

Applicable standards for solar thermal products

What are quality standards?

Standard is a technical document designed to be used as a rule, guideline or definition. It is a consensus-built, repeatable way of doing something. These consist on a set of technical specifications, defined based on consensus among all interested parties (industry, consumers, trade unions, public authorities or other entities) within independent standards bodies, acting at national, European and international level.

There are two main types of standard:

Technical standards: consist of technical specifications or other precise criteria that ensure products, manufacturing processes and services meet fixed quality benchmarks

Management and leadership standards: provide a framework for a business to manage its business processes and activities ([Quality Management Standards](#))

Some of these standards are voluntary, whereas other standards such as harmonized standards have been made effectively mandatory under EU law.

Harmonised European standards provide detailed technical information that allows manufacturers to conform with the requirements in the directives.

More information on Standards:

[International Organisation for Standardisation](#)
[European Committee for Standardisation](#)
[European Commission](#)

Which are the applicable standards in Europe?

- Reference number EN 12975-1:2006. Document title Thermal solar systems and components - Solar collectors - Part 1: General Requirements. CEN publication date 2006-03-29. Amendment EN12975-1+A1:2010
- Reference number EN 12975-2:2006. Document title Thermal solar systems and components - Solar collectors - Part 2: Test methods. CEN publication date 2006-03-29
- Reference number EN 12976-1:2006. Document title Thermal solar systems and components - Factory made systems - Part 1: General requirements. CEN publication date 2006-01-25.
- Reference number EN 12976-2:2006. Document title Thermal solar systems and components - Factory made systems - Part 2: Test methods. CEN publication date 2006-01-25
- Reference number ENV 12977-1:2001. Document title: Thermal solar systems and components - Custom built systems - Part 1: General requirements. CEN publication date 2001-04-25
- Reference number ENV 12977-2:2001. Document title: Thermal solar systems and components - Custom built systems - Part 2: Test methods. CEN publication date 2001-04-25
- Reference number ENV 12977-3:2001. Document title: Thermal solar systems and components - Custom built systems - Part 3: Performance characterisation of stores for solar heating systems. CEN publication date 2001-04-25
- Reference number EN ISO 9488:1999. Document title: Solar energy - Vocabulary (ISO 9488:1999). CEN publication date 1999-10-01

Note: other standards are under development and shall be published in the coming years.

Update: January 2012