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National Standards
Authority of Ireland
Glasnevin, Dublin 9
Ireland

Tel: +353 1 807 3800
Fax: +353 1 807 3838
http://www.nsai.ie

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WATER QUALITY - GUIDANCE STANDARD FOR ASSESSING THE HYDROMORPHOLOGICAL FEATURES OF RIVERS

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Water Quality - Guidance standard for assessing the hydromorphological features of rivers

Qualité de l'eau - Guide pour l'évaluation des caractéristiques hydromorphologiques des rivières

Wasserbeschaffenheit - Anleitung zur Beurteilung hydromorphologischer Eigenschaften von Fließgewässern

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Foreword

This document (EN 14614:2004) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 230 “Water analysis”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

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of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by May 2005, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by May 2005.

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

WARNING — Safety issues are paramount when surveying rivers. Surveyors should conform to EU and national Health and Safety legislation, and any additional guidelines appropriate for working in or near rivers.

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Introduction

Historically, many countries in Europe have assessed river ‘quality’ simply in terms of the chemical or pollution status of the water flowing in river channels. A more comprehensive view of river habitats is needed, however, to answer pressing ecological questions such as those arising from the EC Water Framework Directive (WFD) (Commission of the European Communities, 2000) and the EC Habitats Directive, to underpin the International Convention on Biodiversity, or to assess proposed river engineering schemes and other catchment developments. In most European countries there are now pressures from statutory and voluntary environment and conservation agencies to see rivers returned to a more natural condition. This implies a need to evaluate areas deserving protection and those requiring rehabilitation, and to encourage better management of river systems throughout Europe.

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