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**Textiles — Burning behaviour of bedding  
items —**

**Part 3:**

General test methods for the ignitability by  
a small open flame

*Textiles — Comportement au feu des articles de literie —*

*Partie 3: Méthodes d'essai générales pour l'allumabilité par une petite  
flamme nue*



## Foreword

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International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this part of ISO 12952 may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard ISO 12952-3 was prepared by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) in collaboration with ISO Technical Committee TC 38, *Textiles*, Subcommittee SC 19, *Burning behaviour of textiles and textile products*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

Throughout the text of this standard, read "...this European Standard..." to mean "...this International Standard...".

ISO 12952 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Textiles — Burning behaviour of bedding items*:

- *Part 1: General test methods for the ignitability by a smouldering cigarette*
- *Part 2: Specific test methods for the ignitability by a smouldering cigarette*
- *Part 3: General test methods for the ignitability by a small open flame*
- *Part 4: Specific test methods for the ignitability by a small open flame*

Annexes A and B of this part of ISO 12952 are for information only.

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## Foreword

The text of EN ISO 12952-3:1999 has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 248 "Textiles and textile products", the secretariat of which is held by BSI, in collaboration with Technical Committee ISO/TC 38 "Textiles".

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by July 1999, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by July 1999.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

## Introduction

Fires are sometimes caused by the ignition of bedding items by smokers' materials; the ignitability of bedding items by a smouldering cigarette or a small open flame is therefore an important feature in the assessment of the risk of fire.

It cannot be assumed that protection against a smouldering ignition source will automatically give protection against flaming ignition. Users of this standard should, thus, consider the need to submit test specimens to both cigarette and flaming ignition tests.

EN ISO 12952-1 and EN ISO 12952-2 describe a method of test with the smouldering cigarette as ignition source. Testing against the ignition source of a small open flame forms the contents of EN ISO 12952-3 and EN ISO 12952-4.

This European Standard can be used for the assessment of ignitability of individual items of bedding and of composite arrangements.

EN ISO 12952-1 and EN ISO 12952-3 describe general testing procedure and aspects of testing common to all bedding items; EN ISO 12952-2 and EN ISO 12952-4 contain all details necessary for the testing of the specific bedding items.

**WARNING:** This test relates only to the ignitability of materials under the particular conditions of test. It is not intended as a means of assessing the full potential fire hazard of the bedding item in use.

Particular attention is drawn to the possibility of ignition of lower parts of a bedding assembly when using bedding items which are not themselves ignited.

## 1 Scope

This European Standard specifies a general test method common to all bedding items, for assessment of their ignitability when subjected to a smouldering cigarette.

EN ISO 12952-4 describes a specific test method for bedding items, which can normally be placed on a mattress, for example:

- mattress covers;
- underlays;
- incontinence-sheets and -pads;
- sheets;
- blankets;
- electric blankets;
- quilts (duvets) and covers;
- pillows (whatever the filling) and bolsters;
- pillowcases.

This standard does not apply to mattresses, bed-bases and mattress pads.

## 2 Normative references

This European Standard incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this draft European Standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

|                  |                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EN ISO 12952-1   | Textiles - Burning behaviour of bedding items - Part 1: General test methods for the ignitability by a smouldering cigarette (ISO 12952-1:1999) |
| EN ISO 12952-4   | Textiles - Burning behaviour of bedding items - Part 4: Specific test methods for the ignitability by a small open flame (ISO 12952-4:1999)     |
| EN ISO 3175      | Textiles - Evaluation of stability to machine dry-cleaning (ISO 3175:1995)                                                                      |
| ISO 26330        | Textiles - Domestic washing and drying procedures for textile testing (ISO 6330:1984)                                                           |
| ISO/IEC GUIDE 52 | Glossary of fire terms and definitions                                                                                                          |

## 3 Definitions

For the purposes of this standard, the definitions given in EN ISO 12952-1 apply.

## 4 Principle

A test specimen placed on a testing substrate is subjected to a small open flame placed on top of and/or below the test specimen (see EN ISO 12952-4). Any progressive smouldering and/or flaming is noted.

Where the actual mattress is known, it can replace the testing substrate.