

BS7827 REVISIONS

1 THE CONDUIT FOR COMMENT

The following people should be contacted if you wish to provide comment on the current content and wording of the Standard:

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PLASA	James Eade at james@plasa.org.uk
ISCE	David Tyas at davet@ikonavs.co.uk

2 INTRODUCTION

This is a proposal as to what the revised version of BS7827 should contain. In summary the revised Standard will have certain objectives:

- It seeks to remove certain sections and replace them with cross-references to other allied and relevant Standards so that there is a more harmonised suite of Standards for the industry to work with.
- It also seeks to add new material which has been found to be missing in the past, though limited to that which is strictly relevant to this Standard.
- It seeks to address the lack of guidance in certain areas which has come to light in the process of practical application of the current Standard in the field over the last 11 years, and in its previous form as an industry Code of Practice over the last 15 years.
- Finally it seeks to correct and update the cross references to other Standards which have changed over time.

Those who are offering to work on this Standard need to read it again and be sure that they have input in one of the aforementioned categories.

3 BACKGROUND

BS7827 started life in 1989 after the Hillsborough Disaster as a Code of Practice produced by an Inter-Institution Working Group which I chaired at the ISCE when it was part of SCIF. It was published by them in 1992 and became BS7827 in 1996.

In 1989 there was not much by way of Standards which addressed sound systems in terms of their ability to save lives, by the time this standard came out there was Part 8 of BS5839 Voice Alarms just emerging, BS7443 turning into IEC609849 Sound Systems for Emergency Purposes. Both of the latter have been revised and evolved and now contain much of the good practice espoused in BS7827.

The revised BS7827 needs to remove any duplication of subject matter with the other Standards (especially BS5839-8) and strengthen its guidance in its specialist subject matter.

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4 CURRENT STATUS

BS7827 currently contains the following topics which have been categorised as per the introduction:

For Revision	Cross Reference to BS5839-8	Cross Reference to another Standard (with comment in parenthesis)
Intelligibility	Commissioning tests	Warning signs (There is an ISO if not a BS on this subject)
Engineering for intelligibility	Routine procedures	
Non-quantitative recommendations	Operating Instructions	
Quantitative recommendations	Schematic drawings	
Objective measurements	Maintenance instructions	
Method of testing intelligibility	Test manual	
Personnel	Faults	
Training (various)	Records to be kept	
A) Subjective Intelligibility Tests	Routine procedures	
B) Information for a certifying Officer	Annual check	
C) Model design Statement	Restriction of access	
D) Sound System Check List	Auxiliary power	
F) Speech Indelibility Tests (Obective)	UPS	
G) Sound Pressure Level definitions	Cabling	
J) Certification for Announcers	Integrity surveillance	
	H) Model Form for a fault report	
	K) Model Form for a certifying authority	

Annex E defines Speech Spectrum Shaped Noise. There is a view that it is UNREPRESENTATIVE of the real world and there should be a lowering of the current headroom of 6dB.

Now there may be other topics which this Standard can and ought to address, so at the very first meeting, we need to have those suggestions on the table so that we can agree the Content of the Standard.

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5 CONSTITUTION OF THE BSI PANEL

The Panel consists of a maximum of 8 people. These include the Convener and the BSI Content Developer and the remaining 6 have been chosen for their experience in certain facets of the Standard at hand, or because of their skill in drafting Standards on similar topics. These also include the conduits for industry organisation input as described above.

Readers who express an interest, will be asked to route their comments through their representative on the main Panel. The representatives may be asked to obtain further detail from the interested party in order that their input may be properly included. The interested party may also be asked to author and attend a meeting of the Panel.

6 FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO INPUT

Everyone will have the opportunity to comment at the Draft for Public Comment (DPC) stage. The DPC stage is normally 2 months long and will culminate in a final meeting of the Panel to go through the comments and make what amendments are considered appropriate. After this the Standard will be published.

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