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Procedure for the assessment of the exposure of workers to electromagnetic fields

I.S. EN 50499:2008

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English version

Procedure for the assessment of the exposure of workers to electromagnetic fields

Procédure pour l'évaluation
de l'exposition des travailleurs
aux champs électromagnétiques

Verfahren für die Beurteilung
der Exposition von Arbeitnehmern
gegenüber elektromagnetischen Feldern

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2008-10-21. 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 Central Secretariat 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 Central Secretariat has the same status as the official versions.

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

CENELEC

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

Central Secretariat: rue de Stassart 35, B - 1050 Brussels

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Foreword

This European Standard was prepared by the Technical Committee CENELEC TC 106X, Electromagnetic fields in the human environment.

The text of the draft was submitted to the formal vote and was approved by CENELEC as EN 50499 on 2008-10-21.

The following dates were fixed:

- latest date by which the EN has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2009-11-01
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the EN have to be withdrawn (dow) 2011-11-01

This European Standard has been prepared under Mandate M/351 given to CENELEC by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association and covers essential requirements of EC Directive 2004/40/EC.

This standard is intended to be a standard under which other standards related to the assessment of a work place can be used.

The approaches outlined in this standard, are intended to be simple, allowing most employers to make an assessment with the minimum of technical knowledge and effort.

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1 Scope

The scope of this European Standard is to provide a general procedure in order to assess workers' exposure to electric, magnetic and electromagnetic fields in a work place to demonstrate compliance with exposure limit values and action values as stated in the Council and European Parliament Directive 2004/40/EC.

The purpose of this European Standard is to

- specify how to perform an initial assessment of the levels of workers' exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF), if necessary including specific exposure assessment of such levels by measurements and/or calculations,
- determine whether it is necessary to carry out a detailed risk assessment of EMF exposure.

This European Standard can be used by employers for the risk assessment and, where required, measurement and/or calculation of the exposure of workers. Based on specific workplace standards it can be determined whether preventive measures/actions must be taken to comply with the provisions of the Directive.

The frequencies covered are from 0 Hz to 300 GHz.

NOTE 1 This European Standard is written under Mandate M/351 and relates to the exposure limits as specified in the Directive 2004/40/EC. It is intended to protect workers from risks to their health and safety arising or likely to arise from exposure to electromagnetic fields (0 Hz to 300 GHz) during their work. However, this and other directives may include additional measures for the protection of specific groups of workers and/or specific work places for which the employer is required to investigate other protective measures as a part of the overall risk assessment. See Annex A.

NOTE 2 The Council and European Parliament Directive 2004/40/EC will be transposed into national legislation in all the EU member countries. It is recommended that users of this standard consult the national legislation related to this transposition in order to identify the national regulations and requirements. These national regulations and requirements may have additional requirements that are not covered by this standard.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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.

EN 50371, *Generic standard to demonstrate the compliance of low power electronic and electrical apparatus with the basic restrictions related to human exposure to electromagnetic fields (10 MHz – 300 GHz) – General public*

EN 50400, *Basic standard to demonstrate the compliance of fixed equipment for radio transmission (110 MHz – 40 GHz) intended for use in wireless telecommunication networks with the basic restrictions or the reference levels related to general public exposure to radio frequency electromagnetic fields, when put into service*

EN 50413, *Basic standard on measurement and calculation procedures for human exposure to electric, magnetic and electromagnetic fields (0 Hz – 300 GHz)*

EN 60335-2-29, *Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety – Part 2-29: Particular requirements for battery chargers (IEC 60335-2-29)*

EN 60335-2-45, *Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety – Part 2-45: Particular requirements for portable heating tools and similar appliances (IEC 60335-2-45)*

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