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Breath alcohol test devices for general public - Requirements and test methods

I.S. EN 16280:2012

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Breath alcohol test devices for general public - Requirements and test methods

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Foreword

This document (EN 16280:2012) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 367 “Breath-alcohol testers”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by April 2013, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by April 2013.

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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Introduction

The two main objectives of breath testers, the specifications of which are defined in this document, consist, on the one hand, in contributing to the prevention of accidents related to the consumption of alcohol, in particular road accidents, and on the other hand, in educating and making consumers aware of their responsibilities by enabling them to measure their breath alcohol level.

The purpose of this standard is to define requirements for a device which is capable of producing measurements that will deter a person who has consumed alcohol from driving or carrying out other risk-related activities.

Any appropriate technology capable of providing the functionality required in this document may be used.

The intention of the standard is to define specifications for a breath alcohol tester which will benefit to the general public at an affordable level.

The requirements in this standard apply for electronic devices only.

1 Scope

This European Standard applies to breath alcohol test devices which measure the concentration of alcohol contained in an exhaled breath sample, designed and intended to be used as a self tester for the general public and to provide a reliable indication of the breath alcohol concentration at the time of the test.

This European Standard specifies requirements for basic safety and performance, test methods and requirements for marking, labelling and operating instructions.

This European Standard gives guidelines for compliance testing procedures consisting of a number of technical performance tests.

It is not intended that the results of these devices should be used to rebut the results of evidential breath alcohol analysers covered by OIML R 126:1998, or breath alcohol test devices used in professional applications covered by EN 15964 or similar national regulations.

Therefore, the results of measurements need to be displayed so as to protect, as far as it is practicable, the user from underestimating his alcohol concentration based on measurement uncertainties, intrinsic in every measurement.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 60068-2-1, *Environmental testing — Part 2-1: Tests — Test A: Cold* (IEC 60068-2-1)

EN 60068-2-2, *Environmental testing — Part 2-2: Tests — Test B: Dry heat* (IEC 60068-2-2)

EN 60068-2-30, *Environmental testing — Part 2-30: Tests — Test Db: Damp heat, cyclic (12 h + 12 h cycle)* (IEC 60068-2-30)

EN 60068-2-32, *Basic environmental testing procedures — Part 2: Tests — Test Ed: Free fall* (IEC 60068-2-32)

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

3 Terms and definitions

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

3.1

alcohol

considered to be ethanol

3.2

breath alcohol test device

device which accepts a breath specimen, measures the concentration and indicates the level of alcohol in that breath specimen

3.3

operating state

state of the device in which it is able to take a breath specimen and determine the alcohol level in that breath specimen

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