs can be divided into the following two main classes:

— those which provide face up in-water support to the user regardless of physical conditions (lifejackets), and

— those which require the user to make swimming and other postural movements to position the user with the face out of the water (buoyancy aids).

Within these main two classes there are a number of levels of support, types of buoyancy, activation methods for inflatable devices, and auxiliary items (such as location aids), which all affect the user's probability of survival. Within the different types of buoyancy allowed, inflatable PFDs either provide full buoyancy without any user intervention other than arming (i.e. PFDs inflated by a fully automatic method) or require the user to initiate the inflation. Hybrid PFDs always provide some buoyancy but rely on the same methods as inflatable PFDs to achieve full buoyancy. With inherently buoyant PFDs, the user only needs to put the PFD on to achieve the performance of its class.

PFDs that do not require intervention (automatically operating PFDs) are suited to activities where persons are likely to enter the water unexpectedly; whereas PFDs requiring intervention (e.g. manually inflated PFDs) are only suitable for use if the user believes there will be sufficient time to produce full buoyancy, if automatic operation would result in entrapment, or if help is close at hand. In every circumstance, the user should ensure that the operation of the PFD is suited to the specific application. The conformity of a PFD to this part of the ISO 12402 series:2020 does not imply that it is suitable for all circumstances. The relative amount of required inspection and maintenance is another factor of paramount importance in the choice and application of specific PFDs.

ISO 12402 (all parts):2020 is intended to serve as a guide to manufacturers, purchasers, and users of such safety equipment in ensuring that the equipment provides an effective standard of performance in use. Equally essential is the need for the designer to encourage the wearing of the equipment by making it comfortable and attractive for continuous wear on or near water, rather than for it to be stored in a locker for emergency use. The primary function of a PFD is to support the user in reasonable safety in the water. Within the two classes, alternative attributes make some PFDs better suited to some circumstances than others or make them easier to use and care for than others. Important alternatives provided by ISO 12402 (all parts):2020 are the following:

— to provide higher levels of support (levels 100, 150, or 275) that generally float the user with greater water clearance, when required for increasingly severe conditions; or to provide lighter or less bulky PFDs (levels 50 or 100);

— to provide the kinds of flotation (inherently buoyant foam, hybrid, and inflatable) that accommodate the sometimes conflicting needs of reliability and durability, in-water performance, and continuous wear;

1) The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is an institution with domicile in London issuing regulations which are then published as laws by its Member States.

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