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NATURAL STONE - TERMINOLOGY

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This European Standard was approved by CEN on 20 October 2001.

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

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.



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Foreword

This European Standard has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 246 "Natural Stone", the secretariat of which is held by UNI.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2002, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2002.

This draft standard is one of a series of standards for natural stone products including denomination, test methods and product standards.

Annexes A and B are informative.

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.

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Introduction

The term Natural Stone groups several rock types with marked geological differences. The extraction elaboration and commerce of Natural Stone have set a very particular vocabulary. Many of these terms have been taken from the popular or quarrymen language, which sometimes is far from scientific definitions; this often results in a great deal of confusion.

This standard establishes the terminological bases for geological and petrologic definitions of Natural Stone and its classification. References to definitions of natural stone products, defined in other European Standards, are provided when necessary. It also incorporates most of the popular or commercial terminology.

The terminology covers the fields of geology, mining, processing, marketing and products of Natural Stone. The included scientific classifications allows to set the scientific name of the stone varieties.

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