



**NSAI**  
Standards

Irish Standard  
I.S. EN 16790:2016

# Conservation of cultural heritage - Integrated pest management (IPM) for protection of cultural heritage

**I.S. EN 16790:2016**

*Incorporating amendments/corrigenda/National Annexes issued since publication:*

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## National Foreword

I.S. EN 16790:2016 is the adopted Irish version of the European Document EN 16790:2016, Conservation of cultural heritage - Integrated pest management (IPM) for protection of cultural heritage

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

**EN 16790**

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

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English Version

## Conservation of cultural heritage - Integrated pest management (IPM) for protection of cultural heritage

Conservation du patrimoine culturel - Gestion intégrée  
des nuisibles (IPM) pour la protection du patrimoine  
culturel

Erhaltung des kulturellen Erbes - Integrierte  
Schädlingsbekämpfung (IPM) zum Schutz des  
kulturellen Erbes

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 5 May 2016.

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-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN member.

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## **EN 16790:2016 (E)**

### **European foreword**

This document (EN 16790:2016) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 346 “Conservation of Cultural Heritage”, the secretariat of which is held by UNI.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by December 2016, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by December 2016.

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

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, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.



## Introduction

Protecting cultural heritage from pests including insects and rodents, and microorganisms such as fungi, is a serious concern for many cultural heritage institutions. This is part of preventive conservation. The challenge of controlling these pests is increasing as several effective biocidal products have been banned by European legislation because of risks to health and environment. International trade, tourism, and global climate changes, with a rising mean temperature, may cause increased activity of microorganisms and an influx of insect pests not formerly known in many European countries. In addition, loans between museums or other cultural heritage institutions are increasing, thereby raising the risk of spreading pests. Previously, there has not been consensus in regard to quarantine and other preventive measures to tackle these problems. For this reason, there is a need for integrated pest management (IPM), a long-term, ongoing and holistic strategy, minimizing risks of damage to cultural heritage and its environment and reducing use of biocidal products. The aim of this standard is to be a management tool, describing IPM policies and procedures.

IPM for cultural heritage follows clear principles including:

- an organization defining roles and responsibilities of staff at all levels;
- comprehensive risk assessment;
- continuous inspection and monitoring;
- preventive measures that aim to physically block pest presence and development;
- remedial measures, prioritising non-toxic methods.

As part of a preventive conservation programme, IPM is as an effective way to reduce damage and cost and to minimize intervention.

In all pest management operations, European regulations and national legislation with regard to protected species and movable/immovable cultural heritage is applicable.

In all pest management operations, European regulations and national legislation on health and safety regarding treatments apply.

If biocidal products are considered for pest control, use should comply with European regulations and national legislation on health and safety regulations.

## EN 16790:2016 (E)

### 1 Scope

This European Standard defines Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and describes a comprehensive methodology for managing pest problems for protection of cultural heritage.

This European Standard applies to objects and buildings, housing collections, such as museums, archives, libraries, historic houses and buildings, places of worship, art dealers and auction rooms, art transport and storage companies.

This European Standard does not apply to caves, gardens, and parks.

### 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 15898, *Conservation of cultural property - Main general terms and definitions*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms contamination and infestation are defined in separate terms to distinguish between different pests. In addition to general terms and definitions given in EN 15898, the following apply.

#### 3.1 contamination

presence of fungi, photosynthetic organisms and bacteria on/in materials posing risk to cultural heritage

#### 3.2 eradication

action to eliminate pests

#### 3.3 frass

waste and excrements from insects

#### 3.4 housekeeping

general procedures to reduce the accumulation of dust, dead insects and other organic and inorganic materials

EXAMPLE      Cleaning.

#### 3.5 infestation

presence of animal pest organisms on/in materials posing risk to cultural heritage

#### 3.6 integrated pest management IPM

holistic strategy combining various approaches to reduce and deal with pest problems

Note 1 to entry: The building, the climate in the building, collection management, cleaning, monitoring, documentation, training, and education are all included in the concept.

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