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**EUROCODE 3: DESIGN OF STEEL  
STRUCTURES -  
PART 4-2: SILOS, TANKS AND PIPELINES -  
TANKS**

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English version

## **Eurocode 3: Design of steel structures - Part 4-2: Silos, tanks and pipelines - Tanks**

Eurocode 3: Calcul des structures en acier - Partie 4-2:  
Silos, réservoirs et canalisations - Réservoirs

Eurocode 3: Bemessung und Konstruktion von Stahlbauten  
- Teil 4-2: Silos, Tankbauwerke und Rohrleitungen -  
Tankbauwerke

This European Prestandard (ENV) was approved by CEN on 25 December 1998 as a prospective standard for provisional application.

The period of validity of this ENV is limited initially to three years. After two years the members of CEN will be requested to submit their comments, particularly on the question whether the ENV can be converted into a European Standard.

CEN members are required to announce the existence of this ENV in the same way as for an EN and to make the ENV available promptly at national level in an appropriate form. It is permissible to keep conflicting national standards in force (in parallel to the ENV) until the final decision about the possible conversion of the ENV into an EN is reached.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

**Central Secretariat: rue de Stassart, 36 B-1050 Brussels**

## Contents

<b>Foreword</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1 General</b>	<b>7</b>
1.1 Scope	7
1.2 Distinction between principles and application rules	7
1.3 Normative references	8
1.4 Definitions	8
1.5 S.I. units	9
1.6 Symbols used in Part 4.2 of Eurocode 3	9
1.7 Terminology	11
1.8 Sign conventions	12
<b>2 Basis of design</b>	<b>17</b>
2.1 Fundamental requirements	17
2.2 Reliability differentiation	17
2.3 Limit states	17
2.4 Actions and environmental effects	17
2.5 Material properties	17
2.6 Geometrical data	17
2.7 Modelling of the tank for determining action effects	18
2.8 Design assisted by testing	18
2.9 Action effects for ultimate limit state verifications	18
2.10 Durability	18
<b>3 Properties of materials</b>	<b>19</b>
3.1 General	19
3.2 Structural steels	19
3.3 Steels for pressure purposes	19
3.4 Stainless steels	19
3.5 Toughness requirements	19
<b>4 Basis for structural analysis</b>	<b>21</b>
4.1 Ultimate limit states	21
4.2 Analysis of the circular shell structure of a tank	21
4.3 Analysis of the box structure of a rectangular tank	23
4.4 Equivalent orthotropic properties of corrugated sheeting	24
<b>5 Design of cylindrical walls</b>	<b>25</b>
5.1 Basis	25
5.2 Distinction of cylindrical shell forms	25
5.3 Resistance of the tank shell wall	25
5.4 Considerations for supports and openings	25
5.5 Serviceability limit states	29
<b>6 Design of conical hoppers</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>7 Design of circular roof structures</b>	<b>30</b>
7.1 Basis	30
7.2 Distinction of roof structural forms	30
7.3 Resistance of circular roofs	31
7.4 Considerations for individual structural forms	31
7.5 Serviceability limit states	32
<b>8 Design of transition junctions at the bottom of the shell and supporting ring girders</b>	<b>32</b>

<b>9 Design of rectangular and planar-sided tanks</b>	<b>33</b>
9.1 Basis	33
9.2 Distinction of structural forms	33
9.3 Resistance of vertical walls	33
9.4 Serviceability limit states	34
<b>10 Requirements on fabrication and erection with relation to design</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>11 Simplified design</b>	<b>35</b>
11.1 General	35
11.2 Fixed roof design	36
11.3 Shell design	41
11.4 Bottom design	44
11.5 Anchorage design	45
<b>Annex A [normative]</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Actions, partial factors and combinations of actions on tanks</b>	<b>46</b>
A.1 General	46
A.2 Actions	46
A.3 Partial factors	49
A.4 Combination of actions	49

## Foreword

### Objectives of the Eurocodes

- (1) The "Structural Eurocodes" comprise a group of standards for the structural and geotechnical design of buildings and civil engineering works.
- (2) They cover execution and control only to the extent that is necessary to indicate the quality of the construction products, and the standard of the workmanship, needed to comply with the assumptions of the design rules.
- (3) Until the necessary set of harmonised technical specifications for products and for methods of testing their performance is available, some of the Structural Eurocodes cover some of these aspects in informative annexes.

### Background to the Eurocode programme

- (4) The Commission of the European Communities (CEC) initiated the work of establishing a set of harmonized technical rules for the design of building works and civil engineering works which would initially serve as an alternative to the different rules in force in the various Member States and would ultimately replace them. These technical rules became known as the 'Structural Eurocodes'.
- (5) In 1990, after consulting their respective Member States, the CEC transferred the work of further development, issue and updating of the Structural Eurocodes to CEN, and the EFTA Secretariat agreed to support the CEN work.
- (6) CEN Technical Committee CEN/TC 250 is responsible for all Structural Eurocodes.

### Eurocode programme

- (7) Work is in hand on the following Structural Eurocodes, each generally consisting of a number of parts:
  - EN 1991 Eurocode 1 Basis of design and actions on structures;
  - EN 1992 Eurocode 2 Design of concrete structures;
  - EN 1993 Eurocode 3 Design of steel structures;
  - EN 1994 Eurocode 4 Design of composite steel and concrete structures;
  - EN 1995 Eurocode 5 Design of timber structures;
  - EN 1996 Eurocode 6 Design of masonry structures;
  - EN 1997 Eurocode 7 Geotechnical design;
  - EN 1998 Eurocode 8 Design provisions for earthquake resistance of structures;
  - EN 1999 Eurocode 9 Design of aluminium structures.
- (8) Separate sub-committees have been formed by CEN/TC 250 for the various Eurocodes listed above.
- (9) This Part 4-2 of ENV 1993 is being published by CEN as a European Prestandard (ENV) with an initial life of three years.
- (10) This Prestandard is intended for experimental application and for the submission of comments.
- (11) After approximately two years CEN members will be invited to submit formal comments on this Prestandard to be taken into account in determining future actions.
- (12) Meanwhile feedback and comments on this Prestandard should be sent to the Secretariat of Sub-committee CEN/TC 250/SC 3 at the following address:

## BSI Standards

British Standards House  
389 Chiswick High Road  
London W4 4AL  
England

or to your national standards organisation.

## National Application Documents (NADs)

(13) In view of the responsibilities of the authorities in member countries for safety, health and other matters covered by the essential requirements of the Construction Products Directive (CPD), certain safety elements in this ENV have been assigned indicative values which are identified by  ("boxed values"). The authorities in each member country are expected to review the "boxed values" and may substitute alternative definitive values for these safety elements for use in national application.

(14) Some of the necessary supporting European or International Standards might not be available by the time this Prestandard is issued. It is therefore anticipated that a National Application Document (NAD) giving any substitute definitive values for safety elements, referencing compatible supporting Standards and providing guidance on the national application of this Prestandard, will be issued by each member country or its Standards Organisation.

(15) It is intended that this Prestandard is used in conjunction with the NAD valid in the country in which the building or civil engineering work is located.

## Matters specific to this Prestandard

(16) The list of parts of ENV 1993 that are currently envisaged is:

- ENV 1993-1-1 General rules and rules for buildings;
- ENV 1993-1-2 Supplementary rules for structural fire design;
- ENV 1993-1-3 Supplementary rules for cold formed thin gauge members and sheeting;
- ENV 1993-1-4 Supplementary rules for stainless steels;
- ENV 1993-1-5 Supplementary rules for the strength and stability of planar plated structures without transverse loads;
- ENV 1993-1-6 Supplementary rules for the strength and stability of shell structures;
- ENV 1993-1-7 Supplementary rules for the strength and stability of planar plated structures with transverse loads;
- ENV 1993-2 Steel bridges;
- ENV 1993-3-1 Towers and masts;
- ENV 1993-3-2 Chimneys;
- ENV 1993-4-1 Silos;
- ENV 1993-4-2 Tanks;
- ENV 1993-4-3 Pipelines;
- ENV 1993-5 Piling;
- ENV 1993-6 Crane supporting structures;
- ENV 1993-7 Marine and maritime structures;
- ENV 1993-8 Agricultural structures.

(17) Safety factors for 'product type' tanks (factory production) can be specified by the appropriate authorities. When applied to 'product type' tanks, the factors in A.3.1 are for guidance purposes only. They are provided to show the likely levels needed to achieve consistent reliability with other designs.

(18) There are parallel standards on tanks in preparation by CEN/TC 265. They reflect current practice within the oil, petrochemical and chemical industry, which is still based on the concept of permissible stresses.

Although the principles of limit states design are being used more and more by the construction industry, experience of their application to steel storage tanks is still limited.

It is envisaged that there will be a move towards greater use of limit states design as more experience is gained and designers become more familiar with the methodology.



# 1 General

## 1.1 Scope

(1)P Part 4.2 of Eurocode 3 provides principles and application rules for the structural design of vertical cylindrical above ground steel tanks for the storage of liquid products with the following characteristics

- a) characteristic internal pressures not less than -100mbar and not more than 500mbar <sup>1)</sup>;
- b) design metal temperature in the range of -196°C to +300°C;
- c) maximum design liquid level not higher than the top of the cylindrical shell.

(2)P This part is concerned only with the requirements for resistance and stability of steel tanks. All other design requirements are covered by prEN265001 for ambient temperature tanks or by prENV 265002 for cryogenic tanks. These other requirements include fabrication, erection and testing, functional performance, and details like man-holes, flanges, and filling devices.

(3)P Provisions concerning the special requirements of seismic design are provided in ENV 1998-4 (Eurocode 8 Part 4 "Design of structures for earthquake resistance: Silos, tanks and pipelines"), which complements the provisions of Eurocode 3 specifically for this purpose.

(4) The design of supporting structures for tanks are dealt with in ENV 1993-1-1.

(5) Foundations in reinforced concrete for steel tanks are dealt with in ENV 1992 and ENV 1997.

(6) Numerical values of the specific actions on steel tanks to be taken into account in the design are given in ENV 1991-4 "Actions in Silos and Tanks". Additional provisions for tank actions are given in annex A to this Part 4.2 of Eurocode 3.

(7) This Part 4.2 does not cover:

- floating roofs and floating covers;
- resistance to fire (refer to ENV 1993-1-2).

(8) The circular planform tanks covered by this standard are restricted to axisymmetric structures, though they can be subject to unsymmetrical actions, and can be unsymmetrically supported.

## 1.2 Distinction between principles and application rules

(1)P Depending on the character of the individual paragraphs, a distinction is made in this Part between principles and application rules.

(2)P The principles comprise:

- general or definitive statements for which there is no alternative;
- requirements and analytical models for which no alternative is permitted unless specifically stated.

(3) The principles are identified by the letter P following the paragraph number.

(4)P The application rules are generally recognised rules that follow the principles and satisfy their requirements. Alternative design rules different from the application rules given in the Eurocode may be used, provided that it is shown that the alternative rule accords with the relevant principles and has at least the same reliability.

(5) In this Part the application rules are identified by a number in brackets, as in this paragraph.

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<sup>1)</sup> All pressures are in mbar gauge unless otherwise specified

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