Irish Standard
I.S. EN 15908:2010

Anaesthetic and respiratory equipment - Non-interchangeable screw-threaded (NIST) low-pressure connectors for medical gases

I.S. EN 15908:2010

Incorporating amendments/corrigenda/National Annexes issued since publication:

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English Version

Anaesthetic and respiratory equipment - Non-interchangeable screw-threaded (NIST) low-pressure connectors for medical gases

Matériel respiratoire et anesthésique - Raccords basse pression à tête filetée non interchangeables (NIST) pour gaz médicaux

Anästhesie- und Beatmungsgeräte - Nichtverwechselbare Verbindungsstücke mit Schraubgewinde (NIST) für niedrigen Druck zur Verwendung mit medizinischen Gasen

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 28 August 2010.

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

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Foreword

This document (EN 15908:2010) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 215 “Respiratory and anaesthetic equipment”, the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by April 2011, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by April 2011.

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

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

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

Requirements for non-interchangeable screw-threaded (NIST) connectors are currently specified in EN ISO 5359:2008. The requirements for NIST connectors in EN 15908 are identical to those currently given in EN ISO 5359:2008 except for:

— the allocation of connector B11 (allocated to carbon dioxide instead to carbon dioxide/oxygen mixture [CO_2 > 7 % (volume fraction)]);

— the allocation of connector C 19 (allocated to carbon dioxide/oxygen mixture [CO_2 > 7 % (volume fraction)] instead to carbon dioxide).

It is intended that EN ISO 5359:2008 will be revised so as to delete the requirements for NIST connectors.

The requirements for NIST connectors in EN 15908 are identical to those given in EN 739:1998 (cancelled and replaced by EN ISO 5359:2008) except for:

— the allocations of connectors B11 (allocated to carbon dioxide only);

— the allocation of connector C19 (allocated to carbon dioxide/oxygen mixture [CO_2 > 7 % (volume fraction)] only);

— the allocation of connector B12 to oxygen-enriched air;

— the allocation of connector B15 to helium/oxygen mixture [O_2 < 20 % (volume fraction)] only;

— the allocation of connector C20 to helium only.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

Introduction

This European Standard has been prepared in response to the need for a safe method of connecting medical equipment intended to administer medical gases to patients. Medical gases are stored in cylinders or cryogenic vessels, or can be produced on site; several medical devices, e.g. pressure regulators, hose assemblies, flow-metering devices, lung ventilators, anaesthetic workstations can be fitted between the source of supply and the patient. At each interface gas-specific connectors are needed to ensure that the intended medical gas is administered to the patient.

While recognizing that no system is absolutely safe, this European Standard includes those requirements considered necessary to prevent foreseeable hazards arising from the use of connectors. Operators should be continually alert to the possibility of damage being caused by external factors, and therefore regular inspection should be undertaken to ensure that connectors continue to meet the requirements of this European Standard.

The choice of a single system of connectors to be used within the European Union will minimize the risks of cross connections and misconnections and ensure the free movement of medical devices intended to administer medical gases to patients.