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Date: 20 December 2024

Origin: International

Latest date for receipt of comments: 8 January 2025

Project No. 2024/03629

Responsible committee: EXL/31 Equipment for explosive atmospheres

Interested committees:

Title: BS EN IEC 60079-15 Explosive atmospheres

Part 15: Equipment protection by type of protection "n"

Please notify the secretary if you are aware of any keywords that might assist in classifying or identifying the standard or if the content of this standard

- i) has any issues related to 3rd party IPR, patent or copyright
- ii) affects other national standard(s)
- iii) requires additional national guidance or information

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Responsible Committee Secretary: **Mr Christopher Brown (BSI)**Direct tel: **02089967441**E-mail: **christopher.brown@bsigroup.com**

Introduction

This draft standard is based on national and international discussions. Your comments on this draft are invited and will assist in the preparation of the consequent standard.

For international standards, comments will be reviewed by the relevant UK national committee before sending the consensus UK vote and comments to the international committee, which will then decide appropriate action. If the international standard is approved, it is usual for the text to be published as a British Standard.

For national standards, comments will be reviewed by the relevant UK national committee and the resulting standards published as a British Standard.

UK Vote

Please indicate whether you consider the UK should submit a negative (with supporting technical reasons) or positive vote on this draft. Please indicate if you are aware of any reason why this draft standard should not be published as a British Standard.

Submission of Comments

- **Annotated drafts are not acceptable and will be rejected.**
- All comments should be submitted online at <https://standardsdevelopment.bsigroup.com/>. You will need to register in order to comment.

Template for comments and secretariat observations

Date: xx/xx/20xx	Document: ISO/DIS xxxx
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1	2	(3)	4	5	(6)	7
MB	Clause No./ Subclause No./Annex (e.g. 3.1)	Paragraph/Figure/ Table/Note	Type of comment	Commend (justification for change) by the MB	Proposed change by the MB	Secretariat observations on each comment submitted
	3.1	Definition 1	ed	Definition is ambiguous and needs clarifying.	Amend to read '...so that the mains connector to which no connection...'	
	6.4	Paragraph 2	te	The use of the UV photometer as an alternative cannot be supported as serious problems have been encountered in its use in the UK.	Delete reference to UV photometer.	



31/1843/CD

COMMITTEE DRAFT (CD)

PROJECT NUMBER:

IEC 60079-15 ED6

DATE OF CIRCULATION:

2024-12-13

CLOSING DATE FOR COMMENTS:

2025-02-07

SUPERSEDES DOCUMENTS:

31/1841/RR

IEC TC 31 : EQUIPMENT FOR EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES

SECRETARIAT:

United Kingdom

SECRETARY:

Mr Tom Stack

OF INTEREST TO THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

HORIZONTAL FUNCTION(S):

ASPECTS CONCERNED:

This document is still under study and subject to change. It should not be used for reference purposes.

Recipients of this document are invited to submit, with their comments, notification of any relevant patent rights of which they are aware and to provide supporting documentation.

Recipients of this document are invited to submit, with their comments, notification of any local regulations or technical reasons that may exist and should be considered should this proposal proceed, recognizing that failure to address such requirements could result in the need for new or existing "In Some Countries" clauses. (SEE [AC/22/2007](#) OR [NEW GUIDANCE DOC](#)).

TITLE:

Explosive atmospheres - Part 15: Equipment protection by type of protection "n"

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EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

Part 15: Equipment protection by type of protection "n"

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60079 specifies requirements for the construction, testing and marking for Group II electrical equipment with type of protection "n" which includes; sealed devices "nC", hermetically sealed devices "nC", non-incendive components "nC" and restricted breathing enclosures "nR" intended for use in explosive gas atmospheres. This part of IEC 60079 applies to electrical equipment where the rated input voltage does not exceed 15 kV r.m.s. AC or DC including where the internal working voltages of the Ex product exceeds 15 kV, for example starters for HID luminaires.

This part of IEC 60079 supplements and modifies the general requirements of IEC 60079-0, except as indicated in Table 1. Where a requirement of this part of IEC 60079 conflicts with a requirement of IEC 60079-0, the requirement of this part of IEC 60079 takes precedence.

Table 1 – Relationship of IEC 60079-15 to IEC 60079-0

Clause of IEC 60079-0			IEC 60079-0 clause application to IEC 60079-15	
Ed. 6.0 (2011) (informative)	Ed. 7.0 ¹¹ (future edition) (informative)	Clause / Subclause title (normative)	Protected sparking "nC"	Restricted breathing "nR"
3	3	Definitions	Applies	Applies
4	4	Equipment grouping		
4.1	4.1	Group I	Excluded	Excluded
4.2	4.2	Group II	Applies	Applies
4.3	4.3	Group III	Excluded	Excluded
4.4	4.4	Equipment for a particular explosive atmosphere	Applies	Applies
5	5	Temperatures		
5.1	5.1	Environmental influences	Applies	Applies
5.2	5.2	Service temperature	Applies	Applies
5.3	5.3	Maximum surface temperature		

¹ Under preparation. Stage at the time of publication: IEC/FDIS 60079-0:2017

Clause of IEC 60079-0			IEC 60079-0 clause application to IEC 60079-15	
Ed. 6.0 (2011) (informative)	Ed. 7.0 ¹¹ (future edition) (informative)	Clause / Subclause title (normative)	Protected sparking “nC”	Restricted breathing “nR”
5.3.1	5.3.1	Determination of maximum surface temperature	Applies	Applies
5.3.2	5.3.2	Limitation of maximum surface temperature		
5.3.2.1	5.3.2.1	Group I equipment	Excluded	Excluded
5.3.2.2	5.3.2.2	Group II equipment	Applies	Applies
5.3.2.3	5.3.2.3	Group III equipment	Excluded	Excluded
5.3.3	5.3.3	Small component temperature for Group I and Group II equipment	Applies	Excluded
-	5.3.4	Component temperature of smooth surfaces for Group I or Group II equipment (Applies for smaller than 10 000 mm ² only)	Applies	Excluded
6	6	Requirements for all electrical apparatus		
6.1	6.1	General	Applies	Applies
6.2	6.2	Mechanical strength	Applies	Applies
6.3	6.3	Opening times	Excluded	Applies
6.4	6.4	Circulating currents	Applies	Applies
6.5	6.5	Gasket retention	Applies	Applies
6.6	6.6	Electromagnetic and ultrasonic radiating equipment	Applies	Applies
7	7	Non-metallic enclosures and non-metallic parts of enclosures		
7.1	7.1	General		
7.1.1	7.1.1	Applicability	Applies	Applies
7.1.2	7.1.2	Specification of materials	Applies	Applies
7.2	7.2	Thermal endurance		

Clause of IEC 60079-0			IEC 60079-0 clause application to IEC 60079-15	
Ed. 6.0 (2011) (informative)	Ed. 7.0 ¹¹ (future edition) (informative)	Clause / Subclause title (normative)	Protected sparking “nC”	Restricted breathing “nR”
7.2.1	7.2.1	Tests for thermal resistance	Applies	Applies
7.2.2	-	Material selection	Modified	Modified
-	7.2.2	Material selection	Applies	Applies
7.2.3	7.2.3	Alternative qualification for elastomeric sealing O-rings	Applies	Applies
7.3	7.3	Resistance to ultraviolet light	Applies	Applies
7.4	7.4	Electrostatic charges on external non-metallic materials		
7.4.1	7.4.1	Applicability	Applies	Applies
7.4.2	7.4.2	Avoidance of build-up of electrostatic charge on Group I or Group II electrical equipment	Applies	Applies
7.4.3	7.4.3	Avoidance of build-up of electrostatic charge on equipment for Group III	Excluded	Excluded
7.5	7.5	External conductive parts	Applies	Applies
8	8	Metallic enclosures and metallic parts of enclosures		
8.1	8.1	Material composition	Applies	Applies
8.2	8.2	Group I	Excluded	Excluded
8.3	8.3	Group II	Applies	Applies
8.4	8.4	Group III	Excluded	Excluded
NR	8.5	Copper alloys	Applies	Applies
9	9	Fasteners		
9.1	9.1	General	Applies	Applies
9.2	9.2	Special fasteners	Excluded	Excluded
9.3	9.3	Holes for special fasteners	Excluded	Excluded

Clause of IEC 60079-0			IEC 60079-0 clause application to IEC 60079-15	
Ed. 6.0 (2011) (informative)	Ed. 7.0 ¹¹ (future edition) (informative)	Clause / Subclause title (normative)	Protected sparking “nC”	Restricted breathing “nR”
9.3.3	-	Hexagon socket set screws	Excluded	Excluded
-	9.4	Hexagon socket set screws	Excluded	Excluded
10	10	Interlocking devices	Excluded	Excluded
11	11	Bushings	Applies	Applies
12	-	Materials used for cementing	Modified	Modified
-	12	Reserved for future use.	Excluded	Excluded
13	13	Ex components	Applies	Applies
14	14	Connection facilities	Applies	Applies
15	15	Connection facilities for earthing and bonding conductors	Applies	Applies
16	16	Entries into enclosures	Applies	Applies
17	17	Supplementary requirements for electric machines	Excluded	Excluded
18	18	Supplementary requirements for switchgear	Excluded	
18.1	18.1	Flammable dielectric	Excluded	Applies
18.2	18.2	Disconnectors	Excluded	Applies
18.3	18.3	Group I – Provisions for locking	Excluded	Excluded
18.4	18.4	Doors and covers	Excluded	Applies
19	-	Supplementary requirements for fuses	Excluded	Excluded
-	19	Reserved for future use.	Excluded	Excluded
20	20	Supplementary requirements for plugs and sockets		
20.1	20.1	General	Applies	Applies

Clause of IEC 60079-0			IEC 60079-0 clause application to IEC 60079-15	
Ed. 6.0 (2011) (informative)	Ed. 7.0 ¹¹ (future edition) (informative)	Clause / Subclause title (normative)	Protected sparking “nC”	Restricted breathing “nR”
20.2	20.2	Explosive gas atmospheres	Excluded	Excluded
20.3	20.3	Explosive dust atmospheres	Excluded	Excluded
20.4	20.4	Energized plugs	Applies	Applies
21	21	Supplementary requirements for luminaires		
21.1	21.1	General	Applies	Applies
21.2	21.2	Covers for luminaires of EPL Mb, EPL Gb or EPL Db	Excluded	Excluded
21.3	21.3	Covers for luminaires of EPL Gc or EPL Dc	Applies	Applies
21.4	21.4	Sodium lamps	Applies	Applies
22	22	Supplementary requirements for caplights and handlights		
22.1	22.1	Group I caplights	Excluded	Excluded
22.2	22.2	Group II and Group III caplights and handlights	Excluded	Applies
23	23	Equipment incorporating cells and batteries	Applies	Applies
23.12	23.12	Replacement battery-pack	Applies	Applies
24	24	Documentation	Modified	Modified
25	25	Compliance of prototype or sample with documents	Applies	Applies
26	26	Type tests	Applies	Applies
26.4	26.4	Tests of enclosures		
26.4.1	26.4.1	Order of tests		
26.4.1.1	26.4.1.1	Metallic enclosures, metallic parts of	Applies	Applies

Clause of IEC 60079-0			IEC 60079-0 clause application to IEC 60079-15	
Ed. 6.0 (2011) (informative)	Ed. 7.0 ¹¹ (future edition) (informative)	Clause / Subclause title (normative)	Protected sparking “nC”	Restricted breathing “nR”
		enclosures and glass or ceramic parts of enclosures		
26.4.1.2	26.4.1.2	Non-metallic enclosures or non-metallic parts of enclosures		
26.4.1.2.1	26.4.1.2.1	General	Applies	Applies
26.4.1.2.2	26.4.1.2.2	Group I electrical equipment	Excluded	Excluded
26.4.1.2.3	-	Group II and Group III electrical equipment	Modified	Modified
-	26.4.1.2.3	Group II and Group III electrical equipment	Applies	Applies
26.4.2	26.4.2	Resistance to impact	Applies	Applies
26.4.3	26.4.3	Drop test	Applies	Applies
26.4.4	26.4.4	Acceptance criteria	Applies	Applies
26.4.5	26.4.5	Degree of protection by enclosure	~~Applies~~ Excluded	~~Applies~~ Excluded
26.5	26.5	Thermal tests		
26.5.1	26.5.1	Temperature measurement	Applies	Applies
26.5.1.1	26.5.1.1	General	Applies	Applies
26.5.1.2	26.5.1.2	Service Temperature	Applies	Applies
26.5.2	26.5.2	Thermal shock test	Applies	Applies
26.5.3	26.5.3	Small component ignition test (Group I and Group II)	Applies	Excluded
26.6	26.6	Torque test for bushings	Applies	Applies
26.7	26.7	Non-metallic enclosures or non-metallic parts of enclosures		
26.7.1	26.7.1	General	Applies	Applies
26.7.2	-	Test temperatures	Modified	Modified