

# Copper and copper alloys — Material condition designation

ICS 77.120.30

## National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 1173:2008. It supersedes BS EN 1173:1996 which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee NFE/34, Copper and copper alloys.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

**Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.**

This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 30 June 2008

© BSI 2008

ISBN 978 0 580 59371 0

### Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Comments

English Version

## Copper and copper alloys - Material condition designation

Cuivre et alliages de cuivre - Désignation des états  
métallurgiques

Kupfer und Kupferlegierungen - Zustandsbezeichnungen

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 21 March 2008.

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 Management Centre 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 CEN Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

**Management Centre: rue de Stassart, 36 B-1050 Brussels**

## Contents

Page

Foreword.....	3
<b>1 Scope .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2 Basis of designation system .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3 Structure of designation .....</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1 General.....	4
3.2 Position 1 .....	4
3.3 Positions 2 to 4 .....	5
3.4 Positions 5 and 6 .....	5
<b>4 Examples .....</b>	<b>5</b>
4.1 General.....	5
4.2 Elongation .....	5
4.3 Spring bending limit .....	5
4.4 As drawn.....	5
4.5 Grain size.....	5
4.6 Hardness.....	6
4.7 As manufactured.....	6
4.8 Tensile strength .....	6
4.9 0,2% proof strength .....	6
4.10 Additional treatment "Stress relieving" .....	6
Bibliography.....	7

## Foreword

This document (EN 1173:2008) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 133 “Copper and copper alloys”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

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 October 2008, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by October 2008.

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.

This document supersedes EN 1173:1995.

Within its programme of work, Technical Committee CEN/TC 133 decided to prepare the revision of the following standard:

EN 1173:1995, *Copper and copper alloys — Material condition or temper designation*

In comparison with the first edition of EN 1173:1995, the following significant technical changes were made:

- title has been changed, the term “temper” has been withdrawn;
- examples in Clause 4 have been completed;
- alloy designation in 4.10 has been corrected.

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, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

## 1 Scope

This European Standard establishes a system for designation of material conditions to be used for the identification of mandatory property requirements. These designations are applicable to wrought products of copper and copper alloys.

## 2 Basis of designation system

The material condition designation is based on the mandatory property requirement(s), the level of property required and if necessary, any special additional treatment.

## 3 Structure of designation

### 3.1 General

The material condition designation usually consists of four characters. In position 1 there shall be a letter and in positions 2 to 4 there shall be figures. A further figure shall be added in position 5 or, in the case of additional treatment, a suffix letter shall be added in position 5 or 6.

Only one designation is allowed for a certain material condition and the whole size range, for which the minimum requirement applies.

### 3.2 Position 1

Position 1 indicates the designating mandatory property, specified in the appropriate European product standard, by one capital letter of the alphabet.

The use of a letter indicating the designating mandatory property does not preclude the combination of two or more mandatory properties if specified in the appropriate product standard.

Letters shall be used in accordance with Table 1.

**Table 1 — Letters for Position 1**

Letter	Designating mandatory property
A	Elongation
B	Spring bending limit
D	As drawn, without specified mechanical properties
G	Grain size
H	Hardness (Brinell or Vickers)
M	As manufactured, without specified mechanical properties
R	Tensile strength
Y	0,2%-proof strength

NOTE The manufacturing process including heat treatment is not indicated by these letters.

### 3.3 Positions 2 to 4

Except for designations D, G and M, positions 2 to 4 consist of a three digit figure to designate the minimum value of the mandatory property specified in the European product standard. Designations D and M are not followed by any further characters. For designation G, positions 2 to 4 consist of a three digit figure to designate the mid-range value of the mandatory property specified in the European product standard.

In the case of a value of two significant digits a zero "0" is to be indicated at position 2 in front of the value specified, e.g. for hardness. In the case of a value of one significant digit, zeros are to be indicated at positions two and three in front of the value specified, e.g. for elongation.

### 3.4 Positions 5 and 6

If necessary a four digit figure may be indicated by use of the additional position 5, e.g. for very high tensile strength of precipitation hardened alloys.

If an additional treatment is applicable for the purpose of stress relieving a product, the suffix "S" is added in position 5 or 6.

## 4 Examples

### 4.1 General

The material condition designation is intended to be used in product designation and ordering information. In the product designation the material condition designation shall follow the material designation and be separated from it by a hyphen ("—").

Some examples of material condition designations in accordance with this standard are given in 4.2 to 4.10.

### 4.2 Elongation

Wire EN 13602 — Cu-OF — A007 — .....<sup>1)</sup> [7]

### 4.3 Spring bending limit

Strip EN 1654 — CuSn8 — B410 — .....<sup>1)</sup> [2]

### 4.4 As drawn

Tube EN 13600 — Cu-ETP — D — .....<sup>1)</sup> [6]

### 4.5 Grain size

Strip EN 1652 — CuZn37 — G020 — .....<sup>1)</sup> [1]

---

1) Continued according to the appropriate product standard, see Bibliography.

#### 4.6 Hardness

Sheet EN 1652 — CuZn37 — H150 — .....<sup>1)</sup> [1]

#### 4.7 As manufactured

Hollow rod EN 12168 — CuZn36Pb3 — M — .....<sup>1)</sup> [4]

#### 4.8 Tensile strength

Rod EN 12164 — CuZn39Pb3 — R500 — .....<sup>1)</sup> [3]

or

Strip EN 1652 — CuBe2 — R1200 — .....<sup>1)</sup> [1]

#### 4.9 0,2% proof strength

Strip EN 1654 — CuZn30 — Y460 — .....<sup>1)</sup> [2]

#### 4.10 Additional treatment "Stress relieving"

Tube EN 12452 — CuZn20Al2As — R340S — .....<sup>1)</sup> [5]



## Bibliography

- [1] EN 1652, *Copper and copper alloys — Plate, sheet, strip and circles for general purposes*
- [2] EN 1654, *Copper and copper alloys — Strip for springs and connectors*
- [3] EN 12164, *Copper and copper alloys — Rod for free machining purposes*
- [4] EN 12168, *Copper and copper alloys — Hollow rod for free machining purposes*
- [5] EN 12452, *Copper and copper alloys — Rolled, finned, seamless tubes for heat exchangers*
- [6] EN 13600, *Copper and copper alloys — Seamless copper tubes for electrical purposes*
- [7] EN 13602, *Copper and copper alloys — Drawn round copper wire for the manufacture of electrical conductors*

---

---

## British Standards Institute (BSI)

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: +44 (0)20 8996 9000 Fax: +44 (0)20 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: +44 (0)20 8996 9001 Fax: +44 (0)20 8996 7001

Email: [orders@bsigroup.com](mailto:orders@bsigroup.com)

You may also buy directly using a debit/credit card from the BSI Shop on the Website <http://www.bsigroup.com/shop>.

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: +44 (0)20 8996 7111 Fax: +44 (0)20 8996 7048

Email: [info@bsigroup.com](mailto:info@bsigroup.com)

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: +44 (0)20 8996 7002 Fax: +44 (0)20 8996 7001

Email: [membership@bsigroup.com](mailto:membership@bsigroup.com)

Information regarding online access to British Standards via British Standards Online can be found at <http://www.bsigroup.com/BSOL>.

Further information about BSI is available on the BSI website at <http://www.bsigroup.com>.

### 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.

Details and advice can be obtained from the Copyright & Licensing Manager.

Tel: +44 (0)20 8996 7070 Email: [copyright@bsigroup.com](mailto:copyright@bsigroup.com)