



BSI Standards Publication

## Energy performance of buildings – Method for calculation of the design heat load

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Part 2: Explanation and justification of EN 12831-1, Module M3-3

## National foreword

This Published Document is the UK implementation of CEN/TR 12831-2:2017.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee RHE/24, Central heating installations.

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.

ISBN 978 0 580 94807 7

ICS 91.140.10; 91.120.10

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This document was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 31 August 2017.

### Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date

Text affected

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TECHNICAL REPORT

**CEN/TR 12831-2**

RAPPORT TECHNIQUE

TECHNISCHER BERICHT

April 2017

ICS 91.120.10; 91.140.10

English Version

## Energy performance of buildings - Method for calculation of the design heat load - Part 2: Explanation and justification of EN 12831-1, Module M3-3

Performance énergétique des bâtiments - Méthode de  
calcul de la charge thermique nominale - Partie 2 :  
Explication et justification de l'EN 12831-1, Module  
M3-3

Gesamtenergieeffizienz von Gebäuden - Methode zur  
Berechnung der Norm-Heizlast - Teil 2: Begleitender  
TR zur EN 12831-1, Modul M3

This Technical Report was approved by CEN on 27 February 2017. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 228.

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## European foreword

This document (CEN/TR 12831-2:2017) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 228 "Heating systems and water based cooling systems in buildings", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

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## Introduction

In order to facilitate the necessary overall consistency and coherence, in terminology, approach, input/output relations and formats, for the whole set of EPB-standards, the following documents and tools are available:

- a) a document with basic principles to be followed in drafting EPB-standards: CEN/TS 16628:2014, Energy Performance of Buildings - Basic Principles for the set of EPB standards [1];
- b) a document with detailed technical rules to be followed in drafting EPB-standards; CEN/TS 16629:2014, Energy Performance of Buildings - Detailed Technical Rules for the set of EPB-standards [2];
- c) the detailed technical rules are the basis for the following tools:
  - 1) a common template for each EPB-standard, including specific drafting instructions for the relevant clauses;
  - 2) a common template for each technical report that accompanies an EPB standard or a cluster of EPB standards, including specific drafting instructions for the relevant clauses;
  - 3) a common template for the spreadsheet that accompanies each EPB standard, to demonstrate the correctness of the EPB calculation procedures.

Each EPB-standards follows the basic principles and the detailed technical rules and relates to the overarching EPB-standard, EN ISO 52000-1 [3].

One of the main purposes of the revision of the EPB-standards is to enable that laws and regulations directly refer to the EPB-standards and make compliance with them compulsory. This requires that the set of EPB-standards consists of a systematic, clear, comprehensive and unambiguous set of energy performance procedures. The number of options provided is kept as low as possible, taking into account national and regional differences in climate, culture and building tradition, policy and legal frameworks (subsidiarity principle). For each option, an informative default option is provided (EN 12831-1:2017, Annex B).

### Rationale behind the EPB technical reports

There is a risk that the purpose and limitations of the EPB standards will be misunderstood, unless the background and context to their contents – and the thinking behind them – is explained in some detail to readers of the standards. Consequently, various types of informative contents are recorded and made available for users to properly understand, apply and nationally or regionally implement the EPB standards.

If this explanation would have been attempted in the standards themselves, the result is likely to be confusing and cumbersome, especially if the standards are implemented or referenced in national or regional building codes.

Therefore, each EPB standard is accompanied by an informative technical report, like this one, where all informative content is collected, to ensure a clear separation between normative and informative contents (see CEN/TS 16629 [1]):

- to avoid flooding and confusing the actual normative part with informative content;
- to reduce the page count of the actual standard; and
- to facilitate understanding of the set of EPB standards.

This was also one of the main recommendations from the European CENSE project [2] that laid the foundation for the preparation of the set of EPB standards.

## 1 Scope

This Technical Report refers to standard EN 12831, module M3-3 (EN 12831-1).

It contains information to support the correct understanding, use and national adaptation of standard EN 12831-1.

## 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 12831-1:2017, *Energy performance of buildings - Method for calculation of the design heat load - Part 1: Space heating load, Module M3-3*

EN ISO 6946, *Building components and building elements - Thermal resistance and thermal transmittance - Calculation method (ISO 6946)*

EN ISO 7345:1995, *Thermal insulation - Physical quantities and definitions (ISO 7345:1987)*

EN ISO 10077-1, *Thermal performance of windows, doors and shutters - Calculation of thermal transmittance - Part 1: General (ISO 10077-1)*

EN ISO 52000-1:2017, *Energy performance of buildings - Overarching EPB assessment - Part 1: General framework and procedures (ISO 52000-1:2017)*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN ISO 7345:1995, EN ISO 52000-1:2017, EN 12831-1:2017 apply.

## 4 Symbols and abbreviation

### 4.1 Symbols

For the purposes of this Technical Report, the symbols given in EN ISO 52000-1:2017 and EN 12831-1:2017 apply.

### 4.2 Subscripts

For the purposes of this Technical Report, subscripts given in EN ISO 52000-1:2017 and EN 12831-1:2017 apply.

## 5 Information on the methods

EN 12831-1 describes a method to calculate the design heat load of

- heated spaces (usually rooms);
- building entities (apartments etc.) or whole buildings containing heated spaces.