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**Protective gloves against mechanical risks**

*Gants de protection contre les risques mécaniques*

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## 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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

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. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 94, *Personal safety — Personal protective equipment*, Subcommittee SC 13, *Protective clothing*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

## Introduction

This first edition of ISO 23388 was developed based on the EN 388:2016 including a proposed amendment to EN 388 regarding the cotton canvas ([6.2.5](#)). This adoption of EN 388 in to ISO was done at the request of many non-EU countries. At the ISO/TC 94/SC 13 plenary, it was agreed to adopt at ISO the EN 388 without changes but to keep any comments until the next revision date as the document has just been revised at EU level.

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# Protective gloves against mechanical risks

## 1 Scope

This document specifies requirements, test methods, marking and information to be supplied for protective gloves against the mechanical risks of abrasion, blade cut, tear, puncture and, if applicable, impact.

This document is intended to be used in conjunction with ISO 21420.

The test methods developed in this document can also be applicable to arm protectors.

## 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.

ISO/IEC Guide 98-3, *Uncertainty of measurement — Part 3: Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement (GUM:1995)*

ISO/IEC Guide 98-4, *Uncertainty of measurement — Part 4: Role of measurement uncertainty in conformity assessment*

ISO 1139, *Textiles — Designation of yarns*

ISO 4649:2010, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic — Determination of abrasion resistance using a rotating cylindrical drum device*

ISO 5084, *Textiles — Determination of thickness of textiles and textile products*

ISO 5725-2, *Accuracy (trueness and precision) of measurement methods and results — Part 2: Basic method for the determination of repeatability and reproducibility of a standard measurement method*

ISO 7211-1, *Textiles — Woven fabrics — Construction — Methods of analysis — Part 1: Methods for the presentation of a weave diagram and plans for drafting, denting and lifting*

ISO 7211-4, *Textiles — Woven fabrics — Construction — Methods of analysis — Part 4: Determination of twist in yarn removed from fabric*

ISO 7211-5, *Textiles — Woven fabrics — Construction — Method of analysis — Part 5: Determination of linear density of yarn removed from fabric*

ISO 7500-1, *Metallic materials — Calibration and verification of static uniaxial testing machines — Part 1: Tension/compression testing machines — Calibration and verification of the force-measuring system*

ISO/TR 11827, *Textiles — Composition testing — Identification of fibres*

ISO 12947-1, *Textiles — Determination of the abrasion resistance of fabrics by the Martindale method — Part 1: Martindale abrasion testing apparatus*

ISO 13934-1, *Textiles — Tensile properties of fabrics — Part 1: Determination of maximum force and elongation at maximum force using the strip method*

ISO 13997:1999, *Protective clothing — Mechanical properties — Determination of resistance to cutting by sharp objects*

ISO 21420, *Protective gloves — General requirements and test methods*

EN 1049-2, *Textiles — Woven fabrics — Construction — Method of analysis — Part 2: Determination of number of threads per unit length*

EN 12127, *Textiles — Fabrics - Determination of mass per unit area using small samples*

EN 13594:2015, *Protective gloves for motorcycle riders — Requirements and test methods*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

**3.1 abrasion cycle**  
completion of all the translational abrasion movements tracing a Lissajous figure comprising 16 rubs, i.e. 16 revolutions of the two outer drives and 15 revolutions of the inner drive of the Martindale abrasion tester

Note 1 to entry: An abrasion rub is one revolution of the outer drives of the Martindale abrasion tester (see ISO 12947-1).

[SOURCE: ISO 12947-1:1998, 3.2]

**3.2 arm**  
part of the body between the wrist and the shoulder

**3.3 arm protector**  
protective sleeve separate from the glove or the clothing that provides protection against at least one of the following mechanical risks: abrasion, blade cut, tear and puncture

**3.4 glove made from several layers**  
glove that is made from two or more layers of materials

**3.5 glove made from several un-bonded layers**  
glove that is made from two or more layers of materials which are not connected together, after preparing the sample for the test

**3.6 glove made from several bonded layers**  
glove that is made from two or more layers of materials which are connected together (e.g. glued, stitched, dipped, impregnated) after preparing the sample for the test

**3.7 glove providing a specific protection**  
glove that is designed to provide an area of improved protection for the whole hand or part of it

Note 1 to entry: For example, palm protection style or protection against impact.

**3.8****glove series**

single glove style or glove type with the same palm material up to the wrist line where the only variants are size, length, left/right hand and colour

**3.9****protective glove against mechanical risks**

glove that provides protection against at least one of the following mechanical risks: abrasion, blade cut, tear and puncture

**4 Requirements****4.1 General**

The protective gloves according to this document shall first meet all the applicable requirements of ISO 21420.

All specimens shall be taken from the palm of different gloves for classification purposes. For arm protectors, specimens shall be taken from the area for which protection is claimed.

A protective glove against mechanical risks shall have performance level of 1 or above for at least one of the properties (abrasion, blade cut, tear and puncture) [Table 1](#) or at least level A of the cut test of ISO 13997:1999 (e.g. TDM) in [Table 2](#).

Gloves meeting the requirements for resistance to puncture may not be suitable for protection against sharply pointed objects such as hypodermic needles.

**Table 1 — Levels of performance**

Test	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<a href="#">6.1</a> Abrasion resistance (number of rubs)	100	500	2 000	8 000	—
<a href="#">6.2</a> Coupe test: Blade cut resistance (index)	1,2	2,5	5,0	10,0	20,0
<a href="#">6.4</a> Tear resistance (N)	10	25	50	75	—
<a href="#">6.5</a> Puncture resistance (N)	20	60	100	150	—

**Table 2 — Levels of performance for materials tested with ISO 13997**

	Level A	Level B	Level C	Level D	Level E	Level F
<a href="#">6.3</a> Cut resistance (N) (ISO 13997)	2	5	10	15	22	30

NOTE 2 There is no correlation between the levels of performance obtained with the [6.2](#) and [6.3](#) test methods.

NOTE 3 Uncertainty of measurement, see [Annex B](#).

If relevant, additional areas of the protective glove shall be tested (e.g. for gloves providing specific protection or for areas which provide lower protection) and the results shall be reported in the user instructions.

**4.2 Additional protection (Optional)****4.2.1 General**

A glove, whether made of a single layer or made from several layers (bonded or unbonded), providing a specific protection can be claimed when the gloves conform to the requirements defined in the following clause(s).

#### 4.2.2 Impact protection

Each area where impact protection is claimed shall be tested. Due to the test method (test specimens dimensions), protection against impacts on fingers cannot be tested.

A protective glove against mechanical risks can be designed and constructed to provide specific impact attenuation (for example, impact protection of knuckles, back of the hand, palm,). These gloves shall be in accordance with the following requirement.

When the tests were carried out according to [6.6](#), performance shall conform to Level 1 of EN 13594:2015, Table 7.

### 5 Sampling and conditioning

5.1 Conditioning of samples and all other test consumables (e.g. abrasive paper, EPDM, cotton canvas) is as follows:

- temperature ( $23 \pm 2$ ) °C;
- relative humidity ( $50 \pm 5$ ) %.

The period of conditioning is at least 24 h. Tests shall preferably be performed in the above mentioned environment.

5.2 If the test is performed in a different environment and if the testing duration does not exceed 15 min, it shall be started within 5 min after removal from the conditioning.

5.3 If special applications require testing in a different environment, it is the responsibility of the manufacturer or his authorized representative to arrange for additional tests and to present the results including a full description of the testing environment in the information supplied by the manufacturer ([Clause 8](#)).

### 6 Test methods

#### 6.1 Abrasion resistance

##### 6.1.1 Principle

Circular specimens of material are abraded under known pressure with a cyclic planar motion in the form of a Lissajous figure (abrasion cycle) which is the result of the simple harmonic motions at right angles to each other. The resistance to abrasion is measured by the number of rubs required for breakthrough to occur.

##### 6.1.2 Consumables

###### 6.1.2.1 Abradant

An abradant shall meet the requirements as laid down in [Annex A](#).

NOTE 1 A suitable abradant has been tested by the standardization group, the Klingspor PL31B, Grit 180<sup>1)</sup> (see [Annex A](#)).

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1) Klingspor PL31B, Grit 180 is the trade name of a product supplied by KLINGSPOR Schleifsysteme GmbH & Co. KG, Hüttenstraße 36, D-35708 Haiger. This information is given for the convenience of users of this document and does not constitute an endorsement by ISO of the product named. Equivalent products can be used if they can be shown to lead to the same results.

NOTE 2 At the present time, only one calibration procedure is available using textile reference material. A more robust calibration method for other reference material is still under construction.

### 6.1.2.2 Double-sided adhesive tape

The double sided adhesive tape shall be used to provide adhesion of the sample during the test to achieve reproducible results. The mean adhesion value shall be of minimum 0,20 N/mm.

Tests shall be carried out according to the method given in [Annex C](#).

NOTE 1 If the adhesion is not sufficient, the sample will move during the test and in this case a tear phenomenon can be observed rather than abrasion.

NOTE 2 Examples of suitable double sided adhesive tapes are provided in [C.5](#). Alternative tapes can be verified for suitability using the test method defined in [Annex C](#).

### 6.1.3 Apparatus

An abrasion machine of the type described in ISO 12947-1 as a Martindale Wear and Abrasion is required. It shall fulfil the following requirement:

Pressure on specimen:  $(9,0 \pm 0,2)$  kPa.

### 6.1.4 Test specimens

Four test specimens shall be taken from four individual gloves of the same glove series. In case of an irregular design of the palm, the test specimen shall be taken in the area where the least protection is expected (remove the reinforcements that do not cover the whole palm).

Where the test specimen is made of several unbounded layers (e.g. glove made from several un-bonded layers), the test is performed on each layer. When the specimen is made of bonded layers (e.g. glove made from several bonded layers), if the layers can be separated without damaging the material, the test shall be performed on each layer independently. Otherwise, the test shall be performed on all layers, taking care not to have a seam in the test area.

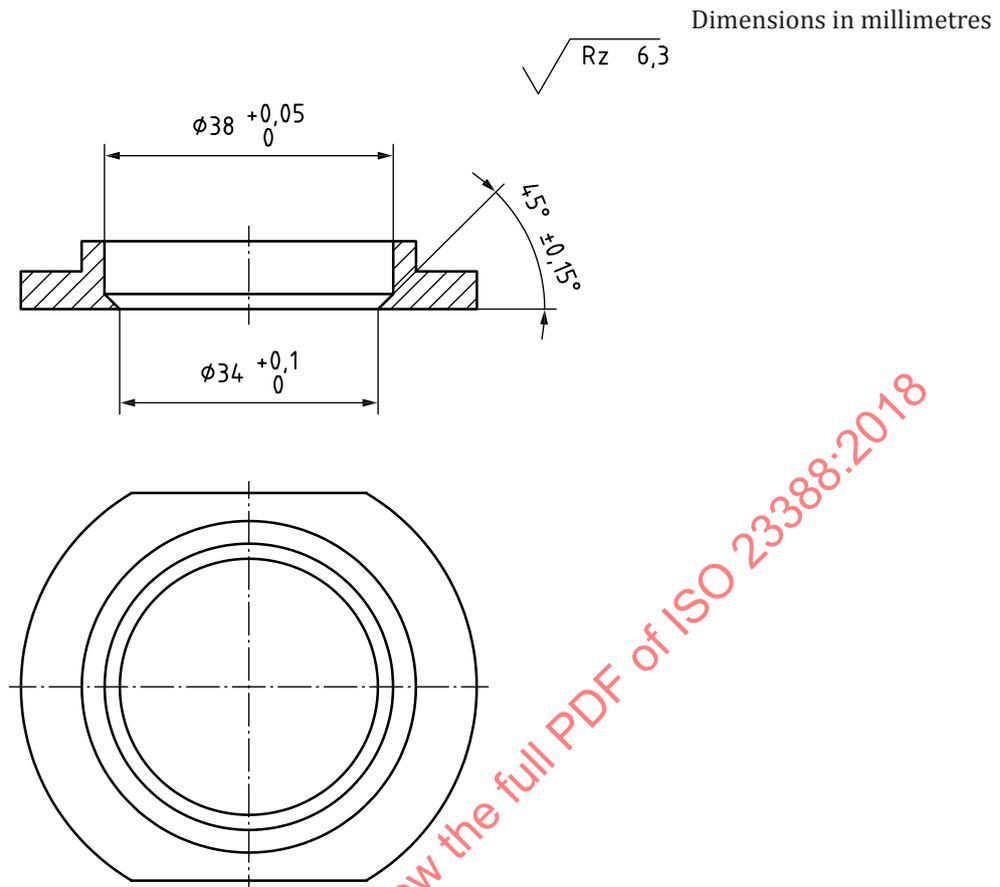
### 6.1.5 Test procedure

#### 6.1.5.1 Setting up the machine

##### 6.1.5.1.1 Mounting test specimens

Cut four test specimens to the correct dimensions, diameter  $(38,0 \pm 0,5)$  mm. Secure the test specimen without tension carefully and centrally on the metal insert by means of double-sided adhesive tape under a weight of approximately 10 kg applied for at least 5 min. Good adhesion can be achieved through the use of double-sided tape which prevents loosening of the test specimen and the inclusion of air bubbles. Place the ring of the specimen holder in position on the mounting plate provided on the base of the machine.

In order to test the materials that are thicker than the standard ring (for example leather with a thickness greater than 1,2 mm), the diameter of the opening of the clamping ring should be increased (see [Figure 1](#)).



**Figure 1 — Alternative clamping ring for thick material**

Some materials might need a longer contact time to ensure maximum adhesion between the test specimen and the adhesive tape. Surface treatment (e.g. removal of fluff) can be used in order to improve adhesion between the test specimen and the adhesive tape, provided this treatment will not affect the performance of the material during the test. If a different contact time (>5 min) and/or if a surface treatment is used, this should be reported.

While ensuring that the ring containing the specimen and metal insert is held firmly in the mounting plate, start to screw the top of the specimen holder on to the ring, taking care that the screw threads are not crossed. Having started the screwing down operation, use both hands to maintain a continuous downwards pressure on the assembly against the mounting plate.

This procedure will normally ensure that the specimen is securely retained in the holder in a wrinkle-free condition and that it is ready for testing.

**NOTE** It is important to use a sufficiently effective double-sided adhesive tape which prevents the movement of the test specimen during the duration of the test (appropriate double-side adhesive tapes can for example be found in the building and construction industry). This information is given for the convenience of users in [Annex C](#).

#### 6.1.5.1.2 Mounting abradant

Secure carefully the abradant ([6.1.2.1](#)) by means of double-sided adhesive tape covering the whole surface of the mounting plate. Ensure the abradant is flat by placing the weight supplied with the testing machine for this purpose on its surface, and if a retaining frame is used, then position and tighten it up evenly using diagonally opposite screws in sequence. Make sure that the abradant is held in place firmly and that there are no tucks or ridges.

### 6.1.5.1.3 Mounting specimen holders

Mount the test specimen holders on the top plate under a pressure of  $(9,0 \pm 0,2)$  kPa and switch on the machine. Four test specimens are preferably to be tested at the same time on the same machine. If tested differently, it shall be reported in the test report and the reason why.

Every time a specimen holder is taken from the machine to check the end point of the specimen for breakthrough, retighten the specimen holder before it is replaced on the machine.

If it is necessary to interrupt the test for an appreciable length of time (e.g. overnight or at the weekend) remove the specimens from their holders and store them face upwards. Protect the specimens by covering them with a clean card or piece of fabric.

### 6.1.5.2 Method of assessment

The performance of the sample is determined by the specimen breakthrough, which is the visually observed deterioration in a specimen after exposure to a specified number of abrasion rubs, i.e.:

- in woven fabrics, when two separate threads are completely broken, resulting in a hole to appear;
- in knitted fabrics, when one thread is completely broken, resulting in a hole to appear;
- in bonded layers, when the first hole through all layers together resulting from the wear is of a diameter at least equal to 1 mm;
- in other materials than those mentioned above, when the first hole resulting from the wear is of a diameter at least equal to 1 mm.

### 6.1.5.3 Test method

Each test will be performed with a new abrasant. Begin the test and check the test specimens after 100 rubs. If there is no breakthrough, continue the test until reaching 500 rubs (performance level 2). If there is no breakthrough, continue the test until the next performance level in [Table 1](#) is reached. Examine the test specimens at the required rub number for each performance level.

At each examination of a specimen at a specified performance level, both the test specimens and the abrasant shall be cleaned (e.g. by clean compressed air) and the specimen holder tightened before it is replaced on the machine.

If a breakthrough is found when examining the test specimens at a given performance level, the classification will be at the preceding inferior performance level.

When breakthrough occurs at less than 2 mm of the edge of one test specimen or when tearing occurs, this test specimen has to be discarded and the entire test has to be repeated. If in the second test, at least one test specimen fails, the lowest value of the test specimens that have not been discarded in both tests shall be recorded.

When the specimen is made from several layers (see [6.1.4](#), 2nd paragraph), the final result of the test will be the sum of the results of all the layers.

The report shall show the 4 individual results. The performance level is defined as the lowest of the 4 values.

### 6.1.6 Test report

The test report shall contain the following information:

- reference to this document including its year of publication;
- reference to the clause of this document;

- the reference of the sample;
- all individual results as per the test given in [6.1.5](#);
- any deviation from the test method (in particular different contact time with the adhesive tape and surface treatment of test specimen);
- reference of the used consumables (abrasive paper and adhesive tape);
- any physical change observed on the test specimen;
- the performance level in accordance with [Table 1](#).

## 6.2 Blade cut resistance

### 6.2.1 Principle

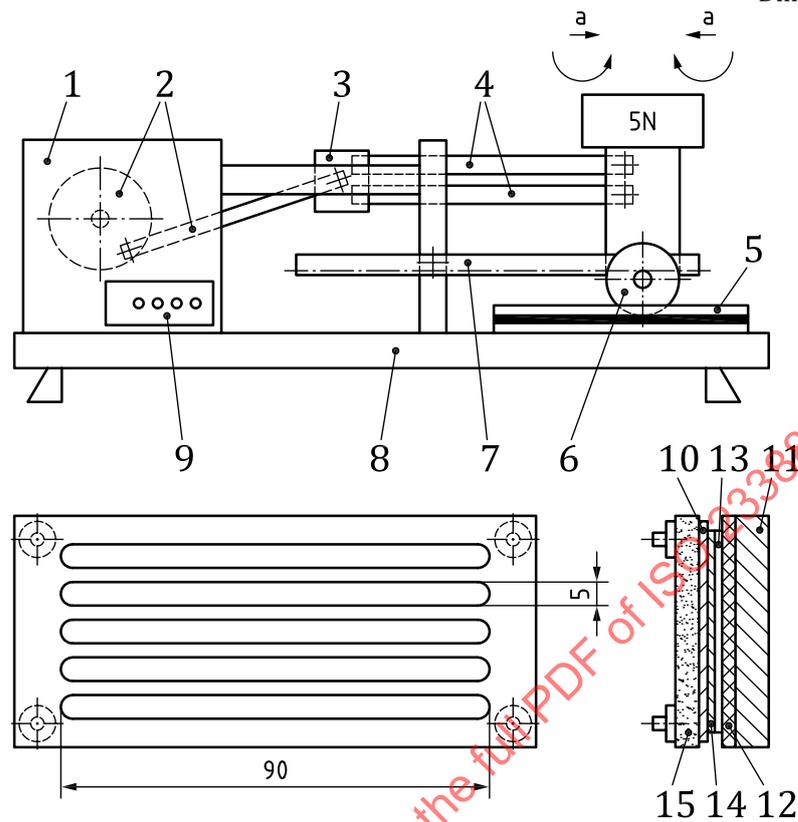
Specimens are cut by a counter-rotating circular blade which moves with an alternating motion under a specified load.

### 6.2.2 Equipment

The coupe test equipment (see examples in [Figure 2](#), [Figure 3](#) and [Figure 4](#)) consists of:

- a) a test bench providing an alternating horizontal movement to a circular, rotating blade. The horizontal movement is 50 mm long and the blade rotates completely 360°; in the opposite direction to its movement. The resulting sinusoidal cutting speed of the blade is at  $(8 \pm 2)$  cm/s;
- b) a mass applied to the blade resulting in a force of  $(5 \pm 0,5)$  N;
- c) a circular blade with a diameter of  $(45 \pm 0,5)$  mm, a thickness of  $(0,3 \pm 0,03)$  mm and a total cutting angle of 30° to 35° (see [Figure 3](#)). The blade shall be in stainless steel with a Vickers Hardness of 700 to 720;

Dimensions in millimetres

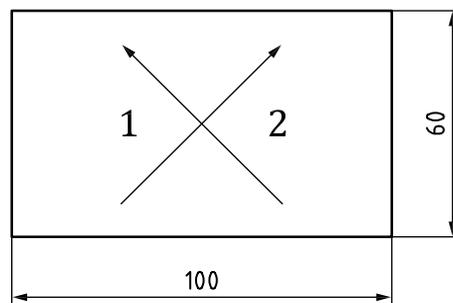


**Key**

- |   |   |    |                                  |
|---|---|----|----------------------------------|
| 1 | compartment of motor and electronic detection | 9  | counter                          |
| 2 | wheel and driving rod                         | 10 | specimen                         |
| 3 | sliding system                                | 11 | insulated support                |
| 4 | rods  | 12 | conductive rubber                |
| 5 | test piece device                             | 13 | aluminium foil                   |
| 6 | circular blade                                | 14 | filter paper                     |
| 7 | toothed rack                                  | 15 | upper part                       |
| 8 | support plate                                 | a  | Alternating motion of the blade. |

**Figure 2 — Apparatus for testing blade cut resistance of protective gloves**

Dimensions in millimetres



**Key**

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 | warp or longitudinal direction |
| 2 | weft or transversal direction  |

**Figure 3 — Control specimen dimensions**

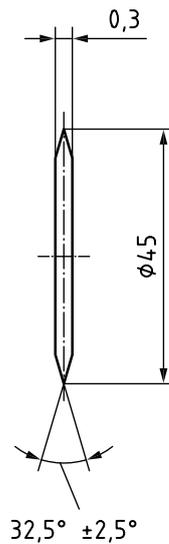


Figure 4 — Circular blade specifications

NOTE A blade ref OLFA® RB of 45 mm diameter is suitable for this test<sup>2)</sup>.

- d) a support of conductive rubber (hardness  $(80 \pm 3)$  IRHD), e.g. EPDM, on which the test specimen is placed;
- e) a clamping frame for the test specimen as described in [Figure 2](#);
- f) an automatic system to detect the moment of cut-through;
- g) a cycle counter calibrated to one tenth of a cycle.

### 6.2.3 Test specimen

Each consists of a strip  $(60 \pm 6)$  mm wide and  $(100 \pm 10)$  mm long cut on the bias ( $45^\circ$  angle). In the case of a specimen made of several unbonded layers, the complete specimen shall be tested with all layers together. In case of an irregular design of the palm, the test specimen shall be taken from the palm area where the least protection is expected.

Two test specimens shall be taken from 2 separate gloves.

### 6.2.4 Control specimen

The dimensions of the control specimen are identical with those of the test specimen, cut from a cotton canvas<sup>3)</sup> with the technical specifications given in [6.2.5](#).

### 6.2.5 Canvas

The canvas shall be a woven fabric whose warp and weft are spun yarns from open end fibres with the following attributes:

2) The OLFA® RB 45 mm is the trademark of a product manufactured by the OLFA corporation, Osaka, 537 Japan. This information is given for the convenience of users of this document and does not constitute an endorsement by ISO of the product named. Equivalent products can be used if they can be shown to lead to the same results.

3) Such a canvas is made by TENTHOREY DE LA PLAINE - 88510 ELOYES - FRANCE, Fabric Quality identification: n°14861. This information is given for the convenience of users of this document and does not constitute an endorsement by ISO of the product named. Equivalent products can be used if they can be shown to lead to the same results.

- fibre composition = cotton (ISO/TR 11827)
- weave pattern =  (ISO 7211-1);
- mass per unit area =  $525 \text{ g/m}^2 \pm 5 \%$  (EN 12127);
- warp density = 28 threads per cm  $\pm 5$  threads on 5 cm (EN 1049-2);
- weft density = 9 threads per cm  $\pm 4$  threads on 10 cm (EN 1049-2);
- linear mass warp = 85 Tex  $\pm 10 \%$  (ISO 7211-5);
- linear mass weft = 263 Tex  $\pm 10 \%$  (ISO 7211-5);
- warp thread, structure and twist = 2 plies, S 370 t/m  $\pm 10 \%$  (ISO 1139, ISO 7211-4);
- weft thread, structure and twist = 3 plies, S 181 t/m  $\pm 10 \%$  (ISO 1139, ISO 7211-4);
- thickness =  $1,0 \pm 0,1 \text{ mm}$  (ISO 5084);
- tensile strength in warp = 1 400 N (minimum) (ISO 13934-1);
- tensile strength in weft = 1 100 N (minimum) (ISO 13934-1).

#### 6.2.6 Test method

On the rubber support, place an aluminium foil of about 0,01 mm thick covered with a paper sheet of  $(65 \pm 5) \text{ g/m}^2$  and less than 0,1 mm thick. The purpose of this sheet is to limit displacements of the specimens during the trial and to avoid unexpected cut-through detections due to steel yarns in certain fabrics or due to gaps in the structure of thin knitted fabrics. The control specimen is placed without stretching on top of the foil within the clamping frame.

The clamping frame is positioned on the table. The arm holding the blade is lowered gently onto the control specimen.

Before any test, the sharpness of the blade is checked as follows: at cut-through with the control specimen, the number of cycles (C) is recorded. The number of cycles shall be between 0,8 and 1,4 at the first test sequence and between 0,8 and 2,0 at every 4 other consecutive test sequences.

If the number of cycles is  $< 0,8$ , the sharpness of the blade shall be reduced by performing cutting motions on three layers of the control fabric. If the number of cycles is superior to 2,0 after each test sequence, the blade shall be changed for the next sequence. After every test (i.e. after every 5 test sequences), a new blade shall be used to start a new test.

The test specimen is subjected to the same test and the number of cycles (T) is recorded. The test is manually stopped when T reaches maximum 60 cycles.

Five tests shall be made on each test specimen according to the following sequence for each test (starting point, immediately after contact with the test specimen, should be at one of the extremes of the test specimen):

- a) test on control specimen;
- b) test on test specimen;
- c) test on control specimen.

For materials dulling the blades; if after the first sequence the number of cycles  $C_{n+1}$  is greater than 3 times  $C_n$  in one of the tested specimen, the ISO 13997:1999 cut resistance method as per 6.3 shall be performed and this method becomes the reference test method for the assessment of the protection against cut risks.

However, the test method corresponding to 6.2 could be done on request.

**6.2.7 Calculation of test results**

The results shall be presented in accordance with Table 3.

**Table 3 — Blade cut test - Calculation of index**

Sequence	Control specimen $C_n$	Test specimen $T$	Control specimen $C_{n+1}$	Index $i$
1	$C_1$	$T_1$	$C_2$	$i_1$
2	$C_2$	$T_2$	$C_3$	$i_2$
3	$C_3$	$T_3$	$C_4$	$i_3$
4	$C_4$	$T_4$	$C_5$	$i_4$
5	$C_5$	$T_5$	$C_6$	$i_5$

$\overline{C}_n$  represents the average value of cycles on control specimen before and after the cut of the test specimen  $T_n$  and is calculated as follows:

$$\overline{C}_n = \frac{(C_n + C_{n+1})}{2}$$

For each test specimen the final index value ( $I$ ) is calculated as follows:

$$I = \frac{1}{5} \sum_{n=1}^5 i_n \text{ with}$$

$$i_n = \frac{(\overline{C}_n + T_n)}{\overline{C}_n}$$

The minimum value of  $I$  is 1 if  $T = 0$ .  $I$  is a number without unit.

The report shall include the tables (Table 3) obtained on the 2 samples and show the 10 results  $i_n$ , as well as the two calculated mean values  $\overline{C}_n$ . The performance level is defined as the lowest of the two calculated index values.

**6.2.8 Test report**

The test report shall contain the following information:

- reference to this document including its year of publication;
- reference to the clause of this document;
- the reference of the sample;
- the results as per 6.2.7;
- any deviation from the test method;
- reference of the used consumables (blade, cotton canvas).
- the performance level in accordance to Table 1.

### 6.3 Cut resistance method (ISO 13997)

#### 6.3.1 General

This test method is described in ISO 13997:1999. [Table 2](#) shows the correspondence between the performance level (A to F) and the equivalent cutting load of ISO 13997:1999.

#### 6.3.2 Test specimen

Test specimens shall be taken from the gloves palm.

The specifications concerning gloves given in Clause 5 and Annex A of ISO 13997:1999 shall be applied.

The 5 final values [ISO 13997:1999, 6.3.5 e)] shall be measured on the same sample of the palm.

#### 6.3.3 Test report

The test report shall contain the following information:

- according to ISO 13997:1999, Clause 7;
- reference of the used consumables (blade, neoprene);
- the performance level in accordance with [Table 2](#).

### 6.4 Tear resistance

#### 6.4.1 Principle

The resistance to tear is defined as the force necessary to propagate a tear in a rectangular specimen slit half way along its length.

#### 6.4.2 Equipment

Only tensile testers of at least Class 2 according to ISO 7500-1, equipped with low inertia force measurement systems shall be used.

#### 6.4.3 Test specimen

The test specimen dimensions are defined in [Figure 5](#). Dimensions of the specimen to be tested:  $(100 \pm 10)$  mm  $\times$   $(50 \pm 5)$  mm. A  $(50 \pm 5)$  mm incision is made in the longitudinal direction of the sample,  $(25,0 \pm 2,5)$  mm from the edge. The incision shall be made with a sharp blade straight and perpendicular to the specimen surface. In case the glove contains reinforcements (e.g. pads) in the palm, the test specimen shall be taken from the layers without these reinforcements. Where the test specimen is made of several unbonded layers, the test is performed on each layer. The classification is based on the layer with the highest performance level.

Dimensions in millimetres

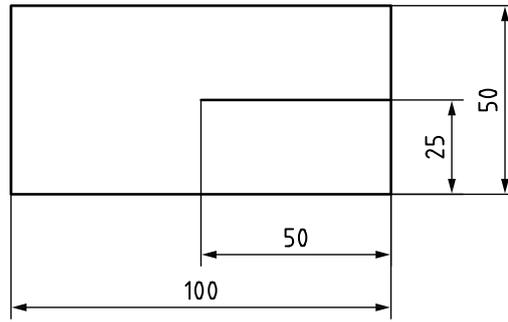


Figure 5 — Test piece

6.4.4 Setting up the test specimen

At least 20 mm of each pre-cut defined strip (see Figure 6) is clamped in a tensile tester with the jaws at least 10 mm apart such as to guarantee a pulling direction parallel to the longitudinal direction of the specimen.



Key

1 strips

Figure 6 — Test strips

6.4.5 Test method

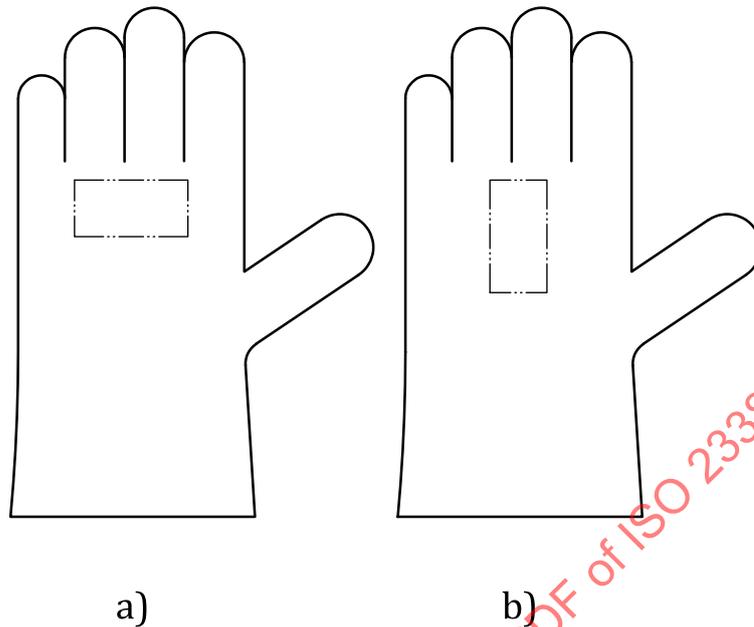
6.4.5.1 The tearing force is recorded on a X-Y recorder at a tensile test speed of  $(100 \pm 10)$  mm/min. The specimen shall be torn totally apart. Note that in some cases the tearing may not be in the longitudinal direction of the specimen.

6.4.5.2 If the specimen is not fully torn apart under a force in excess of 75 N, then the test can be stopped and the maximum force reached is recorded.

6.4.5.3 The test shall be performed on one specimen cut from each of four different gloves of the same glove series.

6.4.5.4 Two specimens shall be tested in the direction of the glove from cuff to finger tips, and two specimens shall be tested across the palm width (see Figure 7).

**6.4.5.5** The tear resistance for each specimen is taken as the highest peak recorded, and the classification is determined by taking the lowest of the individual values.



**Key**

- a) across the palm width of the glove
- b) in the direction of the glove

**Figure 7 — Tear test — Test area**

**6.4.6 Test report**

The test report shall contain the following information:

- reference to this document including its year of publication;
- reference to the clause of this document;
- the reference of the sample;
- the results as per the test given in [6.4.5](#);
- any deviation from the test method;
- the performance level in accordance with [Table 1](#).

**6.5 Puncture resistance**

**6.5.1 Principle**

Puncture resistance is defined by the force exerted by a steel stylus of defined dimensions to puncture a test specimen held on a retaining device. It should not be confused with piercing exerted by thin tips or needles.

6.5.2 Equipment

The equipment consists of:

- a low inertia compression tool, Class 2 according to ISO 7500-1, equipped to measure forces from 0 N to 500 N;
- a steel stylus centred in the axis of the tool, shaped to the precise requirements and dimensions of [Figure 8](#);
- a retaining device for the test specimen centred in the axis of the tool, as given in [Figure 9](#).

Dimensions in millimetres

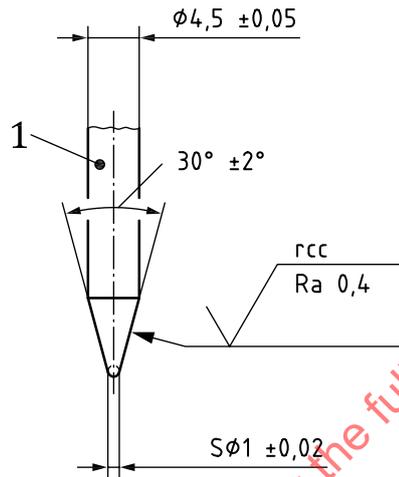
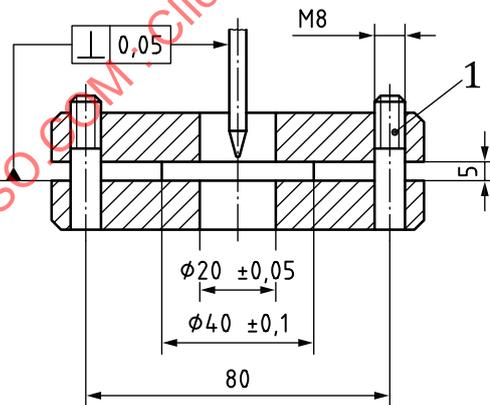


Figure 8 — Stylus — Steel 60 HRC Rockwell

Dimensions in millimetres



Key

- 1 tightening stud

Figure 9 — Retaining device

6.5.3 Test specimen

A circular specimen with a minimum diameter of 40 mm is taken in such a way that seams, reinforcements or extra thicknesses are located outside the clamping area and the point of perforation. In the case of several unbonded layers, these layers are tested together. In case of an irregular design of the palm, all areas shall be tested; the final result is the lowest obtained value.

#### 6.5.4 Test method

- a) Clamp the test specimen centrally in the retaining device with the exterior surface towards the stylus.
- b) Move the stylus downwards onto the test specimen at 100 mm/min. Continue until a displacement of 50 mm, measured from the sample level is reached. Record the highest value of the force, even if the test specimen is not punctured.
- c) The test shall be performed on four specimens cut from four different gloves of the same glove series.
- d) The profile and measurements of the stylus shall conform to [Figure 8](#) for every test. For most materials, checking the stylus at least every 500 uses is recommended but for hard and abrasive materials that can damage the stylus, checking more frequently is necessary.
- e) The classification is determined by the lowest value recorded.

#### 6.5.5 Test report

The test report shall contain the following information:

- reference to the clause of this document including its year of publication;
- the reference of the sample;
- the 4 measured values as defined in [6.5.4](#);
- any deviation from the test method;
- the performance level in accordance with [Table 1](#).

#### 6.6 Impact test

For knuckles, the tests are carried out according to EN 13594:2015, 6.9 with impact energy of 5 J.

For other parts (back of the hand, palm, etc.), the centre of the claimed protection area shall be tested according to EN 13594:2015, 6.9 with impact energy of 5 J. Four impacts in the centre of the protective area from four different gloves shall be tested. The results are given as requested in EN 13594:2015, 6.9 h).

### 7 Marking

#### 7.1 General

Marking of the protective glove or arm protector shall be in accordance with the applicable clauses of ISO 21420.

#### 7.2 Pictograms

For gloves satisfying the requirements of [Clause 4](#), the mechanical properties of the glove shall be shown by the pictogram, see [Figure 10](#), for the mechanical risks followed by the respective performance levels of each mechanical test (see [Figure 11](#)).

The first number corresponds to the abrasion resistance, the second one to the blade cut resistance, the third one to the tear resistance, the fourth one to the puncture resistance and the fifth character (a letter) to the ISO 13997:1999 cut resistance (as shown in [Tables 1](#) and [2](#)).

If the blade cut resistance test as per [6.2](#) proves to show dulling of the blades as defined under [6.3](#), and cut resistance is being claimed, at least the ISO 13997:1999 alphabetical cut resistance level shall be marked. The numerical cut level as per [6.2](#) can be optionally reported in the marking alongside the alphabetical level given by the results of the test according to ISO 13997:1999 method's alphabetical level.

The positioning of the pictogram and performance levels in relation to each other shall be in accordance to ISO 21420.

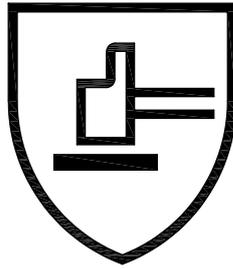
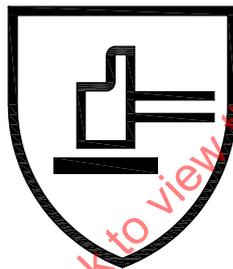


Figure 10 — Pictogram for mechanical risks (ISO 7000 - 2490)

### 7.3 Marking of additional requirements impact protection

When the requirements given in 4.2.1 are fulfilled by the gloves, the marking code “P” is added after the five performance levels number (see examples in Figure 11 and Table 4).

### 7.4 Examples of marking



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Example 1: 3 4 4 3 E P

Example 2: 3 X 0 3 E

Example 3 : 3 2 0 3 X

Figure 11 — Examples of marking for the mechanical risks

Table 4 — Explanation of the examples given in Figure 11

Example	N° 1	N° 2	N° 3
Abrasion (6.1)	level 3	level 3	level 3
Cut (6.2)	level 4	test not performed or not applicable	level 2
Tear (6.4)	level 4	level 1 not achieved	level 1 not achieved
Puncture (6.5)	level 3	level 3	level 3
Cut (6.3)	level E	Level E	test not performed
Impact protection	achieved	test not performed	test not performed

## 8 Information supplied by the manufacturer in the user notice

The information shall be in accordance with the applicable clause of ISO 21420.

Details of any special tests carried out in a different environment shall be given (see [5.3](#)).

If relevant, a warning shall be included that for gloves with two or more layers the overall classification does not necessarily reflect the performance of the outermost layer.

If impact protection is claimed, it shall state:

- the area(s) where protection is claimed;
- a warning that the protection does not apply to the finger.

For any mechanical resistant gloves which achieve and show a tear performance ([6.4](#)), equal or greater than level 1, a warning shall be included that gloves shall not be worn when there is a risk of entanglement by moving parts of machines.

For dulling during the cut resistance test ([6.2](#)), the coupe test results are only indicative while the cut resistance test ([6.3](#)) is the reference performance result. This sentence shall be indicated in the user notice.

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## Annex A (normative)

### Abradant

#### A.1 Definition of the abradant

The abradant shall meet the following specifications:

- Grit: 180;
- Grain type: aluminium oxide;
- Coating density: semi-open;
- Backing: The backing shall consist of suitable-quality paper having a minimum basis weight of  $110 \text{ g/m}^2 \pm 5 \%$ ;
- Adhesive: The adhesive shall be suitable for its purpose;
- Abrasive: The abrasive grain employed shall be suitable for its purpose. Only grain per FEPA P Standard shall be used.

The abrasive paper shall have the following characteristics:

- a) The breaking strength shall not be less than:
  - 1) in the longitudinal direction: 500 N/50 mm;
  - 2) in the transverse direction: 250 N/50 mm.
- b) The weight of abrasive paper shall be  $300 \text{ g/m}^2 \pm 15 \%$ .

#### A.2 Acceptation criteria of the abradant

When testing the cotton canvas (6.2.5) with the method described in 6.1.5 after 100 rubs, the mass lost shall be between 0,009 g and 0,027 g.

## Annex B (informative)

### Test results — Uncertainty of measurement

For each of the required measurements performed in accordance with this document, a corresponding estimate of the uncertainty of measurement shall be evaluated.

One of the three following approaches shall be used:

- a statistical method, e.g. that given in ISO 5725-2;
- a mathematical method, e.g. that given in ISO/IEC Guide 98-3;
- uncertainty and conformity assessment as given in ISO/IEC Guide 98-4.

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