



# BSI Standards Publication

## Earthworks

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### Part 1: Principles and general rules

## National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 16907-1:2018.

Annex H is an informative annex which provides a summary of national practice within the United Kingdom. The UK committee draws users' attention to Table H.3, Design of earthworks, where some boxes are blank as text has been inadvertently omitted. In addition, Table H.4 contains two values which the UK committee suggests are incorrect: under class 6D, size 300 (microns), the range should be 5-48, and under class 6L, size 150 (microns), the range should be 0-15. The UK committee advises users of BS EN 16907-1:2018 that both tables are reproduced with the correct values in the *Specification for Highway Works (SHW), Series 0600 — Earthworks*, which can be obtained from the Highways England website: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/ha/standards/mchw/>

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee B/526/-/1, Earthworks.

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

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

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Erdarbeiten - Teil 1: Grundsätze und allgemeine Regeln

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CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN member.

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<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
European foreword .....	7
<b>1 Scope.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>2 Normative references.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions .....</b>	<b>9</b>
3.1 Definitions .....	9
3.2 Abbreviations and symbols.....	14
<b>4 Principles of earthworks design and execution .....</b>	<b>17</b>
4.1 General.....	17
4.2 Stages of earthworks projects.....	17
4.3 Instructions for the execution of works .....	18
4.4 Relationship between earthworks and earth-structure design .....	19
4.5 Sustainable development and environmental considerations for earthworks .....	20
4.6 Risk management .....	21
4.7 Types of earthwork processes .....	22
<b>5 Specific site and material investigations.....</b>	<b>22</b>
5.1 Information needed for earthworks design.....	22
5.2 Coordination of ground investigations .....	23
5.2.1 General.....	23
5.2.2 Site investigations for geotechnical design .....	23
5.2.3 Specific ground investigations for earthworks.....	23
5.2.4 Geotechnical reporting .....	24
5.3 Use of classification systems.....	24
<b>6 Design of earthworks for fills .....</b>	<b>25</b>
6.1 Introduction.....	25
6.2 Design procedure.....	26
6.2.1 General.....	26
6.2.2 Fill zones .....	27
6.3 Selection of the fill material properties and compaction process .....	32
6.3.1 General.....	32
6.3.2 Characterization of materials.....	33
6.3.3 Criteria for assessing the compacted fill material .....	34
6.3.4 Compaction behaviour of fill materials .....	35
6.3.5 Relationship testing to assess fill performance.....	37
6.3.6 Link between construction method and earthworks fill design.....	38
6.3.7 Use of full-scale tests to assess a compaction process for a given fill material .....	38
6.3.8 Design of fill cross-section.....	39
6.4 Details of specific parts, materials and earth structures .....	39
6.4.1 Introduction.....	39
6.4.2 Capping layers.....	39
6.4.3 Transition zones.....	40
6.4.4 Fills on slopes .....	42
6.4.5 Specific materials.....	42
6.4.6 High fills .....	43
6.4.7 Fills on soft soils or areas prone to flooding .....	44
6.4.8 Fills built above cavities .....	44

6.4.9	Surplus materials.....	45
7	Design of earthworks for cuttings .....	45
7.1	General .....	45
7.2	Materials involved.....	45
7.3	Geometry .....	46
7.4	Drainage.....	46
7.5	Overall stability.....	46
7.6	Relevant properties of the cutting base (subgrade) .....	46
8	Design of earthworks formed by dredging and hydraulic placement of fills .....	47
9	Design of earthworks for hydraulic placement of wastes .....	47
10	Earthworks Drainage .....	48
10.1	Drainage for collecting water.....	48
10.2	Protection of slopes against erosion.....	51
11	Optimization of earthworks project design.....	51
12	Technical Specifications for earthworks.....	52
12.1	General .....	52
12.2	End product Specification.....	54
12.3	Method Specification .....	54
12.4	Performance Specification .....	55
13	Monitoring earthworks and checking earth-structures performance.....	55
13.1	Introduction .....	55
13.2	Needs and techniques for monitoring and checking earthworks .....	56
13.3	Checking earth-structure performance.....	57
14	Use of national experience and non-conflicting rules .....	57
14.1	General .....	57
14.2	Informative examples of experience-based national practices.....	57
	Annex A (informative) Geometry definitions for earthworks and earth-structures .....	59
	Annex B (informative) Summary of national practice - Austria .....	62
B.1	Introduction .....	62
B.2	Soil and Rock Classification .....	63
B.2.1	Soil classification according to ÖNORM B 4400-1.....	63
B.2.2	Soil and rock classification according to ÖNORM B 2205 .....	63
B.3	Execution of earthworks .....	63
B.3.1	General .....	63
B.3.2	Soil and rock excavation .....	64
B.3.3	Preparation of formation level of subsoil (embankment foundations) .....	64
B.4	Construction of embankments and fills.....	65
B.4.1	Construction materials.....	65
B.4.2	Placement and compaction .....	66
B.4.3	Construction of formation level of sub-base.....	68
B.4.4	Construction of embankments and cut slopes .....	68
B.4.5	Backfilling and filling of structures.....	69

<b>B.4.6</b>	<b>Filling of line trenches and covering of lines (pipes, cables)</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>B.4.7</b>	<b>Measures aimed at improving subsoil and fills</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>B.5</b>	<b>Quality Control (Tests)</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>B.5.1</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>B.5.2</b>	<b>Test types</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>B.5.3</b>	<b>Test procedures</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>B.6</b>	<b>Literature</b>	<b>80</b>
	<b>Annex C (informative) Summary of national practice - France</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>C.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>C.2</b>	<b>Classification of materials</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>C.3</b>	<b>Design of Earthworks</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>C.3.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>C.3.2</b>	<b>Specification of the mechanical properties to be obtained</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>C.3.3</b>	<b>Classification of hydric state of materials and weather conditions</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>C.3.4</b>	<b>Fill material</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>C.3.5</b>	<b>Capping layer</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>C.3.6</b>	<b>Compaction of fill</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>C.3.7</b>	<b>Extraction and transportation of soil and rocks</b>	<b>98</b>
<b>C.3.8</b>	<b>Compaction of materials</b>	<b>98</b>
<b>C.4</b>	<b>Control of earthworks</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>C.4.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>C.4.2</b>	<b>Technical processes and control methods</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>C.5</b>	<b>References</b>	<b>102</b>
	<b>Annex D (informative) Summary of national practice - Germany</b>	<b>104</b>
<b>D.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>104</b>
<b>D.2</b>	<b>Classification of materials</b>	<b>105</b>
<b>D.2.1</b>	<b>Classification according to DIN 18196</b>	<b>105</b>
<b>D.2.2</b>	<b>Classification according to DIN 18300</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>D.2.3</b>	<b>Classification of frost susceptibility of soil groups according to ZTV E-StB</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>D.3</b>	<b>Execution of earthworks</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>D.3.1</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>D.3.2</b>	<b>Loosening, loading and conveying</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>D.3.3</b>	<b>Placing and compacting</b>	<b>112</b>
<b>D.3.4</b>	<b>Special construction methods in earthworks according to ZTV E-StB</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>D.4</b>	<b>Control of Earthworks</b>	<b>116</b>
<b>D.4.1</b>	<b>Types of testing</b>	<b>116</b>
<b>D.4.2</b>	<b>Testing methods</b>	<b>117</b>

<b>D.5</b>	<b>References.....</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Annex E (informative)</b>	<b>Summary of national practice - Norway.....</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>E.1</b>	<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>E.2</b>	<b>Classification of materials .....</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>E.3</b>	<b>Design of earthworks .....</b>	<b>122</b>
<b>E.3.1</b>	<b>Dredging.....</b>	<b>122</b>
<b>E.3.2</b>	<b>Underwater blasting.....</b>	<b>122</b>
<b>E.3.3</b>	<b>Transportation at sea.....</b>	<b>123</b>
<b>E.3.4</b>	<b>Spreading and compaction of fills .....</b>	<b>123</b>
<b>E.3.5</b>	<b>Filling under water .....</b>	<b>133</b>
<b>E.3.6</b>	<b>Replacement / displacement of soft soil.....</b>	<b>135</b>
<b>E.3.7</b>	<b>Influence of weather conditions.....</b>	<b>136</b>
<b>E.4</b>	<b>Quality control of earthworks.....</b>	<b>136</b>
<b>E.5</b>	<b>References.....</b>	<b>137</b>
<b>Annex F (informative)</b>	<b>Summary of national practice - Spain .....</b>	<b>138</b>
<b>F.1</b>	<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>138</b>
<b>F.2</b>	<b>Classification of materials .....</b>	<b>138</b>
<b>F.2.1</b>	<b>General .....</b>	<b>138</b>
<b>F.2.2</b>	<b>Soil classes.....</b>	<b>138</b>
<b>F.2.3</b>	<b>Fill classes built with rocky materials.....</b>	<b>141</b>
<b>F.3</b>	<b>Possible use of marginal materials .....</b>	<b>141</b>
<b>F.3.1</b>	<b>General .....</b>	<b>141</b>
<b>F.3.2</b>	<b>Some marginal soils.....</b>	<b>141</b>
<b>F.3.3</b>	<b>Some marginal rocks.....</b>	<b>142</b>
<b>F.4</b>	<b>Preliminary design of earth-structure cross section.....</b>	<b>143</b>
<b>F.5</b>	<b>Types of earth-structures to be built.....</b>	<b>145</b>
<b>F.6</b>	<b>Basic construction rules.....</b>	<b>145</b>
<b>F.6.1</b>	<b>Preparation of the ground area to build the earth or rockfill.....</b>	<b>145</b>
<b>F.6.2</b>	<b>Earthfills.....</b>	<b>145</b>
<b>F.6.3</b>	<b>Rock and random fills .....</b>	<b>147</b>
<b>F.7</b>	<b>Control of earthworks.....</b>	<b>148</b>
<b>F.7.1</b>	<b>General .....</b>	<b>148</b>
<b>F.7.2</b>	<b>Earthfills.....</b>	<b>148</b>
<b>F.7.3</b>	<b>Rock and Random fills .....</b>	<b>149</b>
<b>F.8</b>	<b>Reference.....</b>	<b>150</b>
<b>Annex G (informative)</b>	<b>Summary of national practice – Sweden.....</b>	<b>151</b>
<b>G.1</b>	<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>151</b>

<b>G.2</b>	<b>Classification of materials .....</b>	<b>151</b>
<b>G.2.1</b>	<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>151</b>
<b>G.2.2</b>	<b>Soil classification.....</b>	<b>151</b>
<b>G.2.3</b>	<b>Rock classification .....</b>	<b>153</b>
<b>G.3</b>	<b>Design of earthworks .....</b>	<b>153</b>
<b>G.4</b>	<b>Control of earthworks .....</b>	<b>153</b>
<b>Annex H (informative)</b>	<b>Summary of national practice - United Kingdom .....</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>H.1</b>	<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>H.2</b>	<b>Classification of materials .....</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>H.3</b>	<b>Design of earthworks .....</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>H.3.1</b>	<b>General.....</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>H.3.2</b>	<b>BS 6031:2009, Clause 8.2: Specification of earthworks by SHW approach .....</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>H.3.3</b>	<b>SHW required documentation within project earthworks specification .....</b>	<b>160</b>
<b>H.3.4</b>	<b>Compaction requirements (classification, design and construction aspects).....</b>	<b>160</b>
<b>H.3.5</b>	<b>Alternative specifications .....</b>	<b>160</b>
<b>H.3.6</b>	<b>Additional requirements for deep fill areas/buildings and structures .....</b>	<b>161</b>
<b>H.3.7</b>	<b>Selection of fill material properties (earthworks fill design).....</b>	<b>161</b>
<b>H.3.8</b>	<b>Extracts from core tables of UK Specification for Highway Works (SHW).....</b>	<b>163</b>
<b>H.4</b>	<b>Control of earthworks during construction .....</b>	<b>168</b>
<b>H.5</b>	<b>References.....</b>	<b>168</b>
<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>170</b>



## European foreword

This document (EN 16907-1:2018) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 396 “Earthworks”, the secretariat of which is held by AFNOR.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2019, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2019.

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

This document is one of the European Standards within the framework series of EN 16907 on *Earthworks*. The set of standards prepared by CEN/TC 396 is divided into several parts, which correspond to different steps of the planning, execution and control of earthworks and should be considered collectively as a group of standards for executing earthworks. The full set of Parts is as follows:

- EN 16907-1 *Earthworks - Part 1: Principles and general rules* (this document);
- EN 16907-2 *Earthworks - Part 2: Classification of materials*;
- EN 16907-3 *Earthworks - Part 3: Construction procedures*;
- EN 16907-4 *Earthworks - Part 4: Soil treatment with lime and/or hydraulic binders*;
- EN 16907-5 *Earthworks - Part 5: Quality control*;
- EN 16907-6 *Earthworks - Part 6: Land reclamation earthworks using dredged hydraulic fill*;
- EN 16907-7 *Earthworks - Part 7: Hydraulic placement of extractive waste*.

Within this standard, references to specific parts of the standard are written by reference the full reference (e.g. “EN 16907-2”).

These “Earthworks standards” do not apply to the environmental planning and geotechnical design that determines the required form and properties of the earth-structure that is to be constructed. They apply to the design of the earthworks materials, execution, monitoring and checking of earthworks construction processes to ensure that the completed earth-structure satisfies the geotechnical design.

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

## 1 Scope

This European Standard (Part 1) gives definitions, principles and general rules for the planning, design and specification of earthworks. It introduces the other parts of the standard, which will be used together with Part 1.

Earthworks are a civil engineering process aimed at creating earth-structures by changing the geometry of the earth surface for construction or other activities. Application fields of earthworks are associated with:

- transport infrastructures (road and motorways, railways, waterways, airports);
- platforms for industrial, commercial and residential buildings;
- water engineering, flood defence and coastal protection works;
- harbours and airport areas, including the construction of embankments in water;
- river dykes and marine embankments for land reclamation;
- earth and rock fill dams;
- onshore embankments made of hydraulically placed fill;
- noise barriers, visual barrier, and other non-load bearing earthworks;
- landscaping embankments;
- backfilling of open mines and quarries;
- tailings dams;

They are characterized by the need to use available natural or recycled materials and to handle them in a way appropriate to yield prescribed properties.

This standard is applicable to all types of earth-structures, except the cases listed below:

- some specific types of works such as the execution of trenches and small earthworks may be organized using simplified or specific rules;
- some structures, such as dykes and dams, need earthworks which have specific design and construction requirements: these may extend beyond the rules of this standard.

This standard does not cover ground improvement beneath an earth-structure by techniques such as piling, jet grouting, deep soil mixing, vertical drains or stone columns.

Due to the variable subsoil and climate conditions within Europe and to the different national contract conditions, national sets of rules have been established in several European countries which could not be harmonized within a short period by a European Standard. This European Standard gives therefore basic rules to reach the aims described above. Informative Annexes B to H of this document give examples of national practices following these rules.