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Stationary electrostatic application equipment for ignitable liquid coating material - Safety requirements

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EN 50176

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English version

**Stationary electrostatic application equipment
for ignitable liquid coating material -
Safety requirements**

Matériels stationnaires de projection
électrostatique de produit liquide
de revêtement inflammable -
Exigences de sécurité

Stationäre Ausrüstung
zum elektrostatischen Beschichten
mit entzündbaren flüssigen
Beschichtungsstoffen -
Sicherheitsanforderungen

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2009-09-01. 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: Avenue Marnix 17, B - 1000 Brussels

Foreword

This European Standard was prepared by SC 31-8, Electrostatic painting and finishing equipment, of Technical Committee CENELEC TC 31, Electrical apparatus for potentially explosive atmospheres.

The text of the draft was submitted to the formal vote and was approved by CENELEC as EN 50176 on 2009-09-01.

This European Standard supersedes EN 50176:1996.

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) 2010-09-01
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting
with the EN have to be withdrawn (dow) 2012-09-01

This European Standard has been prepared under a mandate given to CENELEC by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association and covers essential requirements of EC Directive 94/9/EC. See Annex ZZ.

CENELEC/TC 31 as the responsible committee has concluded that this new edition of EN 50176 does not contain substantial changes regarding the ESRs.

The State of the Art is included in Annex ZY “*Significant changes between this European Standard and EN 50176:1996*”.

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0 Introduction

0.1 Process

During the electrostatic coating process the liquid coating material is transported to an electrostatic spraying device where it is converted to droplets by mechanical forces and by the influence of an electric field. During this atomising process the droplets are charged by high voltage of some 10 kV and a spray cloud is generated. The charged droplets are attracted by and applied to the earthed workpiece.

Droplets, which are not applied to the workpiece (overspray) are removed by a suction device or by other means.

After the coating process the coated workpieces are introduced into a dryer where the solvent is evaporated and a dry film of coating material is generated.

0.2 Explosion hazards

An explosion could occur, if

- the concentration of sprayed liquid ignitable coating materials in air is within the explosion limits,
- an ignition source of appropriate energy for this explosive atmosphere is present.

Ignition sources could be, for instance, a hot surface, an open flame, an electric arc or a spark.

An explosion could be prevented, if one – or better both – conditions are avoided. Because it is very difficult to exclude the possibility of ignitable discharges completely, the main focus should be the prevention of ignitable concentrations of explosive atmosphere.

0.2.1 Mixtures of ignitable coating materials and air could only explode within a given range of concentration, but not, if the concentration is above or below this range.

NOTE If an explosive mixture of coating materials and air is trapped in a closed room, an explosion could lead to a fatal increase of pressure.

0.2.2 Particular attention should be paid to the prevention of electrostatic charges on different surfaces, which are in the vicinity of the spray cloud. This could apply to workpieces during the coating process or the reciprocating devices and the mounting parts of the spraying system etc.

0.3 Electric hazards

0.3.1 Electric shock (by direct or indirect contact) could be generated, for instance, by contact with

- live parts, which are not insulated for operational reasons,
- conductive parts, which are not under dangerous voltage during normal operation, but in case of failure,
- insulated live parts whose insulation is insufficient or has been damaged due to mechanical influences.

0.3.2 Inadequate grounding could occur, for instance, due to

- faulty connections to the protective grounding system,
- a too high resistance to ground.

0.3.3 Hazards could occur, for instance, if hazardous malfunctions (e.g. shortcut of electronic safety circuits, of access guards to dangerous areas or of warning devices) occur due to interferences of the high voltage equipment and the components of control and safety systems.

0.3.4 Hazardous electrostatic discharges could be generated, for instance, by non-earthed conductive components or by large insulating surfaces, especially if they are backed with conductive material.

1 Scope

1.1 This European Standard specifies the requirements for stationary electrostatic application equipment for ignitable liquid coating materials and for hard to ignite liquid coating materials to be used in explosive atmospheres generated by their own spray cloud. A distinction is made between spraying systems corresponding to EN 50050 and spraying systems designed for higher discharge energies and/or currents.

This European Standard also specifies the design-related requirements for a safe operation of the stationary equipment including its electrical installation.

1.2 This European Standard considers four types of electrostatic spraying systems; see 5.1 for more details.

1.3 This European Standard deals with all hazards significant for the electrostatic spraying of coating materials, which could also contain small quantities of added metal particles, if the work is carried out under conditions recommended by the manufacturer. In particular, this includes ignition hazards resulting from the generated explosive atmosphere, and the protection of persons from electric shocks.

1.4 This stationary equipment is classified as equipment of group II, category 2G or category 3G for use in potentially explosive areas of zone 1 or 2, respectively.

NOTE For other safety aspects like

- zone classification of the areas in and around spray booths, see EN 12215:2004, 5.7.2.3;
- zone classification of other areas with explosive atmosphere, see EN 60079-10-1;
- selection, installation and application of other electrical and non electrical equipment in areas with explosion hazard, see EN 60079-14 and EN 12215:2004, 5.7.2.5;
- health protection (for instance, noise), see also EN 12215:2004, 5.5 and EN 14462;
- cleaning of spraying areas, see instruction manual of the spraying equipment;
- fire prevention and protection (for instance fire hazards due to other sources) see also EN 12215:2004, 5.7.1.

Design-related measures for reducing the generation of noise of the stationary equipment for electrostatic coating are given in EN ISO 11688-1. See also EN 14462.

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 1081, *Resilient floor coverings – Determination of the electrical resistance*

EN 1127-1, *Explosive atmospheres – Explosion prevention and protection – Part 1: Basic concepts and methodology*

EN 1149-5, *Protective clothing – Electrostatic properties – Part 5: Material performance and design requirements*

EN 12215:2004, *Coating plants – Spray booths for application of organic liquid coating materials – Safety requirements*

EN 13463-1, *Non-electrical equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres - Part 1: Basic method and requirements*

EN 13478, *Safety of machinery – Fire prevention and protection*

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