



Standard Classification for Program and Project Estimate Summaries¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This classification establishes a classification of cost summaries for use when estimating program and project costs.

1.2 This classification can be applied to construction programs and projects that include one or more construction work projects.

1.3 This classification is not based on permanent physical elements of construction (as defined and classified in Classification **E1557** for example); rather, the classification items are cost components common to most program and project estimates.

1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

E631 Terminology of Building Constructions

E833 Terminology of Building Economics

E1557 Classification for Building Elements and Related Sitework—UNIFORMAT II

E2083 Classification for Building Construction Field Requirements, and Office Overhead & Profit

E2168 Classification for Allowance, Contingency, and Reserve Sums in Building Construction Estimating

E2514 Practice for Presentation Format of Elemental Cost Estimates, Summaries, and Analyses

2.2 Other Standard:³

MasterFormat

¹ This classification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **E06** on Performance of Buildings and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **E06.81** on Building Economics.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ Available from the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI), 110 South Union Street, Suite 100, Alexandria VA 22314, <http://www.csinet.org>.

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:* For other definitions of general terms related to building construction used in this classification, refer to Terminology **E631**; and for general terms related to building economics, refer to Terminology **E833**.

3.1.1 *element, n—in construction planning, design, specification, estimating, and cost analysis*, a significant component part of the whole that performs a specific function, or functions, regardless of design, specification, or construction method.

3.1.1.1 *Discussion*—While through analysis, or by direct application, construction estimates categorized into elements (functional elements) with allocated costs, may be summarized in an **elemental cost summary** or **elemental cost analysis**; elements (functional elements) also provide a framework for consistent preliminary project description, outline, and performance specification, through all stages of planning, design, construction, and maintenance.

3.1.2 *elemental cost analysis, n—in construction planning, design, specification, estimating, and cost analysis*, a tabulation of cost categorized by **major group element**, **group element**, or **element**, or any combination thereof, to which a **parameter quantity**, or parameter quantities, has, or have, been applied to derive benchmark figures (rates, ratios, percentages, and so forth).

3.1.2.1 *Discussion*—Elemental cost analyses are valuable tools in planning, estimating, and controlling construction cost through all stages of planning and design. The benchmark figures are primarily derived from underlying estimate detail but can, in some circumstances, be used directly to approximate estimates for other projects.

3.1.3 *elemental cost summary, n—in construction planning, design, specification, estimating, and cost analysis*, a tabulation of cost categorized by **major group element**, **group element**, or **element**.

3.1.4 *group element, n—in construction planning, design, specification, estimating, and cost analysis*, a significant component part of the whole that includes relevant **elements** which, as a group, perform specific function, or functions, regardless of design, specification or construction method.

3.1.5 *major group element, n—in construction planning, design, specification, estimating, and cost analysis*, a very