



BSI Standards Publication

Railway applications — Wheel/ rail friction management

Part 2-2: Properties and characteristics — Top of rail materials

National foreword

This Published Document is the UK implementation of CEN/TS 15427-2-2:2023. It supersedes PD CEN/TS 15427-2-2:2021, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee RAE/3/-/6, Railway applications - Wheel/rail friction management.

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

Contractual and legal considerations

This publication has been prepared in good faith, however no representation, warranty, assurance or undertaking (express or implied) is or will be made, and no responsibility or liability is or will be accepted by BSI in relation to the adequacy, accuracy, completeness or reasonableness of this publication. All and any such responsibility and liability is expressly disclaimed to the full extent permitted by the law.

This publication is provided as is, and is to be used at the recipient's own risk.

The recipient is advised to consider seeking professional guidance with respect to its use of this publication.

This publication is not intended to constitute a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

This publication is not to be regarded as a British Standard.

© The British Standards Institution 2023
Published by BSI Standards Limited 2023

ISBN 9 78 0 539 20369 1

ICS 35.120; 45.080

Compliance with a Published Document cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

This Published Document was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 31 October 2023.

Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
------	---------------

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION
 SPÉCIFICATION TECHNIQUE
 TECHNISCHE SPEZIFIKATION

CEN/TS 15427-2-2

October 2023

ICS 45.080; 45.120

Supersedes CEN/TS 15427-2-2:2021

English Version

**Railway applications - Wheel/rail friction management -
 Part 2-2: Properties and characteristics - Top of rail
 materials**

Applications ferroviaires - Gestion des frottements
 roue/rail - Partie 2-2 : Propriétés et caractéristiques -
 Lubrifiants de tête de rail

Bahnanwendungen - Reibungsmanagement zwischen
 Rad und Schiene - Teil 2-2: Eigenschaften und
 Merkmale - Kräftechlussmodifikatoren

This Technical Specification (CEN/TS) was approved by CEN on 9 July 2023 for provisional application.

The period of validity of this CEN/TS is limited initially to three years. After two years the members of CEN will be requested to submit their comments, particularly on the question whether the CEN/TS can be converted into a European Standard.

CEN members are required to announce the existence of this CEN/TS in the same way as for an EN and to make the CEN/TS available promptly at national level in an appropriate form. It is permissible to keep conflicting national standards in force (in parallel to the CEN/TS) until the final decision about the possible conversion of the CEN/TS into an EN is reached.

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



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

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

Contents		Page
European foreword		4
Introduction		6
1	Scope	7
2	Normative references	7
3	Terms and definitions	8
4	Design requirements	10
5	Technical specification and product approval	10
5.1	Introduction	10
5.2	Product specification	10
5.3	Technical file	11
6	Control and monitoring of product	11
6.1	Manufacturing process	11
6.2	Composition of material	11
6.3	Routine tests	11
6.4	Additional measures	11
7	Technical datasheet	11
7.1	General	11
7.2	Liquid based material characteristics	11
7.3	Solid based material characteristics	12
8	Packaging, labelling and storage	12
Annex A (normative) Requirements for top of rail materials and testing		13
A.1	Explanation of Annex A: Tables A.1 to A.3	13
A.2	Key to Annex A table columns	13
A.3	Key to Annex A table column 'Use'	13
Annex B (informative) Determination of the volatile constituents in liquid Top of Rail Materials		19
B.1	Purpose	19
B.2	Short description	19
B.3	Conditions for testing	19
B.4	Test process	19
B.5	Recording of test results	20
Annex C (informative) Functional test on specific equipment		21
C.1	General	21
C.2	Sprayability of liquid top of rail materials	21
Annex D (informative) Twin-disc machine retentivity and coefficient of traction test		23
D.1	Purpose	23

D.2	Description	23
D.3	Conditions for test.....	23
Annex E	(informative) Twin-disc machine test for determining Creep force vs Creep rate curve (for solid sticks comparable to Mini Traction Machine (MTM) test)	27
E.1	Purpose	27
E.2	Description	28
E.3	Conditions for test.....	28
Annex F	(informative) Mini Traction Machine (MTM) creep curve test.....	32
F.1	General.....	32
F.2	Test equipment.....	32
F.3	Application of top of rail material to metal disk.....	33
F.4	Performance of the test.....	35
F.5	Evaluation of the test	36
Bibliography.....		37

European foreword

This document (CEN/TS 15427-2-2:2023) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 256 “Railway applications”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes CEN/TS 15427-2-2:2021.

CEN/TS 15427-2-2:2023 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to CEN/TS 15427-2-2:2021:

- document has been editorially updated based on the feedback received on the previous edition;
- corrections and clarifications have been introduced based on the feedback received on the previous edition;
- consistency with the other parts of the series has been improved.

This document is part of the following series:

- EN 15427-1-1, *Railway applications - Wheel/Rail friction management - Part 1-1: Equipment and Application – Flange lubrication*;
- CEN/TS 15427-1-2, *Railway applications - Wheel/rail friction management - Part 1-2: Equipment and application – Top of rail materials*;
- CEN/TS 15427-1-3, *Railway applications - Wheel/rail friction management - Part 1-3: Equipment and application – Adhesion materials*;
- EN 15427-2-1, *Railway applications - Wheel/Rail friction management - Part 2-1: Properties and Characteristics – Flange lubricants*;
- CEN/TS 15427-2-2, *Railway applications - Wheel/rail friction management - Part 2-2: Properties and characteristics – Top of rail materials*;
- CEN/TS 15427-2-3, *Railway applications - Wheel/Rail friction management - Part 2-3: Properties and Characteristics – Adhesion materials*;
- CEN/prEN 15427-3, *Railway applications – Wheel/Rail friction management – Part 3: Rationale for requirements and further background information*.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to announce this Technical Specification: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.

Currently in preview, click buy full version

Introduction

Friction management using solid or fluid (oil, grease, etc.) substances at the wheel-rail interface is a complex subject and includes the following aspects:

- lubrication of the wheel flange / rail gauge corner interface, commonly referred to as “flange or rail lubrication”;
- lubrication of the back of flange/ check rail interface; commonly referred to as “check rail lubrication”;
- controlling the level of friction at the interface between the top of rail and the wheel tread, commonly referred to as “top of rail friction management”;
- altering the level of adhesion at the interface between the top of rail and the wheel tread.

This document sets out requirements for the material to be used on the top of rail. It specifies requirements for the material, how to test it and how to approve it.

The material for top of rail should be tested to confirm there is:

- compatibility with top of rail material applicator equipment;
- no intolerable increased risk of fire;
- no harmful environmental effects;
- no incompatibility between the different materials, lubricants in use, particularly between solid and fluid systems;
- satisfactory and consistent product quality and performance;
- no degradation to the safety of the railway (braking, signalling, electrical traction return).

The main purpose of a top of rail material is to influence the interface between the wheel and rail (referred to as the third body layer) to control friction to a level where a reduction in noise or wear can be realized.

1 Scope

This document specifies the requirements of materials intended to be applied to the interface between the wheel tread and the rail crown (active interface). It can be applied either directly or indirectly to the wheel tread or rail.

It outlines the information required for most approval procedures, the method of testing and routine control/monitoring of the material.

This document does not deal with adhesion materials, for example:

- sand;
- adhesion enhancers.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN ISO 868, *Plastics and ebonite — Determination of indentation hardness by means of a durometer (Shore hardness) (ISO 868)*

EN ISO 2160, *Petroleum products — Corrosiveness to copper — Copper strip test (ISO 2160)*

EN ISO 2592, *Petroleum and related products — Determination of flash and fire points - Cleveland open cup method (ISO 2592)*

EN ISO 3104, *Petroleum products — Transparent and opaque liquids — Determination of kinematic viscosity and calculation of dynamic viscosity (ISO 3104)*

EN ISO 3146, *Plastics — Determination of melting behaviour (melting temperature or melting range) of semi-crystalline polymers by capillary tube and polarizing-microscope methods (ISO 3146)*

EN ISO 3675, *Crude petroleum and liquid petroleum products — Laboratory determination of density — Hydrometer method (ISO 3675)*

EN ISO 4589-1, *Plastics — Determination of burning behaviour by oxygen index — Part 1: General requirements (ISO 4589-1)*

EN ISO 4589-2, *Plastics — Determination of burning behaviour by oxygen index — Part 2: Ambient-temperature test (ISO 4589-2)*

EN ISO 5659-1, *Plastics — Smoke generation — Part 1: Guidance on optical-density testing (ISO 5659-1)*

EN ISO 5659-2, *Plastics — Smoke generation — Part 2: Determination of optical density by a single-chamber test (ISO 5659-2)*

EN ISO 9439, *Water quality — Evaluation of ultimate aerobic biodegradability of organic compounds in aqueous medium — Carbon dioxide evolution test (ISO 9439)*

EN ISO 12185, *Crude petroleum and petroleum products — Determination of density — Oscillating U-tube method (ISO 12185)*