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**Aerospace series - General Principles of Obsolescence  
Management of chemicals, materials and processes**

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English Version

**Aerospace series - General Principles of Obsolescence  
Management of chemicals, materials and processes**

Série aérospatiale - Principes généraux de la gestion de  
l'obsolescence des produits chimiques, des matériaux  
et des procédés

Luft- und Raumfahrt - Allgemeine Grundsätze des  
Obsoleszenzmanagements von Chemikalien,  
Werkstoffen und Prozessen

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 6 May 2018.

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.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION  
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION  
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

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## European foreword

This document (EN 9278:2018) has been prepared by the Aerospace and Defence Industries Association of Europe - Standardization (ASD-STAN).

After enquiries and votes carried out in accordance with the rules of this Association, this Standard has received the approval of the National Associations and the Official Services of the member countries of ASD, prior to its presentation to CEN.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by February 2019, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by February 2019.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.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations 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.

## EN 9278:2018 (E)

### Introduction

In the aeronautics and space fields, the component life time compared to the lengthy life cycle of finished products and the arrival of new regulations drive organisations into structuring obsolescence management.

This need has become important in these fields as a result of:

- the effort necessary for the qualification of materials and processes (due to a high level of performance and security requirements, to the complexity of interactions between systems, to the large number of industrial actors, to the multinational nature of programmes, etc.);
- the regulation requirement of conformity from the produced configuration to the qualified configuration (for example of certification by an official organization).

These characteristics reinforce three aerospace industry priorities:

- traceability;
- stability of technical choices;
- anticipation of evolutions.

New regulations such as RoHS or REACH, creating potential obsolescences (related to authorization and substance use restriction processes), force to take this obsolescence risk into account.

They created increasingly stronger concerns for organisations willing to express a need of information from the aerospace industry information within themselves, and within each of their programmes and with respect to their suppliers regarding necessary and accessible data that shall be supplied, shared and tracked. For example, information exchange principles are given in Annex A.

Obsolescence risk is meant as a potential or proven event, resulting from the non-availability of a product.

The submentioned differentiation will be observed in obsolescence cases:

- potential: obsolescence is predicted without a known deadline;
- proven: obsolescence is indicated with a known deadline;
- endured: obsolescence was unexpected, it is assessed.

Obsolescences of chemicals and their effects on products, especially materials, processes and mechanical part are tackled in this general recommendation, developed within the “Programme Management” working group to which representatives of aerospace and armament industries participated.

The obsolescences related to chemicals originate in:

- new regulations or evolution of existing laws (environment, health, safety, etc.);
- evolution for suppliers: changes of reference, evolutions of products, manufacturing processes, formulation, rationalising of product ranges, manufacturing halts, etc.;
- supplier failure: bankruptcies, evolution of industrial organisation, industrial accidents (fire, flooding, etc.);
- import – export obligations (ITAR, export controls, export licence, etc.);
- market laws or industrial rules (volume of production too low, ageing technology, etc.);
- etc.

**EN 9278:2018 (E)****1 Scope**

Obsolescence is a significant risk factor for an organisation and/or a programme activity regarding the continuity of productions, services and maintenance in operational conditions of equipments and systems. It can appear in any phase of the product life cycle. Thus it is essential that the organisation determines the best strategy to be implemented in order to control these risks, implying its customers and suppliers in the definition of this strategy.

This recommendation is a document meant to be used as guidelines, for an organisation and/or a given programme, for the implementation of a coordinated management process of obsolescence risks related to chemical products and to their effects on products, especially on materials, processes and mechanical parts.

Can be subject to obsolescences:

- all categories of equipments as well as their components;
- materials and processes used to produce, operate or maintain a product;
- all that can be bought, manufactured, repaired, be it done internally or externally;
- means of production, test and maintain.

This document excludes obsolescences related to electronic components and softwares (for more information on that subject, see EN 62402).

**2 Normative references**

There are no normative references in this document.

**3 Terms and definitions****3.1****obsolescence**

impossibility in supplying a product from original manufacturers

Note 1 to entry: Such a product is qualified as obsolete.

Note 2 to entry: An obsolescence can have different origins: regulations, technical evolution, supplier's failure, industrial evolutions, etc.

Note 3 to entry: The supplying impossibility can be permanent, temporary or potential.

**3.2****programme**

coordinated set of technical, administrative and financial tasks, intended to design, develop, produce and use a product, satisfying a need under the best economic conditions, as well as ensuring its support and considering the constraints of a withdrawal

[SOURCE: EN 9200]