

# Welding — General tolerances for welded constructions — Dimensions for lengths and angles — Shape and position

The European Standard EN ISO 13920:1996 has the status of a British Standard

ICS 25.160

## Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted to Technical Committee WEE/-/1, Briefing Committee for Welding where the following BSI Committees were represented:

WEE/1, Definitions and symbols for welding  
 WEE/2, Welding tests  
 WEE/6, Electric arc welding equipment  
 WEE/17, Metal-arc welding of steel  
 WEE/18, Gas welding and cutting appliances  
 WEE/19, Brazing and braze welding  
 WEE/21/7, Field welding of pipelines  
 WEE/36, Approval testing of welding procedures and welders  
 WEE/39, Welding consumables  
 WEE/40, Health and safety in welding  
 WEE/45, Welding of stainless steel

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Engineering Sector Board, was published under the authority of the Standards Board and comes into effect on 15 January 1997

© BSI 10-1998

The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:  
 Committee reference WEE/-/1  
 Draft for comment 94/703588 DC

### Amendments issued since publication

Amd. No.	Date	Comments

---

# Contents

	Page
Committees responsible	Inside front cover
National foreword	ii
Foreword	2
Text of EN ISO 13920	3
List of references	Inside back cover

---

## National foreword

This British Standard has been prepared by Technical Committee WEE/-/1 and is the English language version of EN ISO 13920:1996 *Welding — General tolerances for welded constructions — Dimensions for lengths and angles — Shape and position* published by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN). It is identical with ISO 13920:1996 published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

EN ISO 13920 was produced as the result of international discussion in which the UK took an active part.

It has been assumed in the drafting of this British Standard that the execution of its provisions is entrusted to appropriately qualified and experienced people.

A British Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users of British Standards are responsible for their correct application.

**Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.**

### Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, the EN ISO title page, pages 2 to 8, an inside back cover and a back cover.

This standard has been updated (see copyright date) and may have had amendments incorporated. This will be indicated in the amendment table on the inside front cover.

---

ICS 25.160.00

Descriptors: Welding, welded construction, shape, position (location), dimensions, length, angles (geometry), dimensional tolerances, angular tolerances, tests

English version

## Welding — General tolerances for welded constructions — Dimensions for lengths and angles — Shape and position

(ISO 13920:1996)

Soudage — Tolérances générales relatives aux  
constructions soudées — Dimensions des  
longueurs et angles — Formes et positions  
(ISO 13920:1996)

Schweißen — Allgemeintoleranzen für  
Schweißkonstruktionen — Längen- und  
Winkelmaße — Form und Lage  
(ISO 13920:1996)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 1996-06-20. 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 Central Secretariat or to any CEN 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 CEN member into its own language and notified to the Central Secretariat has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

### CEN

European Committee for Standardization  
Comité Européen de Normalisation  
Europäisches Komitee für Normung

Central Secretariat: rue de Stassart 36, B-1050 Brussels

## Foreword

The text of EN ISO 13920:1996 has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 121 "Welding", the secretariat of which is held by DS, in collaboration with Technical Committee ISO/TC 44 "Welding and allied processes".

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 1997, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by February 1997.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

## Content

	Page
Foreword	2
1 Scope	3
2 Normative references	3
3 Definitions	3
4 General tolerances	3
4.1 Tolerances for linear dimensions	3
4.2 Tolerances for angular dimensions	4
4.3 Straightness, flatness and parallelism tolerances	5
5 Indications on drawings	5
6 Testing	5
6.1 General	5
6.2 Straightness	5
6.3 Flatness	6
6.4 Parallelism	6
7 Non-conformities	6
Figure 1	4
Figure 2	4
Figure 3	4
Figure 4	4
Figure 5	5
Figure 6 — Straightness test	5
Figure 7 — Flatness test	6
Figure 8 — Parallelism test	7
Table 1 — Tolerances for linear dimensions	3
Table 2 — Tolerances for angular dimensions	4
Table 3 — Straightness, flatness and parallelism tolerances	6

## 1 Scope

This European Standard specifies general tolerances for linear and angular dimensions and for shape and position of welded structures in four tolerance classes, these being based on customary workshop accuracy. The main criterion for the selection of a particular tolerance class should be the functional requirements which are to be met.

The applicable tolerances are always those which are stated in the drawing. Instead of specifying individual tolerances the tolerance classes according to this standard may be used.

General tolerances for linear and angular dimensions and for shape and position as specified in this standard apply for weldments, welding assemblies and welded structures etc.

Special provisions may be necessary for complex structures.

The specifications given in this standard are based on the principle of independency as specified in ISO 8015, according to which the dimensional and geometrical tolerances apply independently of each other.

Manufacturing documentation in which linear and angular dimensions or indications for shape and position are presented without individually indicated tolerances shall be deemed incomplete if there is no, or inadequate, reference to general tolerances. This does not apply to temporary dimensions.

## 2 Normative references

This European Standard incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate place in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this European Standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the last edition of the publication referred to applies.

ISO/DIS 463, *Geometrical Product Specifications (GPS) — Dimensional measuring instruments; Dial gauges — Design and metrological requirements.*

prEN ISO 1101, *Technical drawings — Geometrical tolerancing Tolerances of form, orientation, location and run-out — Generalities, definitions, symbols, indications on drawings.* (ISO/DIS 1101:1995)

ISO 3599, *Vernier callipers reading to 0,1 and 0,05 mm.*

ISO 6906, *Vernier callipers reading to 0,02 mm.*

ISO 8015, *Technical drawings — Fundamental tolerancing principle.*

## 3 Definitions

For the purposes of this standard the definitions of prEN ISO 1101 apply.

## 4 General tolerances

### 4.1 Tolerances for linear dimensions

See Table 1.

**Table 1 — Tolerances for linear dimensions**

Range of nominal sizes <i>l</i> in mm											
Tolerance class	2 to 30	Over 30 up to 120	Over 120 up to 400	Over 400 up to 1 000	Over 1 000 up to 2 000	Over 2 000 up to 4 000	Over 4 000 up to 8 000	Over 8 000 up to 12 000	Over 12 000 up to 16 000	Over 16 000 up to 20 000	Over 20 000
Tolerances <i>t</i> in mm											
A	± 1	± 1	± 1	± 2	± 3	± 4	± 5	± 6	± 7	± 8	± 9
B		± 2	± 2	± 3	± 4	± 6	± 8	± 10	± 12	± 14	± 16
C		± 3	± 4	± 6	± 8	± 11	± 14	± 18	± 21	± 24	± 27
D		± 4	± 7	± 9	± 12	± 16	± 21	± 27	± 32	± 36	± 40

**4.2 Tolerances for angular dimensions**

The length of the shorter angle leg shall be used to determine in accordance with Table 2 which tolerances are to apply. The length of the leg may also be assumed to extend to a specified reference point. In this case, the reference point concerned shall be indicated on the drawing.

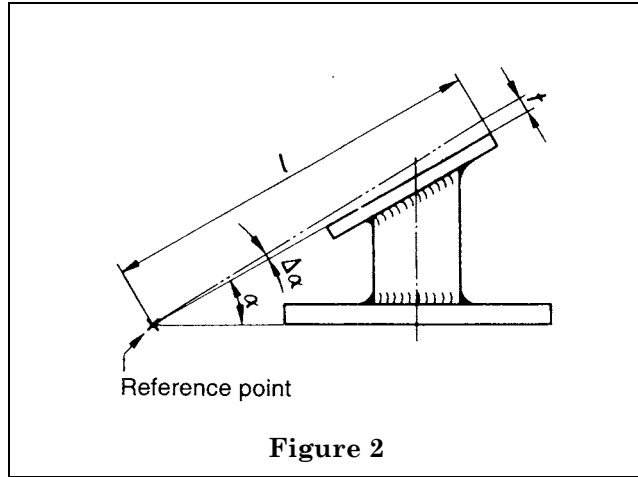
See Table 2 for the relevant tolerances.

Figure 1 to Figure 5 show examples of how the shorter angle leg,  $l$ , is represented.

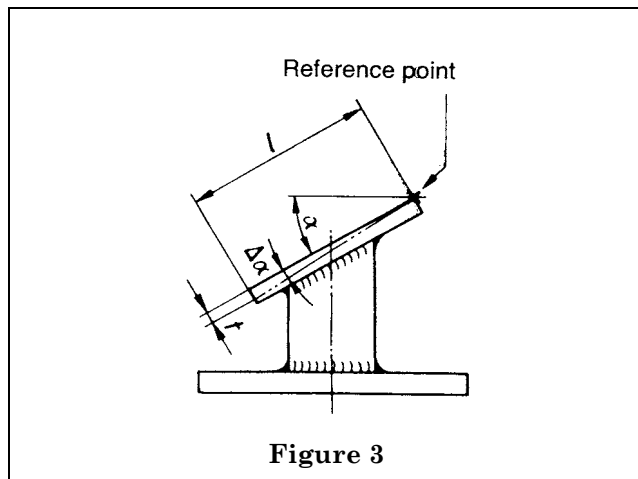
**Table 2 — Tolerances for angular dimensions**

Tolerance class	Range of nominal sizes $l$ in mm (length or shorter leg)		
	Up to 400	Over 400 up to 1 000	Over 1 000
	Tolerances $\Delta\alpha$ (in degrees and minutes)		
A	$\pm 20'$	$\pm 15'$	$\pm 10'$
B	$\pm 45'$	$\pm 30'$	$\pm 20'$
C	$\pm 1^\circ$	$\pm 45'$	$\pm 30'$
D	$\pm 1^\circ 30'$	$\pm 1^\circ 15'$	$\pm 1^\circ$
	Calculated and rounded tolerances $t$ , in mm/m <sup>a</sup>		
A	$\pm 6$	$\pm 4,5$	$\pm 3$
B	$\pm 13$	$\pm 9$	$\pm 6$
C	$\pm 18$	$\pm 13$	$\pm 9$
D	$\pm 26$	$\pm 22$	$\pm 18$

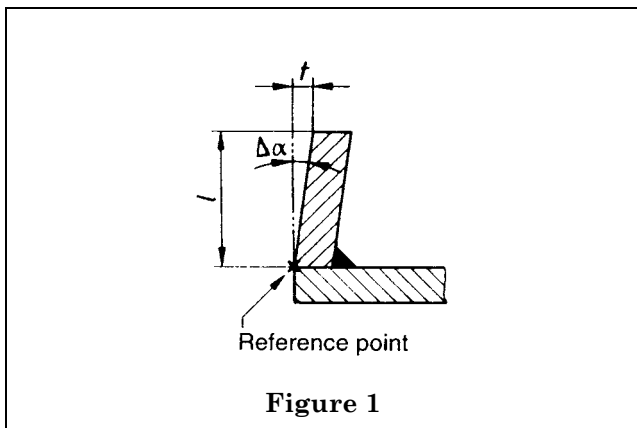
<sup>a</sup> The value indicated in mm/m corresponds to the tangent value of the general tolerance. It is to be multiplied by the length, in m, of the shorter leg.



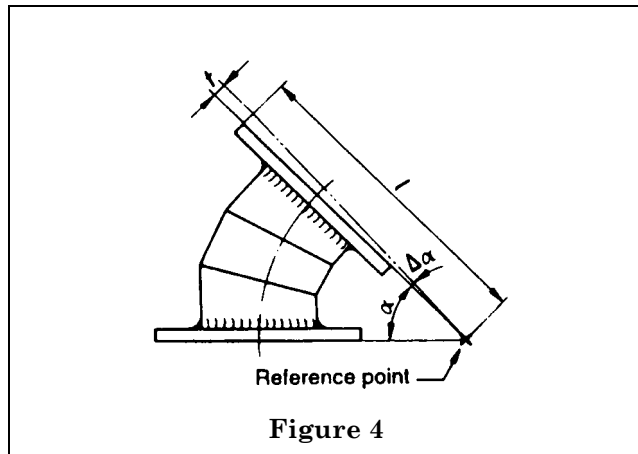
**Figure 2**



**Figure 3**



**Figure 1**



**Figure 4**



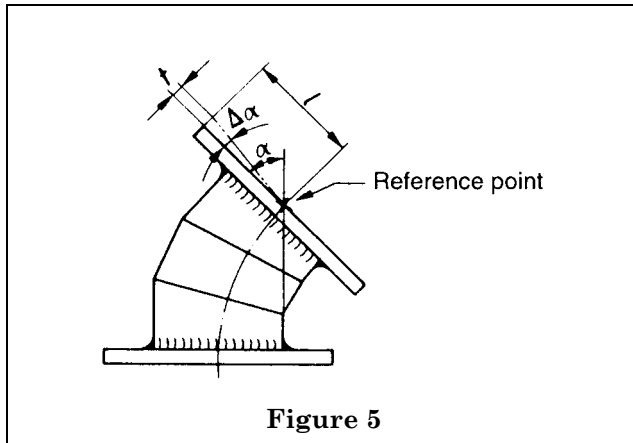


Figure 5

#### 4.3 Straightness, flatness and parallelism tolerances

The straightness, flatness and parallelism tolerances as specified in the following Table 3 apply both for the overall dimensions of a weldment, a welding assembly, or a welded structure, and also for sections for which the dimensions are indicated.

Other tolerances of form and position, e.g. coaxiality and symmetry tolerances, have not been specified. If such tolerances are required for reasons of function, they shall be indicated on the drawings as specified in prEN ISO 1101.

#### 5 Indications on drawings

The designation of the selected tolerance class as specified in Table 1 and Table 2 (e.g. EN ISO 13920-B) or its combination with a tolerance class as specified in Table 3 (e.g. EN ISO 13920-BE), shall be entered in the appropriate area on the drawing.

## 6 Testing

### 6.1 General

Testing and measuring devices used shall be suitable and accurate for their intended purpose.

- graduated steel straightedges;
- tape measures;
- straightedges;
- squares;
- vernier callipers (in accordance with ISO 1599 and ISO 6906);
- dial gauges (in accordance with ISO/DIS 463).

Other testing and measuring devices may be used by agreement.

The results of measurement may be influenced if they are obtained under unusual temperature or atmospheric conditions, e.g. large constructions in strong sun-light.

The actual size of an angle shall be determined by applying suitable measuring devices tangentially to the weldment, but away from the zone immediately influenced by the weld. The deviation shall be derived from the difference between the nominal size and the actual size. The angular deviation may be measured in degrees and minutes, or in millimetres.

### 6.2 Straightness

The edge of the weldment and the straightedge shall be aligned in such a way that the greatest distance between the straightedge and the actual surface is at its minimum. The distance between the edge and the straightedge shall be measured (example see Figure 6).

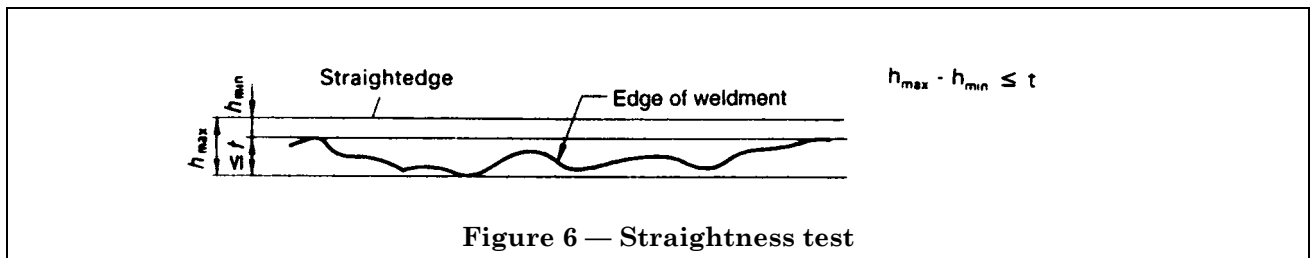


Figure 6 — Straightness test

Table 3 — Straightness, flatness and parallelism tolerances

Range of nominal sizes l in mm (relates to longer side of the surface)										
Tolerance class	Over 30 up to 120	Over 120 up to 400	Over 400 up to 1 000	Over 1 000 up to 2 000	Over 2 000 up to 4 000	Over 4 000 up to 8 000	Over 8 000 up to 12 000	Over 12 000 up to 16 000	Over 16 000 up to 20 000	Over 20 000
Tolerances t in mm										
E	0,5	1	1,5	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
F	1	1,5	3	4,5	6	8	10	12	14	16
G	1,5	3	5,5	9	11	16	20	22	25	25
H	2,5	5	9	14	18	26	32	36	40	40

**6.3 Flatness**

The actual surface of the weldment and the measuring plane shall be aligned to each other in such a way that the greatest distance between the measuring plane and the actual surface is at its minimum. This may be effected, for example, with the aid of optical devices, tubular water levels, span wires, floor plates, surface plates, and machine beds.

The distances between the actual surface and the measuring plane shall be measured (example see Figure 7).

**6.4 Parallelism**

The reference surface shall be aligned parallel to the reference plane.

A measuring plane shall be established parallel to the reference plane and apart from the weldment, using the measuring devices referred to in 6.3. The distances between the actual surface and the measuring plane shall be measured (example see Figure 8).

**7 Non-conformities**

A decision on the acceptance of components not complying with this standard may be made on the basis of the suitability for their intended purpose.

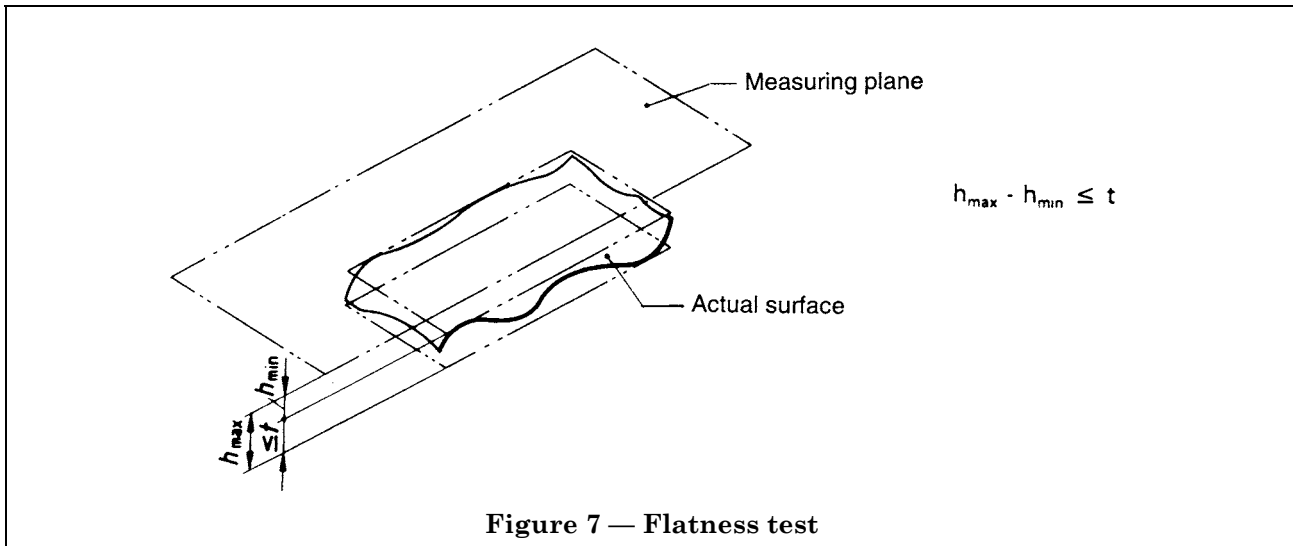
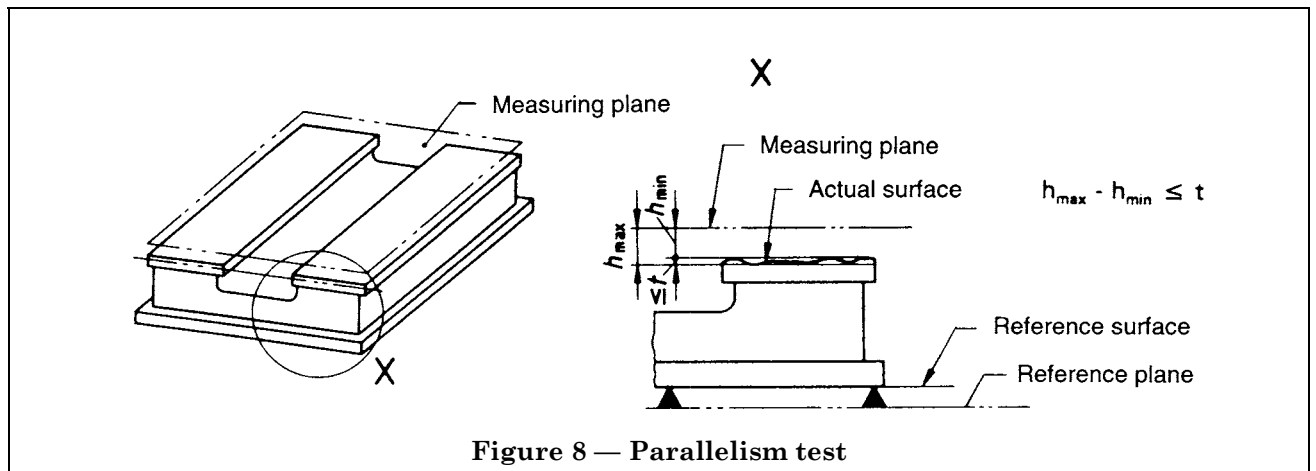


Figure 7 — Flatness test





## List of references

See national foreword.

---

---

# BSI — British Standards Institution

BSI is the independent national body responsible for preparing British Standards. It presents the UK view on standards in Europe and at the international level. It is incorporated by Royal Charter.

## Revisions

British Standards are updated by amendment or revision. Users of British Standards should make sure that they possess the latest amendments or editions.

It is the constant aim of BSI to improve the quality of our products and services. We would be grateful if anyone finding an inaccuracy or ambiguity while using this British Standard would inform the Secretary of the technical committee responsible, the identity of which can be found on the inside front cover. Tel: 020 8996 9000. Fax: 020 8996 7400.

BSI offers members an individual updating service called PLUS which ensures that subscribers automatically receive the latest editions of standards.

## Buying standards

Orders for all BSI, international and foreign standards publications should be addressed to Customer Services. Tel: 020 8996 9001. Fax: 020 8996 7001.

In response to orders for international standards, it is BSI policy to supply the BSI implementation of those that have been published as British Standards, unless otherwise requested.

## Information on standards

BSI provides a wide range of information on national, European and international standards through its Library and its Technical Help to Exporters Service. Various BSI electronic information services are also available which give details on all its products and services. Contact the Information Centre. Tel: 020 8996 7111. Fax: 020 8996 7048.

Subscribing members of BSI are kept up to date with standards developments and receive substantial discounts on the purchase price of standards. For details of these and other benefits contact Membership Administration. Tel: 020 8996 7002. Fax: 020 8996 7001.

## Copyright

Copyright subsists in all BSI publications. BSI also holds the copyright, in the UK, of the publications of the international standardization bodies. Except as permitted under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 no extract may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means – electronic, photocopying, recording or otherwise – without prior written permission from BSI.

This does not preclude the free use, in the course of implementing the standard, of necessary details such as symbols, and size, type or grade designations. If these details are to be used for any other purpose than implementation then the prior written permission of BSI must be obtained.

If permission is granted, the terms may include royalty payments or a licensing agreement. Details and advice can be obtained from the Copyright Manager. Tel: 020 8996 7070.