



**NSAI**  
Standards

Irish Standard  
I.S. EN 50520:2020

Cover plates and cover tapes for the protection and location warning of buried cables or buried conduits in underground installations

**I.S. EN 50520:2020**

*Incorporating amendments/corrigenda/National Annexes issued since publication:*

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I.S. xxx: Irish Standard — national specification based on the consensus of an expert panel and subject to public consultation.

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## National Foreword

I.S. EN 50520:2020 is the adopted Irish version of the European Document EN 50520:2020, Cover plates and cover tapes for the protection and location warning of buried cables or buried conduits in underground installations

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

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*In line with international standards practice the decimal point is shown as a comma (,) throughout this document.*

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EUROPEAN STANDARD  
NORME EUROPÉENNE  
EUROPÄISCHE NORM

**EN 50520**

October 2020

ICS 29.120.10

Supersedes EN 50520:2009 and all of its amendments  
and corrigenda (if any)

English Version

**Cover plates and cover tapes for the protection and location  
warning of buried cables or buried conduits in underground  
installations**

Plaques de protection et bandes de protection utilisées pour  
protéger et avertir de la présence des câbles enterrés ou  
des conduits enterrés dans les installations souterraines

Abdeckplatten und -bänder zum Schutz und zur  
Warnkennzeichnung der Lage von Kabeln oder  
erdverlegten Elektroinstallationsrohren in  
Unterbodeninstallationen

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2020-09-14. CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CENELEC member.

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 CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CENELEC members are the national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.



European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization  
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique  
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

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## European foreword

This document (EN 50520:2020) has been prepared by CLC/TC 213, "Cable management systems".

The following dates are fixed:

- latest date by which this document has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2021-09-14
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with this document have to be withdrawn (dow) 2023-09-14

This document supersedes EN 50520:2009 and all of its amendments and corrigenda (if any).

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

A cover plate or a cover tape that conforms to this document is deemed to be safe for use.

This is a European Standard for cable management products used for electro-technical purposes. It relates to the Council Directives on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to Low Voltage Directive 2014/35/EU through consideration of the essential requirements of this directive.

This document is supported by separate standards to which references are made.

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

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

## 1 Scope

This document establishes the requirements and tests for cover plates and cover tapes used for the mechanical protection, identification and warning of the location of buried cables or buried conduits.

NOTE This document does not apply to meshes and tapes falling under EN 12613.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60417, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment*

ISO 3864 (series), *Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

### 3.1

#### **cover plate**

plate with a defined length and width that are linked one to another and are located underground, above the cables and/or conduits that are intended:

- to protect against mechanical damage to the underground cables and/or conduit installations; and
- to identify in a prominent manner the location of the underground cables and/or conduit installations along their length and width

### 3.2

#### **cover tape**

tape with a defined width that are located underground, above the cables and/or conduits and that are intended:

- to protect against mechanical damage to the underground cables and/or conduit installations; and
- to identify in a prominent manner the location of the underground cables and/or conduit installations along their length and width

### 3.3

#### **hygroscopic material**

material having the characteristic of enabling attraction or holding water greater than 1,0 % by weight of the material from the surrounding environment at 23 °C and 50 % relative humidity



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