BS ISO 1144:2016

BSI Standards Publication

Textiles — Universal system for designating linear density (Tex System)

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National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of ISO 1144:2016.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee TCI/24, Physical testing of textiles.

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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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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For an explanation on 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 the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 38, *Textiles*, Subcommittee SC 23, *Fibres and yarns*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 1144:1973), of which it constitutes a minor revision. The changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

a) the content structure has been updated;

b) some printing errors in Table A.3 (previously Table 4) have been corrected.

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Introduction

It has long been customary to designate the coarseness or the fineness of textile yarns by numbering or counting systems. Many branches of the textile industry employ systems of their own for this purpose, and those in current use may be classified in two groups.

a) Direct systems, in which the coarseness or the fineness of the yarn is expressed in terms of the mass of yarn per unit length (linear density, often called yarn number or yarn *titre*).

b) Indirect systems, in which the coarseness or the fineness of the yarn is expressed in terms of the length of yarn per unit mass (usually called yarn *count*).

With the growing use of yarns containing more than one kind of fibre, and of fabrics containing these yarns, it became increasingly evident that the general adoption of a single system of numbering or counting would avoid confusion and save time.

In 1956, after detailed studies, it was agreed that the Tex System be recommended for international adoption in place of the various traditional methods of numbering or counting. That system is direct and based on metric units: originally grams per kilometre (tex), milligrams per kilometre (millitex), and kilograms per kilometre (kilotex), with the addition of decigrams per kilometre (decitex) agreed in 1967.

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