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Ergonomics of the thermal environment — Medical supervision of individuals exposed to extreme hot or cold environments

*Ergonomie des ambiances thermiques — Surveillance médicale des
personnes exposées à la chaleur ou au froid extrêmes*



Reference number
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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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

International Standard ISO 12894 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 159, *Ergonomics*, Subcommittee SC 5, *Ergonomics of the physical environment*.

Annexes A to F of this International Standard are for information only.

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Introduction

This International Standard is one of a group of standards which specify methods for measuring and evaluating hot, moderate and cold thermal environments. International Standards or Technical Reports, which describe the evaluation of hot and cold thermal environments, give advice on the acceptability of these environments for human exposure, taking account of the activity level and the effects of clothing worn. That advice is given on the basis that the individuals concerned are healthy, that is, without any medical factor which might predispose them to ill effects from the thermal environment. Furthermore, biological variability prevents the accurate prediction of the response of any particular individual to climatic extremes. For these reasons, it is necessary to provide appropriate medical supervision for individuals who are to be exposed to extreme thermal environments. This International Standard describes a method to determine the degree of medical supervision relevant to different types of exposure, in order to limit the risk of any individual suffering from ill health.