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Standards

Irish Standard  
I.S. EN 16575:2014

## Bio-based products - Vocabulary

**I.S. EN 16575:2014**

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English Version

## Bio-based products - Vocabulary

Produits biosourcés - Vocabulaire

Biobasierte Produkte - Terminologie

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 21 June 2014.

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## **Foreword**

This document (EN 16575:2014) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 411 “Bio-based products”, the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by February 2015 and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by February 2015.

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.

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**EN 16575:2014 (E)****Introduction**

Bio-based products from forestry and agriculture have a long history of application, such as paper, board and various chemicals and materials. The last decades have seen the emergence of new bio-based products in the market. Some of the reasons for the increased interest lie in the bio-based products' benefits in relation to the depletion of fossil resources and climate change. Bio-based products may also provide additional product functionalities. This has triggered a wave of innovation with the development of knowledge and technologies allowing new transformation processes and product development.

Acknowledging the need for common standards for bio-based products, the European Commission issued mandate M/492<sup>1)</sup>, resulting in a series of standards developed by CEN/TC 411, with a focus on bio-based products other than food, feed and biomass for energy applications.

The standards of CEN/TC 411 "Bio-based products" provide a common basis on the following aspects:

- Common terminology;
- Bio-based content determination;
- Life Cycle Assessment (LCA);
- Sustainability aspects;
- Declaration tools.

It is important to understand what the term bio-based product covers and how it is being used. The term "bio-based" means "derived from biomass". Bio-based products (bottles, insulation materials, wood and wood products, paper, solvents, chemical intermediates, composite materials, etc.) are products which are wholly or partly derived from biomass. It is essential to characterize the amount of biomass contained in the product by for instance its bio-based content or bio-based carbon content.

The bio-based content of a product does not provide information on its environmental impact or sustainability, which may be assessed through LCA and sustainability criteria. In addition, transparent and unambiguous communication within bio-based value chains is facilitated by a harmonized framework for certification and declaration.

This European Standard has been developed with the aim to cover the horizontal definitions for bio-based products. Hence, other terms and definitions are given in the other standards developed by CEN/TC 411 "Bio-based products".

For food, feed and energy applications other definitions may exist in other product specific standards.

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<sup>1)</sup> A Mandate is a standardization task embedded in European trade laws. M/492 Mandate is addressed to the European Standardization bodies, CEN, CENELEC and ETSI, for the development of horizontal European Standards for bio-based products.

## 1 Scope

This European Standard defines general terms to be used in the field of bio-based products, including horizontal aspects relevant for bio-based product standards.

**NOTE** Though the terms in this standard are horizontally applicable to bio-based products, this standard focuses on areas other than food, feed and energy applications, where terms may be defined in existing specific standards.

## 2 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

### 2.1

#### **bio-based**

derived from biomass

Note 1 to entry: Biomass can have undergone physical, chemical or biological treatment(s).

Note 2 to entry: The correct spelling of "bio-based" is with a hyphen (-). It is however in common usage sometimes spelt without a hyphen.

Note 3 to entry: The methods to determine and communicate "bio-based" as a characteristic are detailed in specific standards of CEN/TC 411.

### 2.2

#### **bio-based carbon**

#### **biogenic carbon**

carbon derived from biomass

Note 1 to entry: Biogenic carbon is defined in ISO/TS 14067:2013 [14], by the same definition.

### 2.3

#### **bio-based carbon content**

fraction of carbon derived from biomass in a product

Note 1 to entry: There are several approaches to express the bio-based carbon content. These include as a percentage of: the mass; the total carbon content, or the total organic carbon content of the sample. These are detailed in the relevant standards of CEN/TC 411.

### 2.4

#### **bio-based content**

fraction of a product that is derived from biomass

Note 1 to entry: Normally expressed as a percentage of the total mass of the product.

Note 2 to entry: For the methodology to determine the bio-based content, see FprCEN/TR 16721.

### 2.5

#### **bio-based product**

product wholly or partly derived from biomass

Note 1 to entry: The bio-based product is normally characterised by the bio-based carbon content or the bio-based content. For the determination and declaration of the bio-based content and the bio-based carbon content, see the relevant standards of CEN/TC 411.

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