
**Safety of machinery — Guards
— General requirements for the
design and construction of fixed and
movable guards**

*Sécurité des machines — Protecteurs — Prescriptions générales pour
la conception et la construction des protecteurs fixes et mobiles*



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Contents

Page

Foreword	v
Introduction	vi
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 Risk assessment	8
5 General requirements for the design and construction of guards	8
5.1 Machine aspects	8
5.1.1 General	8
5.1.2 Access to hazard zones	8
5.1.3 Containment of ejected parts and other impacts	8
5.1.4 Containment of hazardous substances	9
5.1.5 Noise	9
5.1.6 Radiation	9
5.1.7 Potentially explosive atmosphere	9
5.2 Human aspects	9
5.2.1 General	9
5.2.2 Safety distances	9
5.2.3 Control of access to the hazard zone	9
5.2.4 Viewing	10
5.2.5 Ergonomic aspects	10
5.2.6 Intended use	10
5.3 Guard design and construction aspects	11
5.3.1 General	11
5.3.2 Crushing or trapping points	11
5.3.3 Durability	11
5.3.4 Hygiene	11
5.3.5 Cleaning	11
5.3.6 Exclusion of contaminants	11
5.3.7 Sharp edges, etc.	11
5.3.8 Integrity of joints	11
5.3.9 Removal of fixed guards	11
5.3.10 Mounting of removable fixed guards	12
5.3.11 Adjustable guards	12
5.3.12 Movable guards	12
5.3.13 Closed position of movable guards	12
5.3.14 Interlocking guards with a start function (control guards)	12
5.4 Materials, rigidity, and impact requirements	13
5.4.1 General	13
5.4.2 Impact and ejection resistance	13
5.4.3 Rigidity	13
5.4.4 Secure fixing	13
5.4.5 Reliability of moving parts	13
5.5 Containment	13
5.6 Resistance to corrosion	13
5.7 Resistance to microorganisms	13
5.8 Non-toxicity	14
5.9 Machine viewing	14
5.10 Transparency	14
5.11 Shadows and stroboscopic effects	14
5.12 Electrostatic properties	14
5.13 Guards with electrically conductive parts	14

5.14	Thermal stability	14
5.15	Fire and flammability	14
5.16	Noise and vibration reduction	15
5.17	Radiation protection	15
5.18	Climbing	15
5.19	Retained fastenings	15
5.20	Vibration resistance	15
5.21	Warning signs	15
5.22	Colour	16
5.23	Appearance	16
6	Selection of types of guards	16
6.1	General	16
6.2	Combination of different guards or of guards with other devices	16
6.3	Selection of guards according to the number and size of the hazards	17
6.4	Selection of guards according to the nature and frequency of access required	18
6.4.1	General	18
6.4.2	Moving transmission parts	18
6.4.3	Where access is not required during use	18
6.4.4	Where access is required during use	18
7	Verification of the safety requirements for guards	19
7.1	General	19
7.2	Verification and validation methods	19
7.3	Required verification and validation	19
8	Information for use	23
8.1	General	23
8.2	Guard hazards	23
8.3	Installation	23
8.4	Operation	23
8.5	Removal of guards	23
8.6	Inspection and maintenance	24
	Annex A (informative) Example of retained fastening	25
	Annex B (informative) Example of projectile test method for mechanically testing guards	26
	Annex C (informative) Example of pendulum test method for mechanically testing guards	30
	Annex D (informative) Relationship between International Standards referenced in	
	Clause 2 and corresponding European Standards	34
	Bibliography	35

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 199, *Safety of machinery*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 14120:2002), which has been technically revised. The main changes from the previous edition are as follows.

- Definitions have been brought into line with ISO 12100. The figures showing examples of guards have been updated where appropriate.
- [Clause 5](#) has been updated with new references to ISO 13855 and ISO 14119. Requirements on the removal of guards have been amended. [Subclause 5.3.9](#) describes requirements for the removal of fixed guards only with a tool. In addition, there is a requirement that fixed guards be designed to prevent easy removal. The subclause about impact and ejection resistance ([5.4](#)) has been strengthened. Subclauses on Climbing ([5.18](#)), Retained fastenings ([5.19](#)), Warning signs ([5.21](#)), Colour ([5.22](#)) and Appearance ([5.23](#)) have been added.
- [Clause 6](#) has been amended and updated to better include cover combinations of different guards or of guards with other devices. Selection of guards according to the number and size of the hazards ([6.3](#)) has been changed and updated. [Subclause 6.4.4.2](#), where access is required during the working cycle, has been changed and updated.
- Clauses on verification and validation have been introduced ([Clause 7](#)). This includes a table which outlines the safety requirements and/or measures by subclause.
- The text of [Clause 8](#) has been updated, including requirements for procedures for removal of guards (use of a tool and the safe working procedure). The subclause for removal of guards ([8.5](#)) has changed.
- Two new informative annexes on test methods, one on projectile tests and the other on impact tests, have been added.
- The Bibliography, which contains a list of International and European Standards published or in preparation that can be helpful in the design and commissioning of guards, has been updated.

Introduction

The structure of safety standards in the field of machinery is as follows:

- a) **type-A standards** (basic safety standards) giving basic concepts, principles for design, and general aspects that can be applied to all machinery;
- b) **type-B standards** (generic safety standards) dealing with one safety aspect or one or more type(s) of safeguard that can be used across a wide range of machinery:
 - type-B1 standards on particular safety aspects (e.g. safety distances, surface temperature, noise);
 - type-B2 standards on safeguards (e.g. two-hand controls, interlocking devices, pressure-sensitive devices, guards);
- c) **type-C standards** (machine safety standards) dealing with detailed safety requirements for a particular machine or group of machines.

This International Standard is a type-B2 standard as stated in ISO 12100.

Guards provide a risk reduction for both protection against unintended access and against ejected parts and substances. The guarding can also give protection against others hazards, e.g. noise, fire, biological hazards, and radiation.

The requirements of this document can be supplemented or modified by a type-C standard.

For machines that are covered by the scope of a type-C standard and that have been designed and built according to the requirements of that standard, the requirements of that type-C standard take precedence.