



BSI Standards Publication

Footwear protecting against chemicals

Part 2: Requirements for limited contact with chemicals

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 13832-2:2018. It supersedes BS EN 13832-2:2006, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee PH/1, Safety, protective and occupational footwear.

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

BSI, as a member of CEN, is obliged to publish EN 13832-2:2018 as a British Standard. However, attention is drawn to the fact that during the development of this European Standard, the UK committee voted against its approval as a European Standard.

The following concerns regarding this standard have been expressed by the UK committee.

- The chemical resistance test specified in this standard has limitations and has not been the subject of a rigorous inter-laboratory trial. In addition, the test is considered to be too subjective and not sufficiently robust.
- Footwear constructed from coated permeable upper materials (such as coated leathers) could meet the requirements of this standard despite the fact that such coatings may be very thin, may not be significantly permeation resistant, and may be removed or damaged by scuffing, flexing and/or normal wear and tear.
- The scope of this standard includes protection against chemicals that either are immediately harmful upon contact with skin or may lead to long-term health effects through a single incident or prolonged and/or repeated contact. The requirements of this standard do not adequately address such a high level of risk even if contact with such chemicals is limited.
- The test method does not take into account irreversible contamination by permeation.
- The degradation test and/or assessment of degradation in accordance with the user instructions could suggest that repeated use after chemical exposure is safe. This may not always be the case; products that have previously been exposed to chemicals may not continue to provide an acceptable level of protection.

The UK committee draws users' attention to the [National Annex NA](#), which provides further guidance to assist users in the application of this standard.

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

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