



# Standardization Preliminary Report

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Circular Solutions for Furniture  
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## 1. Introduction

The technical standardization landscape in the furniture sector is undergoing a phase of significant transformation, driven by regulatory evolution, growing consumer expectations, and the European Union's strategic emphasis on product safety, sustainability, and circularity. As part of the European standardization framework defined under Regulation (EU) 1025/2012, technical standards developed by CEN and CENELEC play a central role in ensuring the safety, quality, and interoperability of furniture products across the Single Market. These standards are essential tools that support EU policies by facilitating compliance with key legislative instruments, most notably the General Product Safety Directive (GPSD, 2001/95/EC), recently replaced by the General Product Safety Regulation (EU) 2023/988. [trade.gov]

Within this regulatory context, harmonized European standards developed in response to standardization requests from the European Commission contribute directly to the presumption of conformity for a broad range of consumer products. Although harmonized standards under the GPSD are not mandatory, they represent state-of-the-art technical solutions that enhance legal certainty and support manufacturers, market surveillance authorities, and consumers alike. The Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) periodically publishes and updates the references of these standards through Commission Implementing Decisions, such as Decision (EU) 2019/1698 and its subsequent amendments, which collectively define the corpus of standards applicable to general product safety.

This report provides an updated overview of the current state of technical standardization in the furniture domain, examining the structure of European standardization, and the evolution of standards relevant to the sector. By mapping the ongoing work of CEN Technical Committees, particularly CEN/TC 207 and its Working Groups—the report offers evidence-based insights into standardization trends, research needs, and innovation opportunities that will shape the future competitiveness and safety of Europe's furniture industry.

## 2. Technical Standardization Activities in the Furniture Sector: Evolution and Current Work of CEN/TC 207

The **CEN/TC 207 – Furniture** Technical Committee plays a central role in defining, harmonizing, and updating European standards for the furniture sector. As one of the technical bodies of **CEN – European Committee for Standardization**, it contributes to the development of voluntary European Standards that facilitate product safety, cross-border trade, and innovation within the internal market. CEN is officially recognized by the **European Union** and **EFTA** as a key standardization organization responsible for European-level standard development.

As a tangible result of the work carried out by CEN/TC 207 over the past decades, a well-established set of European standards on furniture is now available to companies and other operators; these standards have been transposed and are used across a vast geographical area extending beyond the European Economic Area. In practice, these standards have 'harmonized',

largely on a voluntary basis, the requirements and testing methods for assessing the safety, durability, ergonomics and fitness for use of furniture, drawing on the experience already gained by more advanced countries. The benefits in terms of reduced administrative burdens—previously caused by the various compliance requirements needed to access different markets—are undeniable, although it is difficult to assess their full extent with precision.

In recent years, the committee has begun to address issues that go beyond those traditionally addressed by the committee over the past decades launching standardization initiatives in the areas of environmental sustainability, eco-design, and tools for applying the principles of the circular economy to furniture products.

This section of the report provides an extended overview of the committee's historical development, organizational structure, focus areas, and ongoing activities.

## 2.1 Background and Scope of CEN/TC 207

CEN/TC 207 is responsible for developing European standards covering **all types of furniture**, including domestic, office, outdoor, educational, and contract furniture, as well as mattresses and mechanical aspects of electrically operated furniture. Its scope includes:

- terminology,
- safety and health requirements,
- dimensions;
- burning behavior of upholstered furniture;
- product environmental sustainability and circular-economy aspects,
- test methods and performance requirements for end products, components, surfaces, and hardware.

Standards related to raw materials are explicitly excluded from its mandate.

The committee has evolved into a comprehensive technical platform supporting both traditional manufacturing and emerging technological trends in the furniture sector.

## 2.2 Organizational Structure and Working Groups

CEN/TC 207 operates through a structured set of **Working Groups (WGs)**, each responsible for specific product families or horizontal technical aspects. These include:

| Working group    | Title                                                    |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| CEN/TC 207/WG 1  | Requirements for domestic furniture                      |
| CEN/TC 207/WG 2  | Requirements for children's and nursery furniture        |
| CEN/TC 207/WG 3  | Office furniture                                         |
| CEN/TC 207/WG 4  | Requirements for Outdoor furniture                       |
| CEN/TC 207/WG 5  | Requirements for non domestic furniture                  |
| CEN/TC 207/WG 6  | Requirements for educational furniture                   |
| CEN/TC 207/WG 7  | Requirements and test methods for furniture surfaces     |
| CEN/TC 207/WG 8  | Requirements and test methods for hardware for furniture |
| CEN/TC 207/WG 9  | Test methods                                             |
| CEN/TC 207/WG 10 | Requirements and tools for furniture circularity         |

Italy and its standardization body (UNI) hold the chairmanship and the secretariat of the plenary committee, whilst the convenorship and the secretariats of the working groups are entrusted to the most active participating countries within the committee, as follows:

|                       |               |  |
|-----------------------|---------------|--|
| CEN/TC 207 plenary TC | UNI, Italy    |  |
| WG 1                  | DIN, Germany  |  |
| WG 2                  | AFNOR, France |  |
| WG 3                  | AFNOR France  |  |
| WG 4                  | AFNOR France  |  |
| WG 5                  | BSI, UK       |  |
| WG 6                  | BSI, UK       |  |
| WG 7                  | DIN, Germany  |  |
| WG 8                  | DIN, Germany  |  |
| WG 9                  | BSI, UK       |  |
| WG 10                 | SIS, Sweden   |  |

## 2.3 List of published standards

Below is a list of standards published by CEN/TC 207:

| Reference             | Date       | Title                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EN 581-2:2015/AC:2016 | 2016-07-13 | Outdoor furniture - Seating and tables for camping, domestic and contract use - Part 2: Mechanical safety requirements and test methods for seating                              |
| EN 16122:2012         | 2012-07-18 | Domestic and non-domestic storage furniture - Test methods for the determination of strength, durability and stability                                                           |
| EN 13721:2023         | 2023-04-26 | Furniture - Assessment of the surface reflectance                                                                                                                                |
| CEN/TR 17538:2020     | 2020-09-02 | Furniture - Common test equipment - Test foams and mattresses                                                                                                                    |
| EN 16139:2025         | 2025-07-23 | Furniture - Safety, strength and durability - Requirements and test methods for non-domestic seating                                                                             |
| EN 1022:2023          | 2023-11-29 | Furniture - Seating - Determination of stability                                                                                                                                 |
| EN 14434:2023         | 2023-11-22 | Writing boards for educational institutions - Ergonomic, technical and safety requirements and their test methods                                                                |
| EN 17902:2023         | 2023-12-13 | Furniture - Circularity - Evaluation method for dis/re-assembly capability                                                                                                       |
| EN 12521:2023         | 2023-11-29 | Furniture - Safety, strength and durability - Requirements for domestic tables                                                                                                   |
| EN 1725:2023          | 2023-11-29 | Furniture - Beds - Requirements for safety, strength and durability                                                                                                              |
| EN 15185:2023         | 2023-12-20 | Furniture - Assessment of the surface resistance to abrasion                                                                                                                     |
| EN 17869:2023         | 2023-03-08 | Hardware for furniture - Test methods for strength and overload tests of connectors for furniture constructed from panel material                                                |
| EN 15187:2024         | 2024-07-24 | Furniture - Assessment of the effect of light exposure                                                                                                                           |
| EN 597-2:2015         | 2015-12-23 | Furniture - Assessment of the ignitability of mattresses and upholstered bed bases - Part 2: Ignition source: match flame equivalent                                             |
| EN 12528:1998         | 1998-09-23 | Castors and wheels - Castors for furniture - Requirements                                                                                                                        |
| EN 12529:1998         | 1998-09-23 | Castors and wheels - Castors for furniture - Castors for swivel chairs - Requirements                                                                                            |
| EN 16955:2017         | 2017-04-12 | Hardware for furniture - Tapered pressure tubes for self-supporting gas springs for the height adjustment of seating - Test methods and requirements for strength and durability |

|                       |            |                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EN 527-2:2016+A1:2019 | 2019-05-01 | Office furniture - Work tables - Part 2: Safety, strength and durability requirements                                                               |
| EN 716-1:2017+AC:2019 | 2019-03-06 | Furniture - Children's cots and folding cots for domestic use - Part 1: Safety requirements                                                         |
| CEN/TR 15588:2007     | 2007-03-21 | Hardware for furniture - Terms for hinges and their components                                                                                      |
| EN 15706:2009         | 2009-04-01 | Hardware for furniture - Strength and durability of slide fittings for sliding doors and roll fronts                                                |
| EN 15828:2010         | 2010-10-13 | Hardware for furniture - Strength and durability of hinges and their components - Stays and hinges pivoting on a horizontal axis                    |
| CEN/TR 16015:2010     | 2010-04-21 | Hardware for furniture - Terms for locking mechanisms                                                                                               |
| EN 581-1:2017         | 2017-03-08 | Outdoor furniture - Seating and tables for camping, domestic and contract use - Part 1: General safety requirements                                 |
| EN 581-2:2015         | 2015-11-11 | Outdoor furniture - Seating and tables for camping, domestic and contract use - Part 2: Mechanical safety requirements and test methods for seating |
| CEN/TR 14699:2004     | 2004-06-09 | Office furniture - Terminology                                                                                                                      |
| CEN/TR 17292:2018     | 2018-11-14 | Technical report regarding precision data for standards EN 12720, EN 12721, EN 12722, EN 15185 and EN 15186                                         |
| EN 16611:2023         | 2023-04-26 | Furniture - Assessment of the surface resistance to microscratching                                                                                 |
| EN 1729-2:2023        | 2023-05-31 | Furniture - Chairs and tables for educational institutions - Part 2: Safety requirements and test methods                                           |
| EN 14072:2003         | 2003-11-05 | Glass in furniture - Test methods                                                                                                                   |
| EN 1728:2012/AC:2013  | 2013-07-10 | Furniture - Seating - Test methods for the determination of strength and durability                                                                 |
| EN 1728:2012          | 2012-07-18 | Furniture - Seating - Test methods for the determination of strength and durability                                                                 |
| EN 15186:2024         | 2024-03-20 | Furniture - Assessment of the surface resistance to scratching                                                                                      |
| EN 1116:2018          | 2018-01-24 | Furniture - Kitchen furniture - Coordinating sizes for kitchen furniture and kitchen appliances                                                     |
| EN 1335-2:2018        | 2018-11-14 | Office furniture - Office work chair - Part 2: Safety requirements                                                                                  |
| EN 15372:2023         | 2023-12-20 | Furniture - Strength, durability and safety - Requirements for non-domestic tables                                                                  |
| CEN/TS 18231:2026     | 2026-01-28 | Furniture - Guide to measuring EN 1335-1 dimensions with ISO 24496 CMD                                                                              |

|                        |            |                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EN 16122:2012/AC:2015  | 2015-02-18 | Domestic and non-domestic storage furniture - Test methods for the determination of strength, durability and stability            |
| EN 747-2:2024          | 2024-03-13 | Furniture - Bunk beds and high beds - Part 2: Test methods                                                                        |
| EN 1130:2019/AC:2020   | 2020-12-23 | Children's furniture - Cribs - Safety requirements and test methods                                                               |
| EN 597-1:2015          | 2015-12-23 | Furniture - Assessment of the ignitability of mattresses and upholstered bed bases - Part 1: Ignition source smoldering cigarette |
| EN 527-1:2011          | 2011-05-18 | Office furniture - Work tables and desks - Part 1: Dimensions                                                                     |
| EN 12727:2016          | 2016-11-09 | Furniture - Ranked seating - Requirements for safety, strength and durability                                                     |
| CEN/TR 17202:2018      | 2018-04-18 | Furniture - General safety guidelines - Entrapment of fingers                                                                     |
| EN 1730:2012           | 2012-10-10 | Furniture - Tables - Test methods for the determination of stability, strength and durability                                     |
| EN 17737:2022          | 2022-11-09 | Hardware for furniture - Test and evaluation methods for the corrosion resistance of furniture fittings                           |
| EN 12520:2024          | 2024-11-13 | Furniture - Safety, strength and durability - Requirements for domestic seating                                                   |
| EN 16014:2011          | 2011-08-03 | Hardware for furniture - Strength and durability of locking mechanisms                                                            |
| EN 17214:2019          | 2019-07-31 | Visual assessment of furniture surfaces                                                                                           |
| EN 17191:2021          | 2021-07-07 | Children's Furniture - Seating for children - Safety requirements and test methods                                                |
| CEN/TR 15709:2008      | 2008-04-09 | Hardware for furniture - Terms for slide fittings for sliding doors and roll fronts                                               |
| EN 747-1:2024          | 2024-03-13 | Furniture - Bunk beds and high beds - Part 1: Safety, strength and durability requirements                                        |
| EN 17850:2023          | 2023-12-20 | Hardware for furniture - Star bases for seating - Requirements and test methods                                                   |
| EN 16890:2017+A1:2021  | 2021-06-30 | Children's furniture - Mattresses for cots and cribs - Safety requirements and test methods                                       |
| EN 1729-1:2015/AC:2016 | 2016-08-17 | Furniture - Chairs and tables for educational institutions - Part 1: Functional dimensions                                        |
| EN 15338:2024          | 2024-09-18 | Hardware for furniture - Strength and durability of extension elements and their components                                       |

|                        |            |                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CEN/TR 14073-1:2004    | 2004-06-09 | Office furniture - Storage furniture - Part 1: Dimensions                                                                  |
| EN 716-2:2017          | 2017-06-07 | Furniture - Children's cots and folding cots for domestic use - Part 2: Test methods                                       |
| EN 14703:2007          | 2007-04-18 | Furniture - Links for non-domestic seating linked together in a row - Strength requirements and test methods               |
| EN 16121:2023/AC:2025  | 2025-04-23 | Non-domestic storage furniture - Requirements for safety, strength, durability and stability                               |
| EN 16121:2023          | 2023-12-20 | Non-domestic storage furniture - Requirements for safety, strength, durability and stability                               |
| CEN/TR 15349:2006      | 2006-02-08 | Hardware for furniture - Terms for extension elements and their components                                                 |
| EN 14749:2016+A1:2022  | 2022-05-11 | Furniture - Domestic and kitchen storage units and kitchen-worktops - Safety requirements and test methods                 |
| EN 15570:2008          | 2008-05-14 | Hardware for furniture - Strength and durability of hinges and their components - Hinges pivoting on a vertical axis       |
| EN 1729-1:2015         | 2015-12-02 | Furniture - Chairs and tables for educational institutions - Part 1: Functional dimensions                                 |
| EN 12721:2009+A1:2013  | 2013-10-23 | Furniture - Assessment of surface resistance to wet heat                                                                   |
| EN 1129-2:1995         | 1995-02-10 | Furniture - Foldaway beds - Safety requirements and testing - Part 2: Test methods                                         |
| EN 1023-3:2000         | 2000-05-24 | Office furniture - Screens - Part 3: Test methods                                                                          |
| EN 12227:2010          | 2010-08-18 | Playpens for domestic use - Safety requirements and test methods                                                           |
| EN 12722:2009+A1:2013  | 2013-10-23 | Furniture - Assessment of surface resistance to dry heat                                                                   |
| EN 1335-1:2020+A1:2022 | 2022-11-16 | Office furniture - Office work chair - Part 1: Dimensions - Determination of dimensions                                    |
| EN 1957:2012           | 2012-10-17 | Furniture - Beds and mattresses - Test methods for the determination of functional characteristics and assessment criteria |
| EN 1021-1:2014         | 2014-08-13 | Furniture - Assessment of the ignitability of upholstered furniture - Part 1: Ignition source smouldering cigarette        |
| EN 1021-2:2014         | 2014-08-13 | Furniture - Assessment of the ignitability of upholstered furniture - Part 2: Ignition source match flame equivalent       |
| EN 1023-2:2000         | 2000-05-24 | Office furniture - Screens - Part 2: Mechanical safety requirements                                                        |

|                        |            |                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EN 13722:2004          | 2004-07-21 | Furniture - Assessment of the surface gloss                                                                                       |
| EN 15939:2019          | 2019-06-12 | Hardware for furniture - Strength and loading capacity of wall attachment devices                                                 |
| EN 1130:2019           | 2019-11-27 | Children's furniture - Cribs - Safety requirements and test methods                                                               |
| EN 1129-1:1995         | 1995-02-10 | Furniture - Foldaway beds - Safety requirements and testing - Part 1: Safety requirements                                         |
| EN 1334:1996           | 1996-03-20 | Domestic furniture - Beds and mattresses - Methods of measurement and recommended tolerances                                      |
| EN 12720:2009 +A1:2013 | 2013-10-23 | Furniture - Assessment of surface resistance to cold liquids                                                                      |
| EN 16337:2013          | 2013-06-05 | Hardware for furniture - Strength and loading capacity of shelf supports                                                          |
| EN 1023-1:1996         | 1996-03-20 | Office furniture - Screens - Part 1: Dimensions                                                                                   |
| EN 13759:2012          | 2012-04-18 | Furniture - Operating mechanisms for seating and sofa-beds - Test methods                                                         |
| EN 13150:2020          | 2020-02-26 | Workbenches for laboratories in educational institutions - Dimensions, safety and durability requirements and test methods        |
| CEN/TS 16209:2022      | 2022-03-23 | Furniture - Classification for properties for furniture surfaces                                                                  |
| EN 581-3:2017          | 2017-01-18 | Outdoor furniture - Seating and tables for camping, domestic and contract use - Part 3: Mechanical safety requirements for tables |

## 2.4 Current work programme of CEN/TC 207

The draft standards currently under development and registered in the CEN database, which fall within the remit of CEN/TC, are as follows:

| WI no.   | Reference   | Title                                                                                                                        | Category | Drafting Body   |
|----------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| 00207293 | FprEN 581-2 | Outdoor furniture - Mechanical safety requirements and test methods - Part 2: Seating for camping, domestic and contract use | Main     | CEN/TC 207/WG 4 |
| 00207296 |             | Furniture - Seating - Guidance for increasing user weight                                                                    | Main     | CEN/TC 207/WG 9 |

|          |                     |                                                                                                                             |           |                  |
|----------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| 00207297 | FprEN 17684         | Furniture - Electrically operated furniture - Stability, strength, durability and mechanical safety requirements            | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 9  |
| 00207307 | prEN 1129           | Furniture - Foldaway beds - Safety requirements and test methods                                                            | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 1  |
| 00207312 |                     | Furniture – Determination of emissions into indoor air – Emission test chamber method                                       | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 9  |
| 00207314 | FprEN 581-3         | Outdoor furniture - Mechanical safety requirements and test methods - Part 3: Tables for camping, domestic and contract use | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 4  |
| 00207315 | prEN 14749 rev      | Furniture - Domestic and kitchen storage units and kitchen-worktops - Safety requirements and test methods                  | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 1  |
| 00207316 | prEN 1729-1         | Furniture - Chairs and tables for educational institutions - Part 1: Functional dimensions                                  | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 6  |
| 00207317 | EN 1729-2:2023/prA1 | Furniture - Chairs and tables for educational institutions - Part 2: Safety requirements and test methods                   | Amendment | CEN/TC 207/WG 6  |
| 00207318 |                     | Furniture – General guidelines about measurement uncertainty                                                                | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 9  |
| 00207319 |                     | Furniture – Circularity – Assessment methods for remanufactured furniture                                                   | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 10 |
| 00207320 |                     | Furniture – Circularity – Guidance on reliability                                                                           | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 10 |
| 00207321 |                     | Furniture — Circularity — Evaluation method for maintenance, repair and refurbishing capability                             | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 10 |
| 00207323 | prEN 1335-2 rev     | Office furniture - Office work chair - Part 2: Safety requirements                                                          | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 3  |
| 00207324 |                     | Children’s Furniture — Compiled interpretations of CEN/TC 207/WG2 standards – Part 1: EN1130: 2019 –                        | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 2  |

|          |                    |                                                                                                                   |           |                 |
|----------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
|          |                    | Children's furniture - Cribs - Safety requirements and test methods                                               |           |                 |
| 00207325 | EN 12521:2023/prA1 | Furniture - Safety, strength and durability - Requirements for domestic tables                                    | Amendment | CEN/TC 207/WG 1 |
| 00207326 | EN 12520:2024/prA1 | Furniture - Safety, strength and durability - Requirements for domestic seating                                   | Amendment | CEN/TC 207/WG 1 |
| 00207327 | prEN 14434 rev     | Writing boards for educational institutions - Ergonomic, technical and safety requirements and their test methods | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 6 |
| 00207328 |                    | Children's furniture – Tables – Safety requirements and test methods                                              | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 2 |
| 00207329 | prEN 1725 rev      | Furniture - Beds - Requirements for safety, strength and durability                                               | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 1 |
| 00207330 | EN 16611:2023/prA1 | Furniture - Assessment of the surface resistance to microscratching                                               | Amendment | CEN/TC 207/WG 7 |
| 00207331 | prEN 12720 rev     | Furniture - Assessment of surface resistance to cold liquids                                                      | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 7 |
| 00207334 | prEN 17191 rev     | Children's Furniture - Seating for children - Safety requirements and test methods                                | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 2 |
| 00207335 | prEN 1130 rev      | Children's furniture - Cribs - Safety requirements and test methods                                               | Main      | CEN/TC 207/WG 2 |

## 2.5 Key Technical Domains of Standardization

### 2.5.1. Mechanical Safety, Stability, and Durability

Since its establishment, the committee has identified the assessment of the mechanical safety of furniture as a priority area of work. Subsequently, following the adoption of the EU General Product Safety Directive (Directive 2001/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 December 2001 on general product safety), CEN/TC 207 has published a considerable number of standards setting out test methods and requirements that had made it possible to determine,

in a clear and uniform manner, across all EU countries, when a piece of furniture can be considered safe.

All of this has helped to remove most of the technical barriers to the movement of furniture products within the EU single market.

In fact, although CEN/TC 207 standards have always been voluntary (as is the nature of technical standards), Article 3(3) of the Directive referred to voluntary European standards as factors to be taken into account when assessing compliance with the general safety requirement imposed by the EU legislator under Art. 3(1) of the GPSD (“Producers shall be obliged to place only safe products on the market”).

A limited number of CEN/TC 207 standards have also been included in the list, published in the Official Journal of the European Union, of standards compliance with which allowed the product to be presumed safe. These were:

| Reference number of the standard | Title of the standard                                                                                             | Date of start of presumption of safety (1) | OJ reference for publication in OJ (2) | Date of withdrawal from OJ (end of presumption of safety) (6) | OJ reference for withdrawal from OJ (7) |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| EN 581-1:2006                    | Outdoor furniture and seating tables for camping, domestic and contract use - Part 1: General safety requirements | 22/07/2006                                 | <del>OJ C 171 - 22/07/2006</del>       | 03/12/2024                                                    | OJ L, 2024/2962 - 29/11/2024            |
| EN 17191:2021                    | Children's Furniture - Seating for children - Safety requirements and test methods                                | 13/09/2024                                 | OJ L, 2024/2406 - 13/09/2024           |                                                               |                                         |
| EN 1129-1:1995                   | Furniture - Foldaway beds - Safety requirements                                                                   | 15/10/2005                                 | OJ C 256 - 15/10/2005                  |                                                               |                                         |

|                                       |  |                                                                                                                  |            |                                    |
|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|
|                                       |  | and testing -<br>Part 1: Safety<br>requirements                                                                  |            |                                    |
| EN 1129-2:1995                        |  | Furniture -<br>Foldaway<br>beds - Safety<br>requirements<br>and testing -<br>Part 2: Test<br>methods             | 15/10/2005 | OJ C 256 -<br>15/10/2005           |
| EN 1130:2019,<br>EN 1130:2019/AC:2020 |  | Children's<br>furniture -<br>Cribs - Safety<br>requirements<br>and test<br>methods                               | 16/08/2022 | OJ L 213 -<br>16/08/2022           |
| EN 16890:2017+A1:2021                 |  | Children's<br>furniture -<br>Mattresses for<br>cots and cribs<br>- Safety<br>requirements<br>and test<br>methods | 13/09/2024 | OJ L,<br>2024/2406 -<br>13/09/2024 |

The EN 581-1:2006 was withdrawn from the list in December 2024 with the COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION (EU) 2024/2962 of 29 November 2024

The mechanical safety of furniture products is generally assessed in standards through:

- general safety requirements (checks that there are no points where body parts could become trapped, no sheer and compression points, and no sharp edges)
- stability requirements (based on tests designed to ensure that the product does not tip over when subjected to the forces it is likely to encounter in real-life use);
- mechanical strength requirements (based on tests involving the application of static loads designed to simulate the loading conditions to which the product is likely to be subjected during use);
- durability requirements (based on tests involving the repeated application of loads, over a specified number of cycles, so as to simulate, in an accelerated manner, the effects on the product of its prolonged use over time).

This last category of requirements, which has hitherto been referred to as ‘durability’, has been incorporated into the existing standards with the primary aim of assessing how long the product remains safe. In fact, the intention was to consider the fact that the GPSD directive itself cited durability as a factor to be considered when assessing product safety (“a safe product means any

product which, under normal or reasonably foreseeable conditions of use, including its duration (...)" Art. 3)

These requirements have been broken down by product category, taking into account the various conditions of use that may be anticipated, for example, in the case of careful use in the home or more demanding use in a non-domestic environment. All of this has resulted in a series of standards that set out the requirements by type of furniture (seating, tables, storage units, beds, etc.) and by category of use (domestic, general non-domestic, office, educational institutions, use by children, kindergartens, etc.). By way of example, the following standards may be cited.

EN 12520 domestic seating - safety, strength and durability requirements

EN 16139 non-domestic seating - safety, strength and durability requirements

EN 1335-2 office work chairs – safety requirements

EN 12727 Ranked seating - Requirements for safety, strength and durability

EN 12521 domestic tables safety, strength and durability requirements

EN 15372 non-domestic tables - safety, strength and durability requirements

EN 527-2 office worktables and desks - Safety, strength and durability requirements

EN 14749 domestic storage units - Safety requirements

EN 16121 non-domestic and office storage units - Requirements for safety, strength, durability and stability

Etc.

## 2.5.2 *Horizontal Test Methods*

The standards referred to in the previous paragraph are based on laboratory tests.

Over the last twenty years, the committee has reorganised the content of its standards, separating the provisions relating to test methods – that is, the laboratory procedures for carrying out tests – from the product requirements. In this way, it has been possible to streamline the content of the standards by defining horizontal test methods for each product type (seating, tables, storage units, etc.), regardless of their intended use, leaving it to the standards that set out the requirements – which, on the other hand, must be determined by the intended use of the product – to define differentiated levels of severity that take into account the conditions of use to which the product is expected to be subjected in a domestic setting, a hotel, an office, a school, a public space, a barracks, a prison, etc.

Working Group 9 was set up specifically with the aim of standardizing test methods.

WG 9 continuously develops and revises horizontal test methods including:

EN 1728:2012/AC:2013 (WI=00207C08) - Furniture - Seating - Test methods for the determination of strength and durability

EN 1022:2023 (WI=00207295) - Furniture - Seating - Determination of stability

EN 1730:2012 (WI=00207201) - Furniture - Tables - Test methods for the determination of stability, strength and durability

EN 16122:2012 (WI=00207205) Domestic and non-domestic storage furniture - Test methods for the determination of strength, durability and stability

Etc.

This reorganization of the content of the sector-specific standards has taken account of market developments, in which the boundaries between furniture products specifically intended for domestic use and those intended, for example, for offices or other non-domestic settings are becoming increasingly blurred. The same products are very often marketed for use in multiple contexts. The same product is now subjected to the same laboratory tests regardless of its intended end use; the only variations are in the loads and the load application cycles, which take account of the different conditions of use.

### 2.5.3 *Surface Properties and Performance*

In addition to mechanical safety aspects, the CEN/TC 207 has, since its creation, established methods for assessing other aspects more closely linked to the product's fitness for use and which do not affect safety. Among these, the assessment of the resistance of furniture surfaces to various possible stresses (scratching, abrasion, heat, liquids, light, etc.) has been entrusted to WG 7.

WG 7 has developed methods for evaluating performances of various non-textile surface finishes:

- resistance to cold liquids (EN 12720),
- resistance to wet heat (EN 12721)
- resistance to dry heat (EN 12722)
- resistance to abrasion (EN 15185)
- resistance to scratching (EN 15186)
- resistance to micro-scratching (EN 16611),
- Assessment of the effect of light exposure (EN 15187)
- surface reflectance (EN 13721)

- surface gloss (EN 13722)

A general classification of resistance to various types of actions has been developed in CEN/TS 16209:

CEN/TS 16209:2022 (WI=00207286) .Furniture - Classification for properties for furniture surfaces.

#### 2.5.4 Dimensions

The committee has established standards setting out the dimensional requirements for furniture only where these are relevant for ergonomic purposes. This is the case with office furniture and school furniture. In the first case, the standards of CEN TC 207 have translated the general guidelines of the 90/270/EEC directive, on the minimum safety and health requirements for work with display screen equipment, on workstation components (work chair and desk) into precise dimensional requirements that can be measured in a repeatable and reproducible manner.

These are the following standards:

EN 527-2:2016+A1:2019 (WI=00207280) Office furniture - Work tables - Part 2: Safety, strength and durability requirements

EN 1729-1:2015 (WI=00207221) Furniture - Chairs and tables for educational institutions - Part 1: Functional dimensions

EN 1335-1:2020+A1:2022 (WI=00207313) Office furniture - Office work chair - Part 1: Dimensions - Determination of dimensions

#### 2.5.5 Fire Behavior

As indicated in the committee's scope of work, the CENTC is also responsible for developing standards on flammability of upholstered furniture. Test methods addressing ignitability and burning behavior of upholstered furniture, including mattresses. To date, the following standards have been published:

EN 597-1:2015 (WI=00207243) Furniture - Assessment of the ignitability of mattresses and upholstered bed bases - Part 1: Ignition source smoldering cigarettes

EN 597-2:2015 (WI=00207244) Furniture - Assessment of the ignitability of mattresses and upholstered bed bases - Part 2: Ignition source: match flame equivalent

EN 1021-1:2014 (WI=00207226) Furniture - Assessment of the ignitability of upholstered furniture - Part 1: Ignition source smoldering cigarettes

EN 1021-2:2014 (WI=00207236) - Furniture - Assessment of the ignitability of upholstered furniture - Part 2: Ignition source match flame equivalent

## 2.5.6 *Electrically Operated Furniture*

In response to market demand and regulatory requirements—initially the Machinery Directive (2006/42/EC), now the Machinery Regulation () —the committee established a dedicated task group under WG 9 (WG9 TG1) to develop standards, candidate for harmonization and intended to be used to support regulations, for motorized furniture. The aim of CEN/TC 207 is to address the mechanical aspects only of the health and safety requirements established by the legislation, referring, as much as possible, to the existing standards described in the previous paragraph 3.1. The work involves coordination with CENELEC/TC 61, which is responsible for requirements relating to electrical safety, and is still ongoing.

Despite the difficulties arising from the fact that responsibility for these products is divided between two different standards bodies (CEN and CENELEC), once the work is complete, the aim is to provide operators with two standards, the combined application of which will enable them to demonstrate that motorized furniture complies with the health and safety requirements of the regulation:

- prEN 17864 Furniture - Electrically operated furniture - Stability, strength, durability and mechanical safety requirements (for which CEN/TC 207 is responsible)
- prEN 60335-2-116 - Household and similar electrical appliances - Safety - Part 2-116: Particular requirements for furniture with electrically motorized parts (for which CENELEC/TC 61 is responsible).

## 2.5.7 *Hardware*

WG 8 is WG 8 is responsible for standardising requirements and test methods on mechanical characteristics of hardware (hinges, locking mechanisms, shelf supports, wall attachment devices, star basis for seating, gas springs for the height adjustment of seating, etc.).

This is the list of published standards developed within the scope of WG8:

EN 17869:2023 Hardware for furniture - Test methods for strength and overload tests of connectors for furniture constructed from panel material

CEN/TR 15588:2007 Hardware for furniture - Terms for hinges and their components

|                   |                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EN 15706:2009     | Hardware for furniture - Strength and durability of slide fittings for sliding doors and roll fronts                             |
| EN 15828:2010     | Hardware for furniture - Strength and durability of hinges and their components - Stays and hinges pivoting on a horizontal axis |
| CEN/TR 16015:2010 | Hardware for furniture - Terms for locking mechanisms                                                                            |
| EN 15338:2024     | Hardware for furniture - Strength and durability of extension elements and their components                                      |
| CEN/TR 15349:2006 | Hardware for furniture - Terms for extension elements and their components                                                       |
| EN 17737:2022     | Hardware for furniture - Test and evaluation methods for the corrosion resistance of furniture fittings                          |
| EN 16014:2011     | Hardware for furniture - Strength and durability of locking mechanisms                                                           |
| CEN/TR 15709:2008 | Hardware for furniture - Terms for slide fittings for sliding doors and roll fronts                                              |
| EN 17850:2023     | Hardware for furniture - Star bases for seating - Requirements and test methods                                                  |
| EN 15570:2008     | Hardware for furniture - Strength and durability of hinges and their components - Hinges pivoting on a vertical axis             |
| EN 15939:2019     | Hardware for furniture - Strength and loading capacity of wall attachment devices                                                |
| EN 16337:2013     | Hardware for furniture - Strength and loading capacity of shelf supports                                                         |

## 2.6 Recent Trends and Evolution in Standardization Priorities

The most important activities currently being carried out by the TC can be summarized as follows.

## 2.6.1. Circular Economy and Sustainability

Among the key developments in the committee's work in recent years is its commitment to taking a proactive stance on EU policies arising from the European Green Deal.

Following the publication of the EU circular economy action plan and subsequently of the documents leading up to the publication of the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation, the CEN/TC 207 decided to address, within the framework of voluntary, consensus-based technical standardization, the definition of specific eco-design requirements for the furniture sector and to provide the furniture industry with tools for a sector-specific application of the principles of the circular economy.

With this in mind, the committee decided in 2020 to set up a new working group – WG 10 - with the specific task of defining “Requirements and tools for furniture circularity”.

The work of WG 10 has so far resulted in the publication of a standard on the assessment of the disassembly and reassembly of furniture for purposes other than the separation of materials for recycling:

EN 17902:2023 – “Furniture – Circularity – Evaluation method for dis/re-assembly capability”

This standard provides guidelines for assessing the disassembly and reassembly capability of furniture, which is a key aspect of circularity.

It defines:

- criteria for accessing, removing, replacing, and reassembling priority components;
- a method applicable to different designs, materials, and construction types;
- a design-support tool to help improve circularity.

It does not contain mandatory requirements nor an overall circularity evaluation method; it focuses specifically on dis/re-assembly capability.

WG 10 decided to start with dis/re-assembly capability because it considered it a key feature, as it enables the implementation of various strategies aimed at extending the lifespan of furniture products (repair, refurbishment, upgrading, remanufacturing, etc.).

Building on the work carried out to develop EN 17902, WG10 is currently drafting three further standards on:

- Maintenance, repair, refurbishment capability;
- Upgradability;
- Guidance on reliability.

Other eco-design requirements, selected as the most relevant to furniture from those listed in Article 5 of the ESPR Regulation, will be addressed later.

## *2.6.2. Chemicals and emissions into indoor air*

A WG 9 task group has recently been set up to develop a standard setting out sampling criteria to be used for testing emissions of volatile organic compounds from furniture, finished products or component materials. These are specific criteria for the furniture sector (the existing ones are mainly designed for the construction industry and building products), which were previously lacking and needed to be defined at European level.

## *2.6.3. Systematic Updating of Core Standards*

CEN/TC 207's work programme shows ongoing revisions of several key standards such as EN 12520, EN 12521, EN 1729-2, EN 14749, among others. Like all other CEN committees, TC 207 is responsible for keeping its standards up to date and ensuring they reflect the latest developments in state-of-the-art. Every five years, the standards are reviewed and the committee decides whether to confirm them, revise them or, where necessary, withdraw them.

## *2.6.4. Development of harmonized standards for children's furniture*

WG 2 is developing and updating standards for various types of children's furniture (cots and cribs, mattresses for cots and cribs, ) in response to a standardization request from the European Commission under the General Product Safety Regulation.

## *2.6.5. Integration of Office and Non-Domestic Standards*

For several years now, the TC has been working to align as far as possible the requirements for office and non-domestic furniture, taking into account changes in office working, trends and new ways of working, which have become increasingly widespread in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. A clear example of this trend was the decision to incorporate office storage requirements into EN 16121 (non-domestic storage).

## *2.6.6. Consideration of Heavier User Weights*

The TC is working on a method that will enable to increase the tested user mass above 110 kg, particularly for seating products—reflecting new anthropometric data and safety needs.

## 2.6.7 *Integration of Office and Non-Domestic Standards*

For several years now, TC has been working to align as far as possible the requirements for office and non-domestic furniture, taking into account changes in office working, trends and new ways of working, which have become increasingly widespread in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. A clear example of this trend was the decision to incorporate office storage requirements into EN 16121 (non-domestic storage).

## 2.6.8 *Continuation of work on motorised furniture*

The two complementary standards developed in parallel by CEN (prEN 17864, covering mechanical safety requirements) and CENELEC (prEN 60335-2-116, covering electrical safety requirements) are, at the time of writing this report, about to be put to a formal vote, the final stage in the approval process for European technical standards. At this stage, both are candidates for harmonized standards in support of the Machinery Regulation. If accepted by the EC and included in the list of harmonized standards published in the Official Journal of the European Union, the application of both could allow motorized furniture to be presumed to comply with the health and safety requirements of the Regulation. If they were not to be adopted by the EC, they would nevertheless remain available as a reference for manufacturers in the form of voluntary standards made available by CEN and adopted by CEN's national member standards bodies. In the latter case, it is likely that a joint CEN and CENELEC committee will be set up to merge the content of the two standards and resubmit the result of this work to the EC for harmonization.

## 3. **Parallel activity at ISO level – ISO/TC 136**

ISO/TC 136 “Furniture” is the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) technical committee responsible for the development of international standards in the field of furniture. Established in 1969 and currently managed by UNI (Italy) as secretariat, ISO/TC 136 plays a central role in defining harmonized test methods, safety requirements, performance criteria and terminology for a wide range of furniture products intended for domestic, non-domestic, office and public use.

The official scope of ISO/TC 136 covers standardization in the field of furniture, including:

- terms and definitions;
- performance, safety and dimensional requirements;
- requirements for specific components (e.g. hardware);
- test methods for strength, durability, stability, surfaces and functional performance.

Furniture is defined as free-standing or built-in units used for storing, lying, sitting, working and eating, while products falling under the remit of other ISO technical committees are excluded.

This broad but clearly delimited mandate allows ISO/TC 136 to address the furniture as a finished consumer or professional good, while progressively extending standardization to critical sub-components (e.g. hardware elements), in response to market and industry needs.

The committee comprises 30 participating members (national standards bodies of 30 different countries), whilst a further 32 hold observer status. The list of participating members includes a majority of European countries (Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Serbia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom), as well as extra European countries such as Australia, Azerbaijan, China, Egypt, Iran, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, United States and Uzbekistan.

ISO/TC 136 operates through a structured system of Working Groups (WGs), each focusing on specific furniture categories or technical aspects. As of 2025–2026, the main working groups include:

WG 1 – Chairs: methods of test

WG 2 – Tables: methods of test

WG 3 – Storage units: strength, durability and stability

WG 4 – Beds: methods of test

WG 5 – Kitchen furniture: coordinating sizes

WG 6 – Children's and nursery furniture

WG 7 – Mattresses: methods of test

WG 8 – Furniture surfaces: methods of test

WG 9 – Hardware for furniture: methods of test

An Advisory Group (AG 1) ensures coordination with IEC/TC 61, addressing overlaps with electrical safety where furniture integrates electrical components.

This structure enables ISO/TC 136 to handle both traditional furniture safety issues and emerging technical challenges in a modular and flexible way.

ISO/TC 136 operates in close cooperation with CEN/TC 207 “Furniture”, in order to avoid duplication and ensure alignment between International Standards (ISO) and European Standards (EN).

This cooperation is strategically important for the EU, as many EN standards developed by CEN/TC 207 are either identical to or technically aligned with ISO standards, facilitating international market access for European manufacturers and coherent regulatory references for policymakers and market surveillance authorities.

ISO/TC 136 also interacts with national delegations, industry associations (e.g. through ANSI/BIFMA in the US), testing laboratories and consumer organizations, reinforcing its global relevance.

For more than 15 years, the secretariat and chairmanship of ISO/TC 136 have been the same as those of CEN/TC 207. This has led to closer and more effective cooperation between the technical committees responsible for standardization in the furniture sector at European and international level.

The Standards published to date under the direct responsibility of ISO/TC 136 Secretariat are as follows;

ISO 3055:2021

Kitchen equipment — Coordinating sizes

ISO 4211-1:2025

Furniture — Tests for surface finishes — Part 1: Assessment of resistance to cold liquids

ISO 4211-2:2013

Furniture — Tests for surface finishes — Part 2: Assessment of resistance to wet heat

ISO 4211-3:2013

Furniture — Tests for surface finishes — Part 3: Assessment of resistance to dry heat

ISO 4211-4:1988

Furniture — Tests for surfaces — Part 4: Assessment of resistance to impact

ISO 4211-5:2021

Furniture — Tests for surface finishes — Part 5: Assessment of resistance to abrasion

ISO 4211-6:2025

Furniture — Tests for surface finishes — Part 6: Assessment of resistance to scratching

ISO 4769:2022

Hardware for furniture — Strength and durability of hinges and their components — Hinges pivoting on a vertical axis

ISO 7170:2021

Furniture — Storage units — Test methods for the determination of strength, durability and stability

ISO 7173:2023

Furniture — Chairs and stools — Determination of strength and durability

ISO 7174-1:1988

Furniture — Chairs — Determination of stability — Part 1: Upright chairs and stools

ISO 7174-2:1992

Furniture — Chairs — Determination of stability — Part 2: Chairs with tilting or reclining mechanisms when fully reclined, and rocking chairs

ISO 7175-1:2019

Furniture — Children's cots and folding cots for domestic use — Part 1: Safety requirements

ISO 7175-2:2019

Furniture — Children's cots and folding cots for domestic use — Part 2: Test methods

ISO 8191-1:1987

Furniture — Assessment of the ignitability of upholstered furniture — Part 1: Ignition source: smoldering cigarette

ISO 8191-2:1988

Furniture — Assessment of ignitability of upholstered furniture — Part 2: Ignition source: match-flame equivalent

ISO 9098-1:2023

Bunk beds and high beds — Safety requirements and tests — Part 1: Safety requirements

ISO 9098-2:2023

Bunk beds and high beds — Safety requirements and tests — Part 2: Test methods

ISO 9221:2024

Furniture — Children's highchairs — Safety requirements and test methods

ISO 10131-1:1997

Foldaway beds — Safety requirements and tests — Part 1: Safety requirements

ISO 10131-2:1997

Foldaway beds — Safety requirements and tests — Part 2: Test methods

ISO 12808:2024

Hardware for furniture — Strength and durability of extension elements and their components

ISO 16502-1:2024

Furniture — Assessment of the ignitability of mattresses and upholstered bed bases — Part 1:  
Ignition source: smoldering cigarette

ISO 16502-2:2024

Furniture — Assessment of the ignitability of mattresses and upholstered bed bases — Part 2:  
Ignition source: match flame equivalent

ISO 19682:2023

Furniture — Tables — Test methods for the determination of stability, strength and durability

ISO 19833:2018

Furniture — Beds — Test methods for the determination of stability, strength and durability

ISO 21015:2007

Office furniture — Office work chairs — Test methods for the determination of stability, strength  
and durability

ISO 23767:2021

Children's furniture — Mattresses for cots and cribs — Safety requirements and test methods

ISO 23769:2021

Furniture — Mattresses — Test methods for the determination of functional characteristics

ISO 24496:2021

Office furniture — Office chairs — Methods for the determination of dimensions

ISO 24975:2026

Furniture — Beds and mattresses — Methods of measurement and recommended tolerances

ISO 25131:2025

Hardware for furniture — Strength and durability of hinges and their components — Stays and  
hinges pivoting on a horizontal axis

The projects currently in development are as follows:

ISO/AWI 4211-4 [Under development]

Furniture — Tests for surface finishes — Part 4: Assessment of resistance to impact

ISO/DIS 4211-7 [Under development]

Furniture — Tests for surface finishes — Part 7: Assessment of resistance to light

ISO/CD 7173 [Under development]

Furniture — Chairs and stools — Determination of strength, durability and stability

ISO/CD 25678 [Under development]

Children's furniture — Cribs — Safety requirements and test methods

ISO/CD 26279 [Under development]

Hardware for furniture — Strength and durability of slide fittings for sliding doors and roll fronts

## 4. Standardization of materials and components for the furniture industry

Various CEN technical committees, apart from CEN/TC 207, are responsible for standardising semi-finished products and materials used by the furniture industry.

### 4.1 Wood based panels – CEN/TC 112

CEN/TC 112 is responsible for the standardisation of wood-based panels for various applications, including their use as furniture components.

The committee's scope is as follows: "Preparation of standards for wood-based panels and panels of other lignocellulosic materials covering: - terminology; - classification; - requirements; - product specifications; - methods of tests".

The list of published standards falling within the remit of CEN/TC 112 is as follows:

| Reference           | Date       | Title                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EN 316:2009         | 2009-03-04 | Wood fibre boards - Definition, classification and symbols                                                                              |
| EN 622-5:2009       | 2009-11-11 | Fibreboards - Specifications - Part 5: Requirements for dry process boards (MDF)                                                        |
| CEN/TS 14966:2005   | 2005-05-25 | Wood-based panels - Small scale indicative test methods for certain mechanical properties                                               |
| CEN/TS 635-4:2007   | 2007-08-08 | Plywood - Classification by surface appearance - Part 4: Parameters of ability for finishing, guideline                                 |
| EN ISO 12460-5:2015 | 2015-12-09 | Wood-based panels - Determination of formaldehyde release - Part 5: Extraction method (called the perforator method) (ISO 12460-5:2015) |
| EN 14322:2021       | 2021-11-24 | Wood-based panels - Melamine faced boards for interior uses - Definition, requirements and classification                               |

|                 |            |                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EN 13353:2022   | 2022-07-20 | Solid wood panels (SWP) - Requirements                                                                                    |
| EN 312:2010     | 2010-09-08 | Particleboards - Specifications                                                                                           |
| EN 12369-2:2025 | 2025-09-17 | Wood-based panels - Characteristic values for structural design - Part 2: Plywood                                         |
| EN 320:2011     | 2011-04-27 | Particleboards and fibreboards - Determination of resistance to axial withdrawal of screws                                |
| EN 1087-1:1995  | 1995-02-06 | Particleboards - Determination of moisture resistance - Part 1: Boil test                                                 |
| EN 321:2026     | 2026-03-25 | Wood-based panels - Determination of moisture resistance under cyclic test conditions                                     |
| EN 13879:2002   | 2002-05-22 | Wood-based panels - Determination of edgewise bending properties                                                          |
| EN 15197:2007   | 2007-02-28 | Wood-based panels - Flaxboards - Specifications                                                                           |
| EN 325:2025     | 2025-11-05 | Wood-based panels - Determination of dimensions of test pieces                                                            |
| EN 13354:2008   | 2008-11-19 | Solid wood panels (SWP) - Bonding quality - Test method                                                                   |
| EN 326-3:2003   | 2003-11-19 | Wood-based panels - Sampling, cutting and inspection - Part 3: Inspection of an isolated lot of panels                    |
| EN 313-1:1996   | 1996-03-20 | Plywood - Classification and terminology - Part 1: Classification                                                         |
| EN 717-3:1996   | 1996-03-20 | Wood-based panels - Determination of formaldehyde release - Part 3: Formaldehyde release by the flask method              |
| EN 635-5:1999   | 1999-03-24 | Plywood - Classification by surface appearance - Part 5: Methods for measuring and expressing characteristics and defects |

|                       |            |                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EN 309:2005           | 2005-01-19 | Particleboards - Definition and classification                                                                                                               |
| CEN/TS 16526:2013     | 2013-11-13 | Sandwich boards for furniture (SWB-F) - Factory made products - Definition, classification and test methods for determination of performance characteristics |
| EN 311:2002           | 2002-05-15 | Wood-based panels - Surface soundness - Test method                                                                                                          |
| EN 326-2:2010+A1:2014 | 2014-08-06 | Wood-based panels - Sampling, cutting and inspection - Part 2: Initial type testing and factory production control                                           |
| EN 622-4:2024         | 2024-03-20 | Fibreboards - Specifications - Part 4: Requirements for softboards                                                                                           |
| EN 382-2:1993         | 1993-11-12 | Fibreboards - Determination of surface absorption - Part 2: Test method for hardboards                                                                       |
| EN 322:1993           | 1993-02-26 | Wood-based panels - Determination of moisture content                                                                                                        |
| CEN/TS 1099:2007      | 2007-08-08 | Plywood - Biological durability - Guidance for the assessment of plywood for use in different use classes                                                    |
| EN 14272:2011         | 2011-12-21 | Plywood - Calculation method for some mechanical properties                                                                                                  |
| EN ISO 12460-2:2025   | 2025-02-26 | Wood-based panels - Determination of formaldehyde release - Part 2: Small-scale chamber method (ISO 12460-2:2024)                                            |
| EN 14279:2004+A1:2009 | 2009-03-18 | Laminated Veneer Lumber (LVL) - Definitions, classification and specifications                                                                               |
| EN 18079:2025         | 2025-07-16 | Wood-based panels - Determination of free melamine applying extraction and high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) with ultraviolet detection          |
| EN 622-2:2004/AC:2005 | 2005-12-07 | Fibreboards - Specifications - Part 2: Requirements for hardboards                                                                                           |
| EN ISO 12460-3:2023   | 2023-09-20 | Wood-based panels - Determination of formaldehyde release - Part 3: Gas analysis method (ISO 12460-3:2023)                                                   |

|                     |            |                                                                                                               |
|---------------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EN 622-2:2004       | 2004-04-28 | Fibreboards - Specifications - Part 2: Requirements for hardboards                                            |
| CEN/TR 12872:2014   | 2014-12-10 | Wood-based panels - Guidance on the use of load-bearing boards in floors, walls and roofs                     |
| EN 12369-1:2025     | 2025-09-17 | Wood-based panels - Characteristic values for structural design - Part 1: OSB, particleboards and fibreboards |
| EN 1058:2024        | 2024-12-11 | Wood-based panels - Determination of characteristic 5-percentile values and characteristic mean values        |
| EN 310:1993         | 1993-02-26 | Wood-based panels - Determination of modulus of elasticity in bending and of bending strength                 |
| EN 319:1993         | 1993-02-26 | Particleboards and fibreboards - Determination of tensile strength perpendicular to the plane of the board    |
| EN 12369-3:2022     | 2022-07-20 | Wood-based panels - Characteristic values for structural design - Part 3: Solid wood panels                   |
| EN ISO 12460-4:2016 | 2016-02-17 | Wood-based panels - Determination of formaldehyde release - Part 4: Desiccator method (ISO 12460-4:2016)      |
| EN 323:1993         | 1993-02-26 | Wood-based panels - Determination of density                                                                  |
| EN 633:1993         | 1993-10-31 | Cement-bonded particleboards - Definition and classification                                                  |
| EN 622-3:2004       | 2004-04-28 | Fibreboards - Specifications - Part 3: Requirements for medium boards                                         |
| EN 1195:1997        | 1997-10-22 | Timber structures - Test methods - Performance of structural floor decking                                    |
| EN 14323:2021       | 2021-11-24 | Wood-based panels - Melamine faced boards for interior uses - Test methods                                    |
| EN 1328:1996        | 1996-08-21 | Cement bonded particleboards - Determination of frost resistance                                              |

|                       |            |                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EN 13986:2004+A1:2015 | 2015-04-01 | Wood-based panels for use in construction - Characteristics, evaluation of conformity and marking                                 |
| EN 13446:2002         | 2002-05-22 | Wood-based panels - Determination of withdrawal capacity of fasteners                                                             |
| EN 300:2006           | 2006-07-05 | Oriented Strand Boards (OSB) - Definitions, classification and specifications                                                     |
| EN 12775:2001         | 2001-01-24 | Solid wood panels - Classification and terminology                                                                                |
| EN 12871:2013         | 2013-06-26 | Wood-based panels - Determination of performance characteristics for load bearing panels for use in floors, roofs and walls       |
| CEN/TS 16368:2014     | 2014-03-19 | Lightweight Particleboards - Specifications                                                                                       |
| EN 314-1:2004         | 2004-12-22 | Plywood - Bonding quality - Part 1: Test methods                                                                                  |
| EN 13810-1:2002       | 2002-12-11 | Wood-based panels - Floating floors - Part 1: Performance specifications and requirements                                         |
| EN 1156:2013          | 2013-04-17 | Wood-based panels - Determination of duration of load and creep factors                                                           |
| EN 324-2:1993         | 1993-02-26 | Wood-based panels - Determination of dimensions of boards - Part 2: Determination of squareness and edge straightness             |
| EN 314-2:1993         | 1993-02-26 | Plywood - Bonding quality - Part 2: Requirements                                                                                  |
| EN 13017-1:2000       | 2000-11-22 | Solid wood panels - Classification by surface appearance - Part 1: Softwood                                                       |
| EN 326-1:1994         | 1994-02-15 | Wood-based panels - Sampling, cutting and inspection - Part 1: Sampling and cutting of test pieces and expression of test results |
| EN 636:2012+A1:2015   | 2015-03-18 | Plywood - Specifications                                                                                                          |

|                     |            |                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EN 635-2:1995       | 1995-05-31 | Plywood - Classification by surface appearance - Part 2: Hardwood                                                                                |
| EN 717-1:2004       | 2004-10-06 | Wood-based panels - Determination of formaldehyde release - Part 1: Formaldehyde emission by the chamber method                                  |
| EN 635-3:1995       | 1995-05-31 | Plywood - Classification by surface appearance - Part 3: Softwood                                                                                |
| EN 317:1993         | 1993-02-26 | Particleboards and fibreboards - Determination of swelling in thickness after immersion in water                                                 |
| EN 318:2002         | 2002-03-20 | Wood based panels - Determination of dimensional changes associated with changes in relative humidity                                            |
| EN 1128:1995        | 1995-10-05 | Cement-bonded particleboards - Determination of hard body impact resistance                                                                      |
| EN 13017-2:2000     | 2000-11-22 | Solid wood panels - Classification by surface appearance - Part 2: Hardwood                                                                      |
| EN 382-1:1993       | 1993-02-26 | Fibreboards - Determination of surface absorption - Part 1: Test method for dry process fibreboards                                              |
| EN 634-2:2007       | 2007-02-28 | Cement-bonded particleboards - Specifications - Part 2: Requirements for OPC bonded particleboards for use in dry, humid and external conditions |
| EN 622-1:2003       | 2003-04-23 | Fibreboards - Specifications - Part 1: General requirements                                                                                      |
| CEN/TS 13810-2:2003 | 2003-04-02 | Wood-based panels - Floating floors - Part 2: Test methods                                                                                       |
| EN 14354:2017       | 2017-07-26 | Wood-based panels - Wood veneer floor coverings                                                                                                  |
| EN 635-1:1994       | 1994-12-12 | Plywood - Classification by surface appearance - Part 1: General                                                                                 |
| EN 634-1:1995       | 1995-03-16 | Cement-bonded particleboards - Specification - Part 1: General requirements                                                                      |

|               |            |                                                                                                                  |
|---------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EN 313-2:1999 | 1999-10-20 | Plywood - Classification and terminology - Part 2: Terminology                                                   |
| EN 315:2000   | 2000-07-19 | Plywood - Tolerances for dimensions                                                                              |
| EN 324-1:1993 | 1993-02-26 | Wood-based panels - Determination of dimensions of boards - Part 1: Determination of thickness, width and length |
| EN 14755:2005 | 2005-10-19 | Extruded particleboards - Specifications                                                                         |

## 4.2 CEN/TC 289 – Leather

This committee has a wide scope of activity, only a relatively limited part of which relates to the world of furniture. The scope of CEN/TC 289 is as follows:

“Standardization of terminology, sampling, test methods, requirements and characteristics to any intended end use in the field of raw hides and skins, tanned hides and skins and finished leather, with the typical shape given by the animal or part of it. Note: Are not included footwear and their components as covered by CEN/TC 309”.

Apart from the many standards (which are not listed here) setting out test methods and criteria for assessing the various properties and characteristics of leather, the following published standards are directly relevant to the furniture industry:

EN 13336:2022 (WI=00289219) - Leather - Upholstery leather characteristics - Guide for selection of leather for furniture

EN 16223-1:2022 (WI=00289226) - Leather - Requirements for the designation and description of leather in upholstery and automotive interior applications - Part 1: Upholstery applications.

## 4.3 CEN/TC 248 – Textiles

The same can be said about textiles and CEN/TC 248 “Textiles and textile products”.

The Scope of CEN/TC 248 is defined as follows:

“Standardization of the following aspects of textiles, textile products and textile components of products: 1) test methods; 2) terms and definitions; 3) specifications, and if necessary

classifications, in terms of their expected behaviour, in particular where required by other CEN Technical Committees or the CEC or EFTA. Equipment relevant for the testing and use of textiles”.

Some examples of relevant TC 248 standards for upholstered furniture are listed below:

EN 14465:2003 (WI=00248266) - Textiles - Upholstery fabrics - Specification and methods of test

EN 15618:2022 (WI=00248708) - Rubber- or plastic-coated fabrics - Upholstery fabrics - Classification and methods of test

EN 15973:2011 (WI=00248441) - Rubber- or plastic-coated fabrics - Upholstery fabrics - Resistance to soiling

EN ISO 105-E16:2007 (WI=00248375) - Textiles - Tests for colour fastness - Part E16: Colour fastness to water spotting on upholstery fabrics (ISO 105-E16:2006)

#### **4.4 Horizontal standardization on circular economy – CEN/TC 473, ISO/TC 323 and CEN-CLC JTC 10**

Several technical committees are currently working on horizontal standards relating to the circular economy within CEN and ISO. Sector-specific standardization committees for furniture (CEN/TC 207 and its WG10) are monitoring the progress of this work through official liaison channels to ensure consistency between this activity and their own work currently underway on the circularity of furniture and eco-design.

##### **CEN/TC 473 “Circular economy”**

Scope: Standardization in the field of Circular Economy to develop horizontal standards that address European specific prerequisites, legislation, and policy. The standards aim to provide guidance, recommendations, requirements, methodologies and tools to implement, support and measure transition towards a Circular Economy at an organizational level. The deliverables aim to complement international and European standardization in the advancement in the transition towards a Circular Economy, while contributing to sustainable development. The work aligns with, but does not duplicate, activities falling into the scope of other Technical Committees\*. The Technical Committee will promote and maintain open communication and active collaboration with all relevant committees.

##### **ISO/TC 9323 “Circular economy”**

Scope: Standardization in the field of Circular Economy to develop frameworks, guidance, supporting tools and requirements for the implementation of activities of all involved organizations, to maximize the contribution to Sustainable Development. Excluded: Aspects of Circular Economy already covered by existing committees.

This report must also mention the activity of the joint committee CEN-CENELEC JTC 10 “Material efficiency aspects for products in scope of Ecodesign legislation”, whose scope is as follows: “Material efficiency aspects for products in scope of the Ecodesign Directive 2009/125/EC and its future revisions. Producing generic and horizontal CEN-CENELEC publications covering aspects such as assessment methods, design rules, dematerialization, digitalization and transfer of information on a variety of material efficiency topics, in particular (but not limited to):

- Extending product lifetime
- Ability to reuse components or recycle materials\* from products at End-of-Life
- Use of reused components and/or recycled materials\* in products

\* Includes coverage of the European Commission defined list of Critical Raw Materials (CRM)”.

In the context of the ongoing sectoral work within CEN/TC 207/WG 10, the EN 4555X series of standards produced by JTC 10 is of particular importance, although the currently published edition contains requirements relating to energy related products, as they are being used as reference and models for the development of CEN/TC 207/WG 10 standards on disassembly/re-assembly, maintenance, repair and refurbishment capability, upgradability and reliability of furniture (see paragraph X.Y).

|                   |            |                                                                                                        |
|-------------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CLC/TR 45550:2020 | 2020-12-04 | Definitions related to material efficiency                                                             |
| EN 45554:2020     | 2020-02-21 | General methods for the assessment of the ability to repair, reuse and upgrade energy-related products |
| EN 45553:2020     | 2020-07-10 | General method for the assessment of the ability to remanufacture energy-related products              |
| EN 45558:2019     | 2019-03-01 | General method to declare the use of critical raw materials in energy-related products                 |
| EN 45556:2019     | 2019-06-07 | General method for assessing the proportion of reused components in energy-related products            |
| EN 45559:2019     | 2019-03-01 | Methods for providing information relating to material efficiency aspects of energy-related products   |
| EN 45560:2024     | 2024-11-22 | Method to achieve circular designs of products                                                         |
| EN 45555:2019     | 2019-11-27 | General methods for assessing the recyclability and recoverability of energy-related products          |
| EN 45557:2020     | 2020-04-29 | General method for assessing the proportion of recycled material content in energy-related products    |

EN 45552:2020      2020-03-11      General method for the assessment of the durability of energy-related products

## **4.5 Standardization of furniture products as a service – CEN/TC 348**

Finally, we should mention the project – still in its early stages – that the CEN/TC 348 “Facility Management” is currently working on furniture as service. At the time of writing this report, the TC 348 is approving the launch of a new work item entitled “Facility Management – Circular furnishing solutions”. The proposed scope of this future standard is as follows:

This document specifies a process and describes a general framework with guidance for the sourcing and provision of freestanding furniture in the built environment and related services including life cycle and circularity aspects.

The furniture in this standard is everything you easily and legally (based on regulation or through a contract) can take with you when you move out of a facility.