

---

---

**Buildings and constructed assets —  
Service life planning —**

Part 7:

**Performance evaluation for feedback of  
service life data from practice**

*Bâtiments et biens immobiliers construits — Prévion de la durée de  
vie —*

*Partie 7: Évaluation de la performance de l'information en retour relative  
à la durée de vie, issue de la pratique*



**PDF disclaimer**

This PDF file may contain embedded typefaces. In accordance with Adobe's licensing policy, this file may be printed or viewed but shall not be edited unless the typefaces which are embedded are licensed to and installed on the computer performing the editing. In downloading this file, parties accept therein the responsibility of not infringing Adobe's licensing policy. The ISO Central Secretariat accepts no liability in this area.

Adobe is a trademark of Adobe Systems Incorporated.

Details of the software products used to create this PDF file can be found in the General Info relative to the file; the PDF-creation parameters were optimized for printing. Every care has been taken to ensure that the file is suitable for use by ISO member bodies. In the unlikely event that a problem relating to it is found, please inform the Central Secretariat at the address given below.

STANDARDSISO.COM : Click to view the full PDF of ISO 15686-7:2006

© ISO 2006

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from either ISO at the address below or ISO's member body in the country of the requester.

ISO copyright office  
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20  
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11  
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47  
E-mail [copyright@iso.org](mailto:copyright@iso.org)  
Web [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org)

Published in Switzerland

## Contents

Page

Foreword.....	iv
Introduction .....	v
1 <b>Scope</b> .....	1
2 <b>Normative references</b> .....	1
3 <b>Terms and definitions</b> .....	1
4 <b>Methodological framework</b> .....	3
5 <b>Performance surveys</b> .....	5
<b>Annex A</b> (informative) <b>Guidance on Factor E — Environmental classification systems and methods for assessment in microenvironment</b> .....	16
<b>Annex B</b> (informative) <b>Prediction of (residual) service life on the object (single building) level and on the network level (population of buildings)</b> .....	21
<b>Annex C</b> (informative) <b>Worked example of RSL data records from “Inspection of buildings”</b> .....	23
<b>Bibliography</b> .....	26

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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

ISO 15686-7 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 59, *Building construction*, Subcommittee SC 14, *Design life*.

ISO 15686 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Buildings and constructed assets — Service life planning*:

- *Part 1: General principles*
- *Part 2: Service life prediction procedures*
- *Part 3: Performance audits and reviews*
- *Part 5: Whole life costing*
- *Part 6: Procedures for considering environmental impacts*
- *Part 7: Performance evaluation for feedback of service life data from practice*
- *Part 8: Reference service life*

## Introduction

ISO 15686, with the general title *Buildings and constructed assets — Service life planning*, of which this document is Part 7, is an important contribution to the development of a policy for design life. A major impetus for the preparation of the parts of ISO 15686 is the current concern over the inability to predict service life, costs of ownership and maintenance of buildings and constructed assets. Common methods and standards for performance assessment and proper feedback of data from practice are decisive in order to make experience data from the building stock consistent and comparable. The purpose of this part of ISO 15686 is therefore to describe the principles for service life performance surveys and evaluation with an emphasis on technical recommendations. It aims to describe a generic methodology, including the terms to be used, that provide guidance on the planning, documentation and inspection phases, as well as on analysis and interpretation of performance evaluations, both on the object (single building) and network (stock of buildings) level. Maintenance planning is outside the scope of this part of ISO 15686.

ISO 15686-7 is intended for all members of a building team, i.e. building owners and developers, professional advisors, constructors, assessors, manufacturers of building products, managers of both publicly and privately owned constructed assets.

STANDARDSISO.COM : Click to view the full PDF of ISO 15686-7:2006

STANDARDSISO.COM : Click to view the full PDF of ISO 15686-7:2006

# Buildings and constructed assets — Service life planning —

## Part 7: Performance evaluation for feedback of service life data from practice

### 1 Scope

This part of ISO 15686 provides a generic basis for performance evaluation for feedback of service life data from existing buildings and constructed assets, including a definition of the terms to be used and the description of how the (technical) performance can be described and documented to ensure consistencies.

### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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.

ISO 6241:1984, *Performance standards in building — Principles for their preparation and factors to be considered*

ISO 15686-1:2000, *Buildings and constructed assets — Service life planning — Part 1: General principles*

ISO 15686-2:2001, *Buildings and constructed assets — Service life planning — Part 2: Service life prediction procedures*

ISO 15686-8:—<sup>1</sup>), *Buildings and constructed assets — Service life planning — Part 8: Reference service life*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 15686-1, ISO 15686-2 and the following apply.

#### 3.1

##### **consequence degree**

expression of the seriousness of consequences in relation to a defined reference level

#### 3.2

##### **network level**

stock of objects (facilities, e.g. bridges, tunnels, power plants, buildings) under management and maintenance of an owner

---

1) In preparation.

**3.3**

**object level**

basic unit of the network serving a specific function

**3.4**

**performance survey**

total survey (defining of the task, planning, examination, evaluation and reporting) at a given time in accordance with this part of ISO 15686

**3.5**

**performance assessment**

all material that accounts for an item's performance throughout its service life

**3.6**

**performance degree**

expression of the performance of an item in relation to a defined reference level

**3.7**

**performance control**

comparison between performance and defined requirements

**3.8**

**refurbishment**

modification and improvements to an existing item to bring it up to an acceptable condition

[ISO 6707-1]

**3.9**

**repair**

return a product/component/assembly/system to an acceptable condition by renewal, replacement or mending of worn, damaged or degraded parts

[ISO 6707-1]

**3.10**

**renewal**

demolition and rebuilding of an existing item

**3.11**

**replacement**

change of parts of an existing item to regain its functionality

**3.12**

**risk**

probability of an event (e.g. failure, damage) multiplied by its consequences (e.g. cost, fatalities, exposure to personal or environmental hazard)

**3.13**

**symptom**

indicator of the loss of performance of an item

**3.14**

**in-use condition**

any circumstance that contributes to or causes the degradation of a building/constructed assets or a part of it under normal use

NOTE In order to encompass all of the seven factor classes of the Factor method, this definition has been extended relative to that given in ISO 15686-2:2001, 3.3.5, thus being in accordance with ISO 15686-1:2000, 3.1.2, where "in-use condition" is referred to as influencing any of the seven factors.

**3.15****usage conditions**

in-use conditions due to users of a building/constructed assets, and human activity adjacent to a building/constructed assets

NOTE In this part of ISO 15686, the Factor class F is designated “usage conditions” rather than “in-use condition” as used but not defined in ISO 15686-1. This is called for in order to distinguish the factor class from the term “in-use condition” as defined in ISO 15686-2 as “environmental condition under normal use”.

**3.16****factor class**

label of an in-use condition indicating which factor of the Factor method the condition will influence

**3.17****in-use condition grading**

act of collective judgement of all qualitative information of in-use conditions within a factor class

**3.18****in-use condition grade**

outcome of an in-use condition grading

**4 Methodological framework****4.1 Service life planning**

In ISO 15686-1, the concept of reference service life (RSL) is defined as the “service life of a product/component/assembly/system that is known to be expected under a particular set, i.e. a reference set, of in-use conditions and which may form the basis of estimating the service life under other in-use conditions”.

A person working with the service life planning (SLP) of a design object is faced with the problem of forecasting the service life of its components. Even if there are certain service life data available, i.e. RSLs, these can rarely be used directly. This is because the project-specific in-use conditions, to which the object's components are subjected, are usually different from those under which the service life data are valid, i.e. the reference in-use conditions.

In ISO 15686-1:2000, Clause 9, the Factor method is described as a means to overcome this problem. The Factor method is used to modify an RSL to obtain an estimated service life (ESL) of the components of a design object, while considering the difference between the project-specific and the reference in-use conditions. This is carried out by multiplying the RSL by a number of factors, each of which reflect the difference between the two sets of in-use conditions within a particular factor class:

$$ESL = RSL \times \text{Factor A} \times \text{Factor B} \times \text{Factor C} \times \text{Factor D} \times \text{Factor E} \times \text{Factor F} \times \text{Factor G}$$

The factor classes are given in Table 1.

NOTE The Factor method will be moved to ISO 15686-8 when ISO 15686-1:2000 is revised.

**Table 1 — Factor classes of the Factor method**

Factor classes of the Factor method	
Factor class	Designation
A	quality of components
B	design level
C	work execution level
D	indoor environment
E	outdoor environment
F	usage conditions
G	maintenance level

The evaluation of an ESL according to the Factor method requires the input of an RSL as well as the numbers of the Factor classes A to G. A proper choice of the numbers of the factors depends on the difference between the project-specific and the reference in-use conditions. Therefore, in order to enable estimations of the Factor classes A to G jointly with RSL, the reference in-use conditions in terms of the factor classes should, as far as possible, be included when providing data.

Currently, there are a limited number of systematic studies on service life prediction and there is an urgent need for data. For the provision of RSL data, the capturing of existing data of any kind is acceptable.

## 4.2 Performance assessment of service life in the course of the construction life cycle

### 4.2.1 Relation to service life design and reference service life (RSL)

The performance levels of the construction and its components change during the life cycle of the construction (see Figure 1). The in-use conditions can also be subject to change. Therefore, a proper assessment of the service life during the construction life cycle should include a thorough assessment of the existing in-use conditions, and record any changes to the levels used in the design process, if applicable.

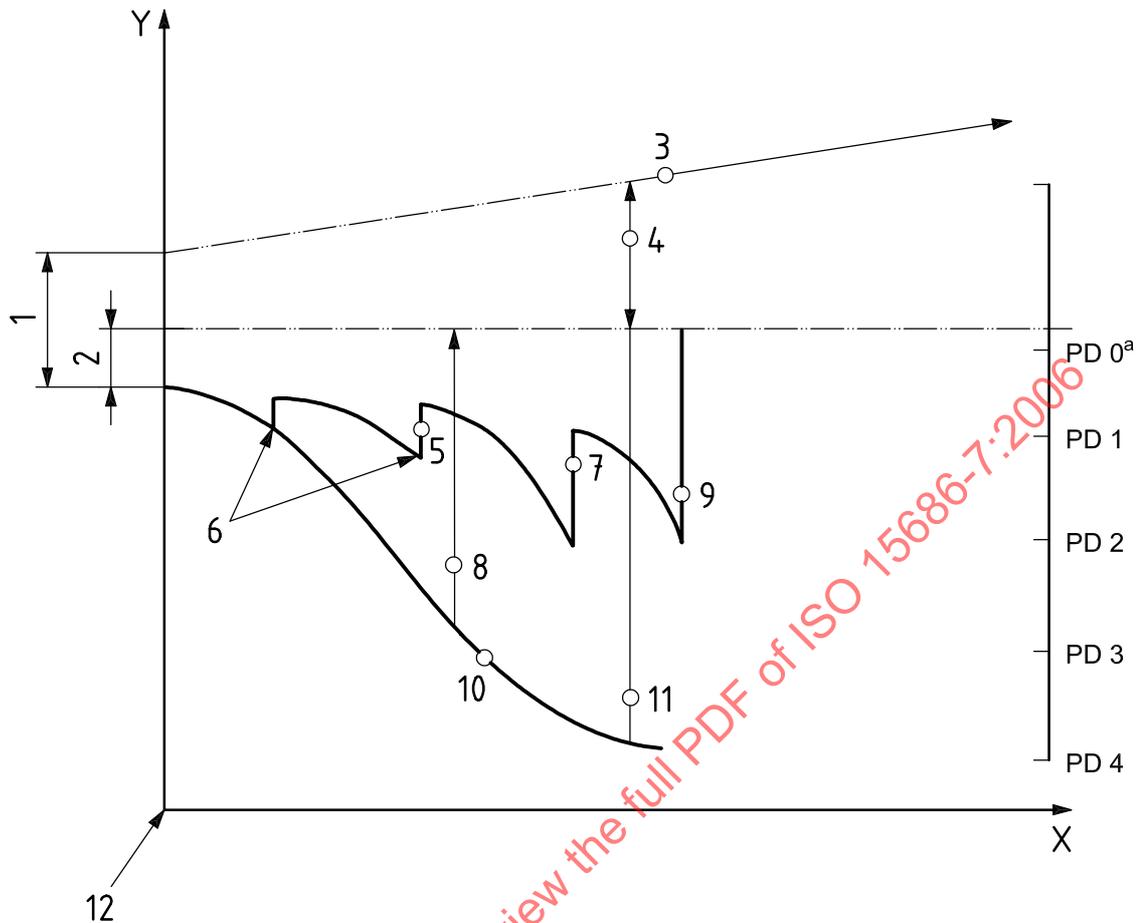
A main objective of this part of ISO 15686 is to provide a basis for objective assessment and to describe how information retrieved during performance assessments can become new input in the RSL data, as described in ISO 15686-8. As such, this part of ISO 15686 adds further to the data generating method of inspection of the building specified in ISO 15686-1:2000, 8.2.5 b).

### 4.2.2 Life cycle performance of construction

Figure 1 illustrates scenarios in the development of the performance (bold line) of construction works from delivery through the maintenance and operation phase. There is a deviation (gap) in performance from the client's expectations and requirements from the brief (initial) phase until the delivery ("as built") phase, often due to failures or damage during fabrication. The expectation gap is increased further due to the continuous rise in new requirements and upgrading, business development, etc.

After the delivery, performance decreases during operation, due to wear and tear, or simply the age factor, if left with no maintenance. Therefore, the construction and its components are subjected to various corrective actions, or maintenance, in order to keep up with required performance. These actions can be proactive, which is preferred, or reactive, which is largely the current practice. In both cases, inspections and performance assessments should be the basis for maintenance planning. This applies to all functionalities.

This part of ISO 15686 defines a generic protocol and terms for how to evaluate the service life performance during this life cycle. Maintenance planning is outside the scope of this part of ISO 15686, but for the sake of illustration, Figure 1 relates the assessed performance levels to various known maintenance actions, as defined in ISO 15686-1. The content of, and relations between, such levels and actions should be defined by users separately.



**Key**

- |   |  |    |  |
|---|--|----|--|
| Y | quality/function                               | 5  | preventative and periodic maintenance    |
| X | operation and management of building over time | 6  | limit states                             |
| 1 | expectation/achievement gap                    | 7  | refurbishment                            |
| 2 | building failure/damage                        | 8  | repair                                   |
| 3 | new requirements — public                      | 9  | replacement                              |
|   | — market                                       | 10 | performance without preventative actions |
|   | — business                                     | 11 | renewal                                  |
| 4 | development upgrading                          | 12 | “as built”                               |

<sup>a</sup> Performance degrees (PD) are defined in 5.3.4.2.2.

**Figure 1 — Life cycle performance of construction**

## 5 Performance surveys

### 5.1 General

The main purpose of this part of ISO 15686 is to be an aid in the planning and preparation of required general and specific working documents for the performance survey of items of various character and different purpose. General and specific working documents supplementary to carrying out performance surveys can be described in three levels, as given in Table 2.

**Table 2 — Overview of document levels**

Document	Main function	Content
This part of ISO 15686	Provides a standardized framework for planning and for terms and methods	Definitions, method and content
General working documents for performance surveys	Provides agreed (objective) fixed terms (reference level) for the performance of a building product or construction method	Specific symptom lists and/or illustrated catalogues, for example: — concrete; — masonry; — external wood; — steel; — ventilation ducts.  Checklists for likely locations of failure prepared on the basis of this part of ISO 15686
Specific working documents for performance surveys	Provides specific directions on how a type of item should be handled.  Should also provide the reference level for performance degrees for the relevant type of item	Complete work guidance for the performance survey of a type of item, for example: — bridges; — old town buildings; — stave churches; — ventilation systems.  These should be prepared by those who request the survey for a type of item (facility manager, property owner, etc.) on the basis of the standard and general working documents

This part of ISO 15686 can be used

- a) directly as an aid for performance surveys when no other working documents exist, or as a supplement when the working documents are incomplete;
- b) to prepare general working documents;
- c) to prepare specific working documents.

**5.2 Registration level and user-oriented types of inspection**

There are three levels of registration as follows:

- a) level 1 (preliminary): Performance registration of a general character consisting of visual observations combined, if necessary, with simple measurements.
- b) level 2 (regular): Performance registration of a general character, but more exhaustive and detailed than Level 1. It includes examination of supporting data, e.g. drawings, specifications and other documentation. More extensive registrations or measurements should be carried out to establish the construction and performance of the item when required.
- c) level 3 (detailed): Performance registration of a special character that includes only specific items (building elements, construction elements, work sections) or specific problems. Such performance registration implies the application of especially accurate measurement or test methods and, if appropriate, laboratory testing.

Types of inspection should be designed from these various levels of registration according to user needs and required competence of inspectors, as given in Table 3.

Table 3 — Types of inspection and competence level required of inspectors

Type of inspection	Purpose	Minimal inspector qualification
Preliminary	Introductory inspection of a general character consisting of visual observations and basic measurements to get a very rough overview	Has a technical education, knows the building and is able to identify the concerned parts and critical phenomena
Regular	Inspection at regular intervals, such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— every 1 to 2 years, for analysis of weak points or failures in the construction;</li> <li>— every 3 to 10 years, for               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— design and preparation of tenders in restoration and rehabilitation project,</li> <li>— defining the inspection plan, programming the object-individual questions for inspection,</li> <li>— planning of renovation, control of adequate use, cost estimates for maintenance measures</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Architect, civil engineer, facility manager, craftsmen, technician
Specific/detailed (ordered from the levels above)	Special tasks, such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— detailed specification of the extent of any damage</li> <li>— difficult and/or unusual situations</li> <li>— research work</li> </ul>	Proofed/certified specialist in the relevant field, e.g. scientist, laboratory engineer, software engineer

### 5.3 Phases and activities in the performance survey

#### 5.3.1 General overview

A performance survey should consist of the following main phases:

- a) defining the task;
- b) planning;
- c) examination;
- d) evaluation;
- e) reporting.

NOTE A more detailed analysis of this process is given in Table 4.

Performance surveys should be carried out by personnel having the relevant technical background within the field being surveyed (see Table 3). All fields that are relevant to the purpose of the performance survey should be covered.

#### 5.3.2 Defining the task

##### 5.3.2.1 General

The purpose, extent and resources required for the performance survey should be established, described and documented.

5.3.2.2 Purpose

A prerequisite of the performance survey is to define the purpose of the survey, i.e. to clarify what the survey should be used for. For example, the purpose of performance surveys in relation to construction works or construction works elements can be to:

- a) provide performance documentation and RSL data for manufacturer's product documentation;
- b) form the basis for maintenance plans;
- c) determine (in the case of urban city renewal) whether a construction works should be demolished or renovated;
- d) inspect for completion and for notification of defects;
- e) assist with purchase and sale;
- f) assist in undertaking valuation (technical part);
- g) assist in preparing conservation documentation.

**Table 4 — Phases and activities in the performance assessment protocol**

Main phase	Activity/content	Examples/elaboration
Defining the task	Purpose	Planning of maintenance, repair and renovation. Evaluation of damage and Residual Service Life. Valuation. Conservation documentation
	Extent/level	Item: field, building, construction work, elements. Evaluate, define the registration level, Sampling. Cost calculation of action
	Cost of analysis	Own cost and purchased services
Planning	Basic material	Drawings, specifications, performance documentation
	Registration scheme	Systematic, orientation system, statistical selection, aids
	Plan	Examination, inspection, meetings information, access
Recording of age, in-use conditions and performance levels	Examination	Symptoms, in-use conditions
	Performance degree	Description of performance via pictures and measurements
	Documentation	Photographs
Evaluation	In-use conditions	Critical properties and performance requirements/prediction of service life
	Performance control	Requirements set by authorities, regulations. Requirements set by the client/user requirements
	Failure	Definition from reference level, insufficient documentation
	Probabilities and consequences	Reconsider the extent of the registration, failure distributions and consequence degrees
	Risk	Evaluated and used as a basis for action profiles
	Actions	Recommendations, priorities/costs if appropriate
	Reporting	Introduction
Reporting	Conclusion	Main conclusion, summary, performance, recommended actions, costs, economy, recommendation for further progress
	Main report	Definitions, reference level, registrations, inspections, evaluations and recommendations, costs
	Enclosure	Basic material, supplementary material, drawings, photographs, form

### 5.3.2.3 Extent and costs

The extent of the survey is determined by

- a) what items and fields are included in the performance survey;
- b) the registration level;
- c) whether a calculation of costs of the recommended actions is to be carried out.

The extent of the performance survey should be subject to continuous reassessment. Choice of registration level is dependent on the purpose of the performance survey and on the performance of the construction works. Before the registration level is chosen, it should be considered whether there is a need for a preliminary inspection. An estimate of quantities should be included if the costs of the recommended actions are to be calculated.

In the use of sampling examinations, i.e. that the performance registration only includes a limited selection of items on the network level, or a limited part of a larger item on the object level, the number of samples should be determined based on the

- a) required reliability/certainty;
- b) consequences of failure (economy, safety);
- c) costs of extended examination (larger number of samples).

It should be decided whether all items of each type that exist within the area covered by the performance survey (the entire population) should be included in the performance registration or whether a selection (sample) should be made. If the area for performance survey includes a large number of identical items or large areas of identical structure, it can be appropriate, in terms of both work and costs, to limit the performance registration to a selection.

For some items there might be standards or regulations that determine the sample size.

Costing calculations of the recommended actions is a highly comprehensive task involving the preparation of an estimate of quantities and research into the cost of earlier similar work. In order to determine the extent of the overall task and the required use of time, it is important to clarify whether costing calculations are necessary at all.

### 5.3.3 Planning

It should be established whether drawings and/or specifications of the item "as built" (or rebuilt) exist, and whether there is any documentation on operating and maintenance-related performances, e.g. repairs, maintenance work and improvements that have been made. The amount of basic material that needs to be provided or prepared should be determined, depending on the type of documentation that exists and on the extent of the performance survey.

For sampling examinations, the items should be selected at random, i.e. selected without the influence of any prior knowledge about the items.

A plan for the performance survey that includes preliminary meetings, inspection forms, reporting including documentation level, any presentation of results, and suggestions for further action should be prepared. It should be agreed who is responsible for notifying the user and for providing the necessary access.

### 5.3.4 Registration of in-use conditions and performance levels

#### 5.3.4.1 General — In-use conditions

As stated, RSL data comprise service-life data and reference in-use conditions, as well as corresponding data on critical properties and performance requirements for subsequent service life evaluations. For each individual in-use condition listed, the factor class it belongs to should be indicated. Statements indicating the data quality should be included, for instance, information that the RSL data have been generated on the basis of a systematic study or that data are critically reviewed by a third party.

A quantitative description of the reference in-use conditions in terms of the factor classes should be given (see ISO 15686-8:—, 7.2).

The reference in-use conditions corresponding to Factor class D, indoor environment, and/or Factor class E, outdoor environment, whichever is applicable, are to be quantified in terms of degradation agent intensities characterizing the reference in-use environment. Alternatively to discrete values, ranges of such intensities or standardized classes corresponding to certain ranges of intensities are accepted (see Annex C).

NOTE For further information, references are given to systems for classification of exposure environments for families of materials in terms of corrosivity, i.e. ISO 9223 (which classifies time of wetness, SO<sub>2</sub> and chloride), ISO 12944-2 and ISO 11844. Such systems can be directly applied.

Recording environmental exposure and impact should consist of collecting existing or in-field measurements and models of important climatic and pollution degradation agent's data (i.e. temperature, rain, wind, local pollution). Models should be used directly for assessment on network level, while evaluation of the micro-environmental conditions should be carried out for single objects. In order to do so, local exposure conditions such as topography, shelters, surroundings, etc. should be registered (see A.3.4).

##### 5.3.4.1.1 Grading of Factor classes A, B, C, F and G

For the reference in-use conditions corresponding to each of the Factor classes A, B, C, F and G, quantitative information provided by the source should be used whenever available.

If possible, a detailed description of the material or component should be given for Factor class A: quality of components.

When, but only when, quantitative information is lacking for the in-use conditions within any of the Factor classes A, B, C, F and G, a grading of the in-use conditions within that factor class should be made. Any qualitative information provided should be valued and interpreted to correspond to one of the in-use condition grades 1 to 5 in accordance with Table 5. If no information is available, this is indicated by the grade 0. Occasionally, if the factor class is not applicable, it is indicated by NA.

NOTE In-use condition grading is a means to quantify qualitative (or fuzzy) information of reference in-use conditions. An in-use condition grade is not the same as, and is not to be confused with, the value of the corresponding factor, but is information required to estimate this factor.

From general information of the material or component tested, it should always be possible to quantify the in-use condition corresponding to Factor class A into one of the in-use condition grades 1 to 5 (if no quantitative information are provided by the source).

Table 5 — Options of grading in-use conditions of Factor classes A, B, C, F and G

In-use condition grade	Description	Comment
0	not available	Should never be applied for Factor class A. Not to be applied for Factor classes B, C, F and G when service life data are based on ageing tests in accordance with systematic studies such as ISO 15686-2.
1	very high/mild	—
2	high/mild	—
3	normal	—
4	low/severe	—
5	very low/severe	—
NA	not applicable	Should not normally be applied.
NOTE	An in-use condition rating is not the same as the value of the corresponding factor, but a piece of information to estimate this factor.	

### 5.3.4.2 Performance recording

#### 5.3.4.2.1 Critical property and performance requirements

As the service life of a component is always related to a required function of that component, the service life should be defined and related to a critical property, see ISO 15686-8.

#### 5.3.4.2.2 Performance degrees

The performance recording should be done on building and/or component level, and is expressed by means of performance degrees (PD). The performance degree should be based on an evaluation of one or more individual symptoms or on an overall evaluation of a set of symptoms and their level of deterioration and/or level of performance (see Annex B). The symptoms should indicate the performance in relation to the reference level on which the evaluation of the performance is based. Five performance degrees with the following main significance should be used.

- Performance degree 0: No symptoms
- Performance degree 1: Slight symptoms
- Performance degree 2: Medium
- Performance degree 3: Strong symptoms
- Performance degree 4: Totally unacceptable, including collapse and malfunction

Significance and determination of performance degrees may be based on symptom descriptions. The use of symptom descriptions contributes to an increased objectivity in the expression of performance. Such symptom descriptions may, for instance, be formatted as illustrated catalogues.

#### 5.3.4.2.3 Performance degrees and in-use condition gradings

The performance degrees should be related to the quantitative description of the in-use conditions in terms of the factor classes, see Annexes A and C. In practice, however, the observed PD is due to the influence of one or more critical factors. For example, an observed PD of 2 can be due to a maintenance factor class of "low", equal to 4 (see Table 5), or simply to the fact that the ESL is surpassed, and that the PD definition should be set to the defined performance level while all the other factors can be high grade.

The performance (and failure) should be documented, with specifications, drawings, sketches and photographs, if appropriate. The extent of the symptoms may be specified in writing as a percentage of the total amount, as specific quantities, or with a reference to normative references.

The reference level on which the significance and determination of performance degrees are based should be specified. If the reference level is not generally available, this should be specifically documented. The assignment of in-use condition grades to respective performance degrees may be defined by users in accordance with individual needs.

In practice, parts of the performance control are carried out at performance registration. If failure is registered, it should be specified together with the reference level on which the evaluation of failure is based.

### 5.3.5 Evaluation

#### 5.3.5.1 Performance control

The registered performance should be checked against the predefined requirements, e.g. requirements set by the authorities, the client and user requirements. If a negative deviation from the defined reference level is proven, this constitutes a registered failure.

#### 5.3.5.2 Prediction of (residual) service life

The (residual) service life should be predicted from the performance assessment of distributions of performance degrees over the construction, and the limit states or acceptance levels. The level of deterioration of a component can be related to the performance degrees directly, and when the damage functions are known, the service life can be directly calculated (see Annex B). The development over time of the performance degree and, subsequently, the service life, can also be calculated by using the Markovian chain model (see Annex B). Distributions of in-use condition factors (and performance degrees) can also be used to calculate the service life distributions of components of a construction (see Annex C). This is extensively dealt with in ISO 15686-8:—, Clause 5. The performance degrees can also be correlated with exposure environment to develop damage functions, which are the basis for mapping service life data (see Annex C).

#### 5.3.5.3 Causes and effect evaluation

Evaluation of causes should be considered important for SLP and evaluation of actions, as one action can result in the removal of the causes/agents.

#### 5.3.5.4 Failure

The performance survey should contain an evaluation of any failure during the performance registration or performance control. If no failure is registered, the performance survey should still indicate that the evaluation has been carried out to establish this.

Failure is of significance for the evaluation of actions and should be classified as follows.

- a) No failure: Failure has not been registered and correct execution has been documented;
- b) Possible hidden failure: Insufficient documentation to establish whether failure exists or not;
- c) Failure: Failure has been registered (also used about an incorrect execution that has been documented).

In the case of failure or possible hidden failure, it should be specified which type of defects have generated the comment.

NOTE In the case of possible hidden failure, it is the responsibility of the client to decide whether to carry out further examinations, including any destructive actions necessary to establish whether real failure exists.

In insufficiently documented construction works, there are numerous possibilities of hidden failure. In such cases, it can be appropriate to state that the documentation is generally insufficient, i.e. assign the value 0 (see 5.3.4.1.1), and that it does not satisfy existing requirements and to carry out a general evaluation of whether the possible hidden failure is real, instead of listing all possibilities for hidden failure.

**EXAMPLE 1** If the render loosens then there is an unsatisfactory performance and the performance degree indicates the extent. If this lies within the limit that can be accepted by the client and the authorities, no failure exists. If it is not acceptable in relation to the defined reference level, a failure exists.

**EXAMPLE 2** If it cannot be established how a building is attached to its foundation and there is no documentation on this, a possible hidden failure exists.

### 5.3.5.5 Consequences

As a basis for risk analysis and recommendation of actions, the consequences of the registered performance should be evaluated. The consequences are expressed by means of consequence degrees. The consequence degree is established for one or more individual consequences or collectively for a set of consequences.

Five consequence degrees should be used as follows.

- a) Consequence degree 0: No consequences;
- b) Consequence degree 1: Minor consequences;
- c) Consequence degree 2: Medium consequences;
- d) Consequence degree 3: Serious consequences;
- e) Consequence degree 4: Catastrophic consequences.

The type of consequences on which the evaluation is based should be specified in each individual case.

**EXAMPLE** Consequences that can be used as a basis for evaluation include

- a) safety (e.g. load-bearing capacity, fire safety);
- b) health/environment (e.g. air quality, noise level);
- c) aesthetics (e.g. surfaces);
- d) economy (e.g. maintenance, renovation).

### 5.3.5.6 Risk

The risk should be evaluated and reported, and used as a basis for recommendation of actions. The risk attached to a building element, construction element or work section is determined by the probability that a non-acceptable performance (failure) or situation will occur or develop. This failure/situation inevitably has resulting consequences.

The risk should be specified as low, medium, or high, and the consequences that have been used as a basis for the specification of risk should be identified.

**NOTE** Low probability combined with serious consequences give the same risk assessment as high probability combined with minor consequences.

The following two scenarios can occur.

- a) Performance degree 0 but with registered failure or possible hidden failure. In this case, the probability that performance degrees 1, 2, 3 or 4 will occur, and the resulting consequences, should be evaluated.
- b) Performance degrees 1, 2, 3 or 4. The probability that the performance will deteriorate further, and the resulting consequence should be evaluated.

**EXAMPLE 1** Render on an exterior wall with performance degree 1, slight symptoms. The consequences with regard to aesthetics are serious, the consequences with regard to economy/maintenance are medium, and the consequence with regard to safety depends on location. The probability that the performance will deteriorate is high. The risk is high or medium depending on the type of consequence on which the evaluation is based.

**EXAMPLE 2** Possible hidden failure with regard to how a house is attached to its foundation. Consequences with regard to economy and safety are serious if the house is blown away. The probability that this will happen depends on the location of the house. The risk is low or high depending on the location of the house.

### 5.3.5.7 Actions

Recommended actions should be specified and given priority in accordance with the purpose of the survey. When making recommendations for actions, it should be specified at what time the actions should be implemented.

Actions can be of the following nature:

- a) widening the scope of the performance survey;
- b) detection of registered possible hidden failure;
- c) planning of maintenance work in accordance with strategic goals and the action profiles linked to the performance degrees.

### 5.3.6 Reporting

#### 5.3.6.1 General

The report should contain the following main items:

- a) introduction;
- b) conclusion;
- c) main report;
- d) enclosure.

#### 5.3.6.2 Introduction

The introduction should provide the following information:

- a) the purpose of the performance survey;
- b) identification of the item, e.g. with address, identification in the land register;
- c) main structure, construction year/age;
- d) extent and level of registration;

- e) time of survey;
- f) name of the client and contractor (and their representatives, such as the responsible inspector, etc.);
- g) name of other parties involved (and their representatives).

#### 5.3.6.3 Conclusion

The conclusion should contain the following items:

- a) main conclusion/summary;
- b) performance;
- c) recommended actions;
- d) costs/economy;
- e) recommendations for further progress.

#### 5.3.6.4 Main report

The main report should contain the following items:

- a) the critical properties, the performance requirements (the reference level) on which the significance and determination of performance degrees and failure are based;
- b) the in-use conditions registrations;
- c) evaluation of performance by checking against requirements/reference level;
- d) assessment of residual service life;
- e) evaluation of consequences;
- f) evaluation of risk;
- g) evaluation, recommendation and priority of actions;
- h) any calculations of costs.

For all these items, the amount of documentation that should be included in the main report should be assessed. What material should be included as enclosures should also be assessed (see 5.3.6.5)

#### 5.3.6.5 Enclosure

Any basic material describing the item as built or rebuilt which is not part of the performance survey, and supplementary material from the performance survey which is not necessary to include in the main report, should be enclosed with the report.

## Annex A (informative)

### Guidance on Factor E — Environmental classification systems and methods for assessment in microenvironment

#### A.1 General — Classification of aggressivity and corrosivity

Classification of the degradation has to be based on knowledge of the damage functions for the materials in question. This is the basis for ISO 9223. However, there are also approaches based on a generic classification of the environment, which aim to define a generic aggressivity of the exposure. Such approaches are used by the European Organization of Technical Approvals (EOTA) and ISO 15686-4. These are detailed in A.2 and A.3.

#### A.2 EOTA document

NOTE A.2.1, A.2.2 and A.2.3 are quoted from the EOTA document on Working Life of Building Products [27].

##### A.2.1 General

The wide variation in European climatic conditions and in the user stresses imposed on structures depending upon type of structure and use intensity makes it necessary with many construction products to restrict their usage to defined situations in order that these achieve the predicted working life.

A.2.2 and A.2.3 contain examples of possible subdivisions.

##### A.2.2 Climatic subdivisions of Europe

The sphere of activity of EOTA is approximately between latitudes 35° N and 70 °N, which covers a wide range of differing climatic conditions. The most important of these in terms of working life are the differences in ambient temperature and the differences in solar energy intensity at different locations. The combination of these factors indicates that the ratio of rates of chemical reactivity from the north to the south of Europe can be of the order of 1:4.

Although it is possible to produce a Euromap sub-divided by iso-chemical reaction rate lines, this is more complicated than is presently required and a simple subdivision of Europe into three temperature zones based upon general climatic conditions is given in Table A.1.

Table A.1 — European temperature subdivision

Zone	Winter conditions (December, January, February)	Summer conditions (June, July, August)
A	Cold winters Several months temperature rarely above 0 °C Average daily temperature below 0 °C Min. temperatures may be below –30 °C	Max. temperature rarely above 30 °C
B	Moderate winters Frequent frosts Average daily temperature 0 °C to 5 °C Min. temperatures may be below –20 °C	Max. temperature occasionally above 30 °C
C	Warm winters Infrequent frosts Average daily temperature above 5 °C	Max. temperature frequently above 30 °C. Occasionally above 40 °C
Mountainous regions above 1 000 m	Zone A conditions	Zone C or B conditions

### A.2.3 Special conditions (examples)

- a) Industrial regions (high SO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>S, NO<sub>x</sub> levels, etc.);
- b) Coastal regions (high chloride levels);
- c) Regions with high wind and driving rain (possibly in combination with freezing conditions).

Table A.2 gives an example of a climatic subdivision developed by CEN/WG 4/02/01 relating temperature and UV radiation. Other subdivisions are possible.

Table A.2 — Subdivision relating temperature and UV radiation

Parameter	Moderate climate	Severe climate
Annual radiation on horizontal surfaces, GJ/m <sup>2</sup>	< 5	≥ 5
Average temperature of the warmest month of the year, °C	< 22	≥ 22

## A.3 Classifications

### A.3.1 Global climatic classification

#### A.3.1.1 General

A simplified classification method is to consider the climate in terms of its two main factors, rainfall/humidity and temperature.

NOTE This is the same classification scheme that will be used for ISO 15686-4, which is currently in preparation.

#### A.3.1.2 Rainfall/humidity

Rainfall/humidity can be divided into four main classifications to reflect the global climate, as follows:

- a) dry: rainfall less than 400 mm per year or average yearly 9:00 am relative humidity of < 50 %;
- b) sub-humid rainfall is between 400 mm and 800 mm per year or average yearly 9:00 am relative humidity of > 50 % and < 70 %;

- c) humid      rainfall is between 800 mm and 1 300 mm or average yearly 9:00 am relative humidity is > 70 % and < 80 %;
- d) very humid      rainfall exceeds 1 300 mm or average yearly 9:00 am relative humidity of > 80 %.

**A.3.1.3 Temperature**

The temperature dimension can be divided into the following ranges.

- a) cold:      The average monthly minimum temperature is < -5 °C for more than two months of the year. Alternatively, the average monthly maximum temperature for the hottest month is below 10 °C.
- b) temperate:      The average monthly minimum temperature is < -5 °C for no more than one month of the year and the average monthly maximum temperature is > 35 °C for no more than one month.
- c) hot:      The average monthly temperature is > 35 °C for more than one month of the year.

**A.3.2 Global pollutant classification**

The pollutant classification is divided into two main areas, industrial pollution and marine pollution with the following definitions.

**Table A.3 — Definition of the classes of the global pollutant classification**

Class	Class number	Abbreviation	Description
Severe marine and severe industrial	1	SM + SI	Airborne salinity exceeds a daily average of 300 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day, and airborne SO <sub>x</sub> level exceeds 200 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day.
Severe marine and industrial	2	SM + I	Airborne salinity exceeds a daily average of 300 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day, and airborne SO <sub>x</sub> level is between 60 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day and 200 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day.
Marine and severe industrial	3	M + SI	Average daily airborne salinity exceeds 300 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day and SO <sub>x</sub> level exceeds 200 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day.
Light marine or industrial	4	M + I	a) Airborne salinity is between 15 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day and 60 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day or b) Airborne SO <sub>x</sub> level is between 10 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day and 80 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day or c) Rain water has a pH < 5,5.
Severe marine	5	SM	Airborne salinity exceeds a daily average of 300 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day.
Marine	6	M	Average daily airborne salinity is between 60 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day and 300 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day.
Severe industrial	7	SI	Airborne SO <sub>x</sub> level exceeds 200 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day.
Industrial	8	I	Airborne SO <sub>x</sub> level is between 60 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day and 200 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day
Benign	9	B	a) Airborne salinity is < 15 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day. and b) Airborne SO <sub>x</sub> is 10 mg/m <sup>2</sup> /day. and c) Rain water pH is > 5,5.

From those classes, a combined system can be established by combining the climate with its subclass versus the pollutant source; see Table A.4. The environment can be defined by a three-figure number where the first number [ranging from 1 (severe marine and severe industrial, SM+SI) to 9 (benign, B) as defined in Table A.3] defines the pollutant sources; the second number defines the major climatic class (1 for dry to 4 for very humid as defined in A.3.1.2); the third number defines the subclass (1 for cold to 3 for hot as defined in A.3.1.3).

**Table A.4 — Matrix classification system for environmental data**

Class	Pollutant classification <sup>a</sup>								
	SM+SI	SM+I	M+SI	M+I	SM	M	SI	I	B
DC	1-1-1	2-1-1	3-1-1	4-1-1	5-1-1	6-1-1	7-1-1	8-1-1	9-1-1
DT	1-1-2	2-1-2	3-1-2	4-1-2	5-1-2	6-1-2	7-1-2	8-1-2	9-1-2
DH	1-1-3	2-1-3	3-1-3	4-1-3	5-1-3	6-1-3	7-1-3	8-1-3	9-1-3
SC	1-2-1	2-2-1	3-2-1	4-2-1	5-2-1	6-2-1	7-2-1	8-2-1	9-2-1
ST	1-2-2	2-2-2	3-2-2	4-2-2	5-2-2	6-2-2	7-2-2	8-2-2	9-2-2
SH	1-2-3	2-2-3	3-2-3	4-2-3	5-2-3	6-2-3	7-2-3	8-2-3	9-2-3
HC	1-3-1	2-3-1	3-3-1	4-3-1	5-3-1	6-3-1	7-3-1	8-3-1	9-3-1
HT	1-3-2	2-3-2	3-3-2	4-3-2	5-3-2	6-3-2	7-3-2	8-3-2	9-3-2
HH	1-3-3	2-3-3	3-3-3	4-3-3	5-3-3	6-3-3	7-3-3	8-3-3	9-3-3
VC	1-4-1	2-4-1	3-4-1	4-4-1	5-4-1	6-4-1	7-4-1	8-4-1	9-4-1
VT	1-4-2	2-4-2	3-4-2	4-4-2	5-4-2	6-4-2	7-4-2	8-4-2	9-4-2
VH	1-4-3	2-4-3	3-4-3	4-4-3	5-4-3	6-4-3	7-4-3	8-4-3	9-4-3

<sup>a</sup> The first number indicates the pollutant source (see Table A.3); the second number, the major climatic class, e.g. humidity (the numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4 are assigned to the classes dry, semi-humid, humid, and very humid, respectively, in A.3.1.2); the third number, the climatic subclass, e.g. temperature (the numbers 1, 2 and 3 are assigned to the classes cold, temperate and hot, respectively, in A.3.1.3).

### A.3.3 Modelling of pollutants — Models of SO<sub>2</sub>

When evaluating the performance of buildings and constructed assets, knowing the exposure environment is essential in order to assess the cause and effect relationship. Data on the pollutants level can be obtained for various geographical scales (i.e. regional, local and micro) from of air pollution monitoring and information networks existing in most developed countries.

The measuring, testing and evaluation of air quality are assuming growing importance in developed countries, as elements of a comprehensive clean air policy and initiatives towards sustainable development. A huge bulk of data is therefore generated on the various geographical levels. Point measurements are very expensive and are needed for policy development and assessment, public information, etc. Measured data need to be combined with modelling based on emission inventories to assess properly the exposure to, and thus the effects of, the pollution on public health or on buildings. Such air-dispersion models exist, and the results can be mapped and exhibited by modern information technology (see Annex C).

### A.3.4 Assessment of microenvironments

NOTE This is the same classification scheme as for prEN 13013 (ISO 15927-3), which is currently in preparation.

The available regional exposure data can be used for characterization of the local and micro-environment at a building or construction object.

The micro-climate is heavily influenced by the macro-climate. The importance of various factors varies for different types of construction objects and depends upon where these objects are used in relation to the orientation of construction and their position on or within the construction.

The moisture content or water availability is important for the corrosion processes. Precipitation and relative or absolute humidity in the air are measured at a meteorological station. Time of wetness can be calculated from meteorological data.

Different methods can be used to describe or express the quantity of water at a wall or construction. In addition to methods using the measured data directly, there are standards such as BS 8104, which specifies a procedure for analysing hourly rainfall and wind data, derived from meteorological observations, to provide an estimate of the quantity of water likely to impact on a wall of any given orientation. It takes into account topography, local sheltering and the type of building and wall. It specifies the method of calculating the following:

- a) annual airfield index,  $I_A$ , which influences the moisture content of masonry wall;
- b) spell index,  $I_S$ , which influences the likelihood of rain penetration through masonry wall.

The airfield index is the quantity of driving rain that would occur during one hour at a height of 10 m above ground level in the middle of an airfield, at the location of the wall. The airfield annual index is the airfield index for a given direction accumulated over one year.

A spell index is defined as the period, or sequence of periods, with wind-driven rain on a vertical surface of a given orientation, and the airfield spell index is the airfield index for a given direction accumulated over the worst spell likely to occur in any three-year period.

After calculating the  $I_S$  for a period of time, the next step is to estimate the actual building location and exposure compared to an airfield. That is performed by estimating the values of the following four different parameters:

- the roughness coefficient,  $C_R$ ;
- the topography coefficient,  $C_T$ ;
- an obstruction factor,  $O$ ; and
- a wall factor,  $W$ ;

and converting the airfield indices into wall spell indices,  $I_{WS}$ , by Equation (A.1):

$$I_{WS} = I_S \times C_R \times C_T \times O \times W \tag{A.1}$$

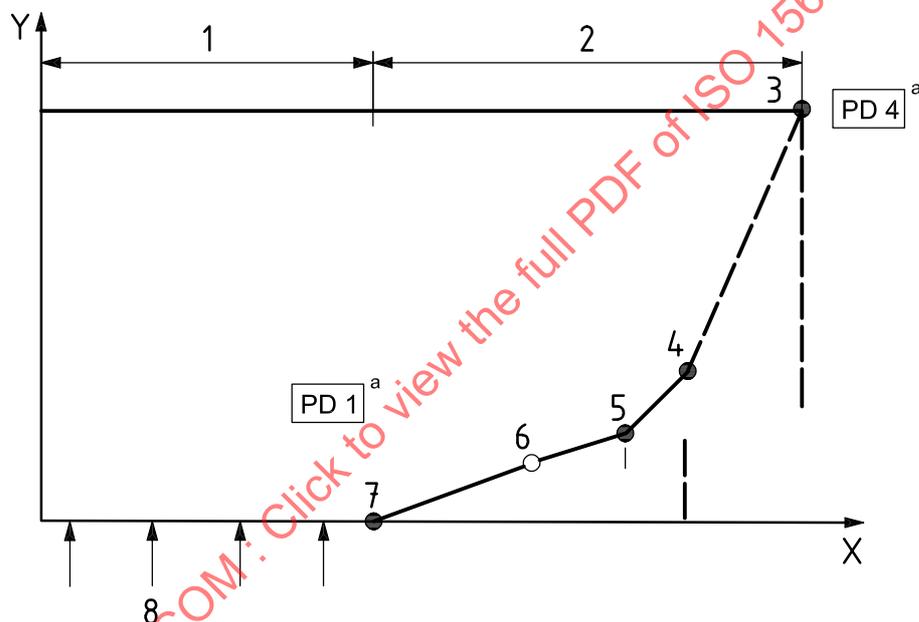
BS 8104 categorizes, describes and illustrates the  $C_R$ ,  $C_T$ ,  $O$  and  $W$  factors.

## Annex B (informative)

### Prediction of (residual) service life on the object (single building) level and on the network level (population of buildings)

#### B.1 Performance degrees related to level of deterioration

In an example of service life prediction and maintenance planning for the concrete structure of the Olympic Tower in Munich, the levels of deterioration of concrete were related to the performance degrees directly; see Figure B.1.



#### Key

Y level of deterioration  
X time of exposure, years

- 1 initiation period
- 2 propagation period
- 3 collapse of the structure through bond failure or reduction of the cross section of the load bearing reinforcement

4 spalling of the concrete cover

5 formation of cracks

6 deterioration recognizable through non-destructive measuring methods

7 depassivation of the reinforcement

8 condition can be comprehended by monitoring

<sup>a</sup> Performance degrees (PD) are defined in 5.3.4.2.2.

**Figure B.1 — Levels of deterioration of concrete  
as related to performance degrees and limit states<sup>[43]</sup>**

When parameters of the models for carbonation or chloride deterioration are known or measured, the residual service life can be calculated after an assessment of the performance degrees on the construction.

## B.2 Prediction of the performance development over time by Markov chain

The Markovian degradation models<sup>[41]</sup> are transition probability matrices, which tell the transition probabilities for a structure to shift from condition state A to condition state B within one year ( $B \geq A$ ). They describe the average rate of degradation of structures in a probabilistic form. These models enable the user to reproduce mathematically the effects of protective maintenance actions and heavy repair actions to the condition and rate of degradation of the structure. Because of the Markov chain method, the probability of the structure can be evaluated to be in any condition state at any moment during the treated time-frame.

Maintenance, repair and restoration (MR&R) action models are also Markovian matrix models that show the probability of a structure that is shifted from condition state A to any other condition state as a result of the MR&R action ( $B \leq A$ ). The influence of coatings and other protective maintenance methods are included in the degradation and MR&R action models.

STANDARDSISO.COM : Click to view the full PDF of ISO 15686-7:2006