



BSI Standards Publication

High-voltage switchgear and controlgear

Part 1: Common specifications for alternating current switchgear and controlgear

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 62271-1:2017+A1:2021. It is identical to IEC 62271-1:2017, incorporating amendment 1:2021. It supersedes BS EN 62271-1:2017, which will be withdrawn on 20 June 2022.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee PEL/17, High voltage switchgear, controlgear and assemblies.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

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31 December 2021	Implementation of IEC amendment 1:2021 with CENELEC endorsement A1:2021: Subclause 6.4.1 and Bibliography reference [24] replaced.
31 December 2021	Implementation of IEC Interpretation Sheet 1.

English Version

High-voltage switchgear and controlgear - Part 1: Common
specifications for alternating current switchgear and controlgear
(IEC 62271-1:2017)

Appareillage à haute tension - Partie 1: Spécifications
communes pour appareillage à courant alternatif
(IEC 62271-1:2017)

Hochspannungs-Schaltgeräte und -Schaltanlagen - Teil 1:
Gemeinsame Bestimmungen für Wechselstrom-
Schaltgeräte und -Schaltanlagen
(IEC 62271-1:2017)

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Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels

European foreword

The text of document 17/1033/FDIS, future edition 2 of IEC 62271-1, prepared by IEC/TC 17 "High-voltage switchgear and controlgear" was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN 62271-1:2017.

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standard or by endorsement
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standards conflicting with the
document have to be withdrawn

This document supersedes EN 62271-1:2008.

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The text of the International Standard IEC 62271-1:2017 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

In the official version, for Bibliography, the following notes have to be added for the standards indicated:

IEC 60447	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60447.
IEC 60721-2-4	NOTE	Harmonized as prEN 60721-2-4 ¹⁾ .
IEC 60721-2-2	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60721-2-2.
IEC 60721-3-3	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60721-3-3.
IEC 60721-3-4	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60721-3-4.
IEC 60664-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60664-1.
IEC/TS 62271-304	NOTE	Harmonized as CLC/TS 62271-304.
IEC 62271-207	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 62271-207.
IEC 60721-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60721-1.
IEC 60721-2 (series)	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60721-2 (series).
IEC 60721-3 (series)	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60721-3 (series).
IEC 61936-1:2010	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 61936-1:2010.
IEC 61936-1:2010/AMD1:2014	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 61936-1:2010/A1:2014.
IEC 61850 (series)	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 61850 (series).

1) At draft stage.

IEC 62271-3	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 62271-3.
IEC 60073	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60073.
IEC 60695-3 (series)	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60695-3 (series).
IEC 60695-7 (series)	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60695-7 (series).
IEC 60068-2-17:1994	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60068-2-17:1994.
CISPR 16-1 (series)	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 55016-1 (series).
IEC 60909-0	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60909-0.
IEC 60228	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60228.
IEC 60445	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60445.
IEC 60947-7-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60947-7-1.
IEC 60947-7-2	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60947-7-2.
IEC 61810 (series)	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 61810 (series).
IEC 61810-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 61810-1.
IEC 61810-2	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 61810-2.
IEC 60947-4-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60947-4-1.
IEC 60947-2	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60947-2.
IEC 60947-4-2	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60947-4-2.
IEC 60947-3	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60947-3.
IEC 60947-5-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60947-5-1.
IEC 60730-2-13	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60730-2-13.
IEC 60669-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60669-1.
IEC 60730-2-9	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60730-2-9.
IEC 61020-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 61020-1.
IEC 60269-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60269-1.
IEC 60269-2	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60269-2.
IEC 60034-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60034-1.
IEC 60051-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60051-1.
IEC 60051-2	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60051-2.
IEC 60051-4	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60051-4.

IEC 60051-5	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60051-5.
IEC 60309-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60309-1.
IEC 60309-2	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60309-2.
IEC 60130 (series)	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60130 (series).
IEC 62326-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 62326-1.
IEC 60393-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60393-1.
IEC 60081	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60081.
IEC 60064	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60064.
IEC 60059	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60059.
IEC 60068-2 (series)	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60068-2 (series).

European foreword to amendment A1

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- latest date by which the document has to be implemented at national (dop) 2022-08-08 level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the (dow) 2024-11-08 document have to be withdrawn

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The text of the International Standard IEC 62271-1:2017/AMD1:2021 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

Annex ZA (normative)

Normative references to international publications with their corresponding European publications

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

NOTE 1 When an International Publication has been modified by common modifications, indicated by (mod), the relevant EN/HD applies.

NOTE 2 Up-to-date information on the latest versions of the European Standards listed in this annex is available here: www.cenelec.eu.

Publication	Year	Title	EN/HD	Year
IEC 60038 (mod)	2009	IEC standard voltages	EN 60038	2011
IEC 60050-131	2002	International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) -- Part 131: Circuit theory	-	-
IEC 60050-151	2001	International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) -- Part 151: Electrical and magnetic devices	-	-
IEC 60050-192	2015	International electrotechnical vocabulary - Part 192: Dependability	-	-
IEC 60050-351	-	International Electrotechnical Vocabulary - Part 351: Control technology	-	-
+ A1	2000		-	-
IEC 60050-441	1984	International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) -- Chapter 441: Switchgear, controlgear and fuses	-	-
IEC 60050-551	-	International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) -- Part 551: Power electronics	-	-
IEC 60050-581	2008	International Electrotechnical Vocabulary - Part 581: Electromechanical components for electronic equipment	-	-
IEC 60050-601	-	International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) -- Chapter 601: Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity - General	-	-
IEC 60050-605	-	International electrotechnical vocabulary - Chapter 605: Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity - Substations	-	-
IEC 60050-614	2016	International electrotechnical vocabulary - Part 614: Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity - Operation	-	-
IEC 60050-811	-	International electrotechnical vocabulary (IEV) -- Chapter 811: Electric traction	-	-
IEC 60050-826	2004	International Electrotechnical Vocabulary - Part 826: Electrical installations	-	-
IEC 60060-1	2010	High-voltage test techniques -- Part 1: General definitions and test requirements	EN 60060-1	2010
IEC 60068-2-1	2007	Environmental testing -- Part 2-1: Tests - Test A: Cold	EN 60068-2-1	2007
IEC 60068-2-2	2007	Environmental testing -- Part 2-2: Tests - Test B: Dry heat	EN 60068-2-2	2007
IEC 60068-2-30	2005	Environmental testing -- Part 2-30: Tests - Test Db: Damp heat, cyclic (12 h + 12 h cycle)	EN 60068-2-30	2005
IEC 60071-1	2006	Insulation co-ordination -- Part 1: Definitions, principles and rules	EN 60071-1	2006
+ A1	2010		+ A1	2010

EN 62271-1:2017+A1:2021

IEC 60071-2	1996	Insulation co-ordination -- Part 2: Application guide	EN 60071-2	1997
IEC 60085	2007	Electrical insulation - Thermal evaluation and designation	EN 60085	2008
IEC 60255-21-1	1988	Electrical relays -- Part 21: Vibration, shock, bump and seismic tests on measuring relays and protection equipment -- Section 1: Vibration tests (sinusoidal)	EN 60255-21-1	1995
IEC 60270	-	High-voltage test techniques - Partial discharge measurements	EN 60270	-
IEC 60296	-	Fluids for electrotechnical applications - Unused mineral insulating oils for transformers and switchgear	EN 60296	-
IEC 60376	-	Specification of technical grade sulfur hexafluoride (SF6) for use in electrical equipment	EN 60376	-
IEC 60480	-	Guidelines for the checking and treatment of sulphur hexafluoride (SF6) taken from electrical equipment and specification for its re-use	EN 60480	-
IEC 60507	-	Artificial pollution tests on high-voltage ceramic and glass insulators to be used on a.c. systems	EN 60507	-
IEC 60512-2-2	-	Connectors for electronic equipment - Tests and measurements -- Part 2-2: Electrical continuity and contact resistance tests - Test 2b: Contact resistance - Specified test current method	EN 60512-2-2	-
IEC 60529	1989	Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)	EN 60529	1991
-	-		+ corrigendum May 1993	
IEC 60529 AMD 1	1999	Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP_code); Amendment_1	-	-
IEC 60529 AMD 2	2013	Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP_code); Amendment_2	-	-
IEC 61000-4-4	-	Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) -- Part 4-4: Testing and measurement techniques - Electrical fast transient/burst immunity test	EN 61000-4-4	-
IEC 61000-4-11	-	Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) -- Part 4-11: Testing and measurement techniques - Voltage dips, short interruptions and voltage variations immunity tests	EN 61000-4-11	-
IEC 61000-4-17	-	Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) - Part 4-17: Testing and measurement techniques - Ripple on d.c. input power port immunity test	-	-
IEC 61000-4-18	-	Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) -- Part 4-18: Testing and measurement techniques - Damped oscillatory wave immunity test	EN 61000-4-18	-
IEC 61000-4-29	-	Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) -- Part 4-29: Testing and measurement techniques - Voltage dips, short interruptions and voltage variations on d.c. input power port immunity tests	EN 61000-4-29	-
IEC 61000-6-2	-	Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) - Part 6-2: Generic standards - Immunity standard for industrial environments	EN 61000-6-2	-

IEC 61000-6-5	-	Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) - Part 6-5: Generic standards - Immunity for equipment used in power station and substation environment	EN 61000-6-5	-
IEC 61180	-	High-voltage test techniques for low-voltage equipment - Definitions, test and procedure requirements, test equipment	EN 61180	-
IEC 61810-7	2006	Electromechanical elementary relays -- Part 7: Test and measurement procedures	EN 61810-7	2006
IEC 62262	2002	Degrees of protection provided by enclosures for electrical equipment against external mechanical impacts (IK code)	EN 62262	2002
IEC 62271-4	-	High-voltage switchgear and controlgear -- Part 4: Handling procedures for sulphur hexafluoride (SF ₆) and its mixtures	EN 62271-4	-
IEC/TS 60815-1	2008	Selection and dimensioning of high-voltage-insulators intended for use in polluted conditions - Part 1: Definitions, information and general principles		-
IEC/TS 60815-2	2008	Selection and dimensioning of high-voltage-insulators intended for use in polluted conditions - Part 2: Ceramic and glass insulators for a.c. systems		-
IEC/TS 60815-3	2008	Selection and dimensioning of high-voltage-insulators intended for use in polluted conditions - Part 3: Polymer insulators for a.c. systems		-
CISPR 11 (mod)	2015	Industrial, scientific and medical equipment - Radio-frequency disturbance characteristics - Limits and methods of measurement	EN 55011	2016
CISPR/TR 18-2	-	Radio interference characteristics of overhead power lines and high-voltage equipment - Part 2: Methods of measurement and procedure for determining limits	-	-

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

IEC 62271-1
Edition 2.0 2017-07

HIGH-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

Part 1: Common specifications for alternating current switchgear and controlgear

INTERPRETATION SHEET 1

This interpretation sheet has been prepared by IEC technical committee 17: High-voltage switchgear and controlgear.

The text of this interpretation sheet is based on the following documents:

DISH	Report on voting
17/1090/DISH	17/1095/RVDISH

Full information on the voting for the approval of this interpretation sheet can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

Interpretation of 4.2.2 of IEC 62271-1:2017 regarding the altitude correction factor

Subclause 4.2.2 of IEC 62271-1:2017 contains two references for calculation of the required insulation withstand level at altitudes higher than 1 000 m, IEC 60071-2:1996 and IEC TR 62271-306. The two references are in conflict, as the altitude correction factor according to IEC 60071-2:1996 starts at sea level and that of IEC TR 62271-306 starts at an altitude of 1 000 m. This results in different altitude correction factors.

As already stated in 5.3 of IEC 62271-1:2017, the rated insulation levels refer to normal service conditions. Altitudes up to 1 000 m above sea level are covered and need no altitude correction.

For altitudes higher than 1 000 m the equation provided in 4.5.1.1 b) of IEC TR 62271-306:2012 and in H.3.4 of IEC 60071-2:2018 shall be used, i.e.

$$k_{\text{alt}} = e^{m \left(\frac{H-1000}{8150} \right)}$$

where

k_{alt} is the altitude correction factor;

H is the altitude in m above sea level;

m is an exponent.

Conservative values for the exponent m are provided in Table 4 of IEC TR 62271-306:2012.
For further details about the exponent m , see H.4 of IEC 60071-2:2018.

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

HIGH-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

Part 1: Common specifications for alternating current switchgear and controlgear

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 62271-1 has been prepared by technical committee 17: High-voltage switchgear and controlgear.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2007 and Amendment 1:2011. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

New numbering in accordance with ISO/IEC directives, Part 2 (2016) and IEEE Std. C37.100.1.

- 4.1.2 a) The normal service condition for indoor switchgear is limited to one range of 40 °C to –5 °C.

- 4.1.3 a) The normal service condition for outdoor switchgear is limited to one range of 40 °C to –25 °C.
- 4.2.2: The specifications from IEC 60071-2:1996 are adopted for altitude correction factors above 1 000 m.
- 5.2.2: Range I, the rated voltage of 40,5 kV is added Series I Table 1; Table 2 and Table 4 are updated on recommendation of the US National Committee.
- 6.8: New subclause added for manual operated actuators consistent with “Man Machine Interface” recommendations of IEC 60447 [1] ¹.
- 7.2.6.1: Insert the wording regarding preliminary impulses across open vacuum interrupters according to the result of IEC 17/1026/RQ.
- 7.3: Changed the requirement for radio interference voltage to a rated voltage level of 245 kV and above, instead of 123 kV and above. This change is based on reported positive test and service experience of utility representatives in the maintenance team of this standard.
- 7.5.6, Table 14:
- a) Introduced the distinction of parts in “OG” (oxidizing gas) or in “NOG” (not oxidizing gas) replacing the former “air” and “SF₆”;
 - b) Increased the allowable temperature rise for some parts in groups 1 and 2 of Table 14 according to IEC TR 60943 [2];
 - c) Expanded the definition of allowable temperature rise for categories of accessible surfaces with reference to IEC Guide 117 [3]. See also point 15 in 7.5.6.2.
- 7.5.6.2: Point 5 is modified to clarify the introduction of “OG” and “NOG” gas.
- 7.10: Some tests were removed because the relevant test standards of IEC 60068 series were modified or withdrawn.
- 7.11.3: The acceptance criteria for X-radiation testing are modified to recognize higher rated vacuum interrupters.

Former informative Annex H: Corrosion is deleted, the content is part of IEC TR 62271-306 [4].

New Annex J (informative): Added informative guidelines for the extension of validity of type tests

New Annex K (informative): Added informative guidelines about exposure to pollution

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
17/1033/FDIS	17/1037/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This document has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The reader's attention is drawn to the fact that Annex I lists all of the “in-some-country” clauses on differing practices of a less permanent nature relating to the subject of this standard.

¹ Numbers in square brackets refer to the Bibliography.

The list of all parts of the IEC 62271 series under the general title, *High-voltage switchgear and controlgear*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

The contents of the Interpretation Sheet 1 of May 2021 have been included in this copy.

INTRODUCTION

In the preparation of this FDIS draft for the general revision of IEC 62271-1:2007 and IEC 62271-1:2007/AMD1:2011, the maintenance team was motivated by the following principles:

- Application of horizontal standards – such application is mandatory for product standards, (reference IEC Guide 108 [5]). A typical example is the application of IEC 60071 (all parts) dealing with insulation coordination.
- Application of the "principle of verifiability" – as defined in the Directives, Part 2, 5.5 (2016) "...Only those requirements which can be verified shall be included."
- Organizing information in the proper clause, e.g. terms and definitions in Clause 3, rated values in Clause 5. For example, the values of rated continuous current are specified in Clause 5 but the conditions of test and acceptance criteria (e.g. temperature rise limits) are moved to Clause 7.
- Normal service conditions in Clause 4 are unambiguous statements of conditions under which the switchgear and controlgear is expected to operate. For example: "Solar radiation does not exceed a level of 1 000 W/m²" rather than "Solar radiation up to a level of 1 000 W/m² should be considered".
- Ratings in Clause 5 have been limited to reflect the common specifications of the switchgear and controlgear that are specified by the user and are necessary for operation on the user's network. See the last paragraph of 5.1 for addition clarification.
- Statements or informative NOTES that reflect design guides (not requirements) or application (not standard requirements) are either removed or moved to Clause 9.
For example, the following former NOTE contains both a design guide and an application issue, neither of which belongs to normal service conditions:
"Under certain levels of solar radiation, appropriate measures, for example roofing, forced ventilation, test simulating solar gain, etc., may be necessary, or derating may be used, in order not to exceed the specified temperature rises and pressure rise limits".
- Specifications for design and construction in Clause 6 have been limited to requirements that can be verified by test or inspection.
- References to tests and procedures that relate to transportation, installation, commissioning and maintenance have been moved to Clause 11.
- Improve wording to minimize the possibility of miss-interpretation or conflicting interpretations of the specifications, methods or criteria.
- Elimination of hanging paragraphs and actual or potential circular references. Reference to ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, 22.3.3 (2016).

As a result of the application of these principles or objectives, the FDIS draft includes more revisions that might otherwise be expected.

HIGH-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

Part 1: Common specifications for alternating current switchgear and controlgear

1 Scope

This part of IEC 62271 applies to AC switchgear and controlgear designed for indoor and/or outdoor installation and for operation at service frequencies up to and including 60 Hz and having rated voltages above 1 000 V.

This document applies to all high-voltage switchgear and controlgear except as otherwise specified in the relevant IEC standards for the particular type of switchgear and controlgear.

NOTE For the use of this document, high-voltage is defined as the rated voltage above 1 000 V. However, the term medium voltage is commonly used for distribution systems with voltages above 1 kV and generally applied up to and including 52 kV.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60038:2009, *IEC standard voltages*

IEC 60050-131:2002, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 131: Circuit theory*

IEC 60050-151:2001, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 151: Electrical and magnetic devices*

IEC 60050-192:2015, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 192: Dependability*

IEC 60050-351, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 351: Control technology*

IEC 60050-441:1984, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 441: Switchgear, controlgear and fuses*
IEC 60050-441:1984/AMD1:2000

IEC 60050-551, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 551: Power electronics*

IEC 60050-581:2008, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 581: Electromechanical components for electronic equipment*

IEC 60050-601, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Chapter 601: Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity – General*

IEC 60050-605, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Chapter 605: Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity – Substations*

IEC 62271-1:2017+A1:2021
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IEC 60050-614:2016, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 614: Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity – Operation*

IEC 60050-811, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 811: Electric traction*

IEC 60050-826:2004, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 826: Electrical installations*

IEC 60060-1:2010, *High-voltage test techniques – Part 1: General definitions and test requirements*

IEC 60068-2-1:2007, *Environmental testing – Part 2-1: Tests – Test A: Cold*

IEC 60068-2-2:2007, *Environmental testing – Part 2-2: Tests – Test B: Dry heat*

IEC 60068-2-30:2005, *Environmental testing – Part 2-30: Tests – Test Db: Damp heat, cyclic (12 h + 12 h cycle)*

IEC 60071-1:2006, *Insulation co-ordination – Part 1: Definitions, principles and rules*
IEC 60071-1:2006/AMD1:2010

IEC 60071-2:1996, *Insulation co-ordination – Part 2: Application guide*

IEC 60085:2007, *Electrical insulation – Thermal evaluation and designation*

IEC 60255-21-1:1988, *Electrical relays – Part 21: Vibration, shock, bump and seismic tests on measuring relays and protection equipment – Section One: Vibration tests (sinusoidal)*

IEC 60270, *High-voltage test techniques – Partial discharge measurements*

IEC 60296, *Fluids for electrotechnical applications – Unused mineral insulating oils for transformers and switchgear*

IEC 60376, *Specification of technical grade sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) for use in electrical equipment*

IEC 60480, *Guidelines for the checking and treatment of sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) taken from electrical equipment and specification for its re-use*

IEC 60507, *Artificial pollution tests on high-voltage ceramic and glass insulators to be used on a.c. systems*

IEC 60512-2-2, *Connectors for electronic equipment – Tests and measurements – Part 2-2: Electrical continuity and contact resistance tests – Test 2b: Contact resistance – Specified test current method*

IEC 60529:1989, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)*

IEC 60529:1989/AMD1:1999

IEC 60529:1989/AMD2:2013

IEC TS 60815-1:2008, *Selection and dimensioning of high-voltage insulators intended for use in polluted conditions – Part 1: Definitions, information and general principles*

IEC TS 60815-2:2008, *Selection and dimensioning of high-voltage insulators intended for use in polluted conditions – Part 2: Ceramic and glass insulators for a.c. systems*

IEC TS 60815-3:2008, *Selection and dimensioning of high-voltage insulators intended for use in polluted conditions – Part 3: Polymer insulators for a.c. systems*

IEC 61000-4-4, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-4: Testing and measurement techniques – Electrical fast transient/burst immunity test*

IEC 61000-4-11, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-11: Testing and measurement techniques – Voltage dips, short interruptions and voltage variations immunity tests*

IEC 61000-4-17:2009, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-17: Testing and measurement techniques – Ripple on d.c. input power port immunity test*

IEC 61000-4-18, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-18: Testing and measurement techniques – Damped oscillatory wave immunity test*

IEC 61000-4-29, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-29: Testing and measurement techniques – Voltage dips, short interruptions and voltage variations on d.c. input power port immunity tests*

IEC 61000-6-2, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 6-2: Generic standards – Immunity for industrial environments*

IEC 61000-6-5, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 6-5: Generic standards – Immunity for equipment used in power station and substation environment*

IEC 61180, *High-voltage test techniques for low-voltage equipment – Definitions, test and procedure requirements, test equipment*

IEC 61810-7:2006, *Electromechanical elementary relays – Part 7: Test and measurement procedures*

IEC 62262:2002, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures for electrical equipment against external mechanical impacts (IK code)*

IEC 62271-4, *High-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 4: Handling procedures for sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and its mixtures*

CISPR 11:2015, *Industrial, scientific and medical equipment – Radio-frequency disturbance characteristics – Limits and methods of measurement*

CISPR TR 18-2, *Radio interference characteristics of overhead power lines and high-voltage equipment – Part 2: Methods of measurement and procedure for determining limits*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60050-131, IEC 60050-151, IEC 60050-192, IEC 60050-351, IEC 60050-441, IEC 60050-551, IEC 60050-581, IEC 60050-601, IEC 60050-605, IEC 60050-614, IEC 60050-811 and IEC 60050-826, some of which are recalled hereunder, and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

NOTE Terms and definitions are classified in accordance with IEC 60050-441. References from other parts than IEC 60050-441 are classified so as to be aligned with the classification used in IEC 60050-441.

3.1 General terms and definitions

3.1.1

switchgear and controlgear

general term covering switching devices and their combination with associated control, measuring, protective and regulating equipment, also assemblies of such devices and equipment with associated interconnections, accessories, enclosures and supporting structures

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-11-01]

3.1.2

external insulation

distances in atmospheric air and along the surfaces in contact with atmospheric air of solid insulation of the equipment which are subject to dielectric stresses and to the effects of atmospheric and other environmental conditions from the site

Note 1 to entry: Examples of environmental conditions are pollution, humidity, vermin, etc.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-614:2016, 614-03-02]

3.1.3

degree of protection

extent of protection provided by an enclosure against access to hazardous parts, against ingress of solid foreign objects and/or ingress of water and against mechanical impact

[SOURCE: IEC 60529:1989, 3.3, modified – leave out “verified by standardized test methods” and add “against mechanical impact” after “water and”.]

3.1.4

IP code

coding system to indicate the degrees of protection provided by an enclosure against access to hazardous parts, ingress of solid foreign objects, ingress of water and to give additional information in connection with such protection

[SOURCE: IEC 60529:1989, 3.4]

3.1.5

protection provided by an enclosure against access to hazardous parts

protection of persons against

- contact with hazardous low-voltage live parts;
- contact with hazardous mechanical parts;
- approach to hazardous high-voltage live parts below adequate clearance inside an enclosure

Note 1 to entry: This protection may be provided:

- by means of the enclosure itself;
- by means of barriers as part of the enclosure or distances inside the enclosure.

[SOURCE: IEC 60529:1989, 3.6]

3.1.6

IK code

coding system to indicate the degree of protection provided by an enclosure against harmful external mechanical impacts

[SOURCE: IEC 62262:2002, 3.3]

3.1.7 maintenance

combination of all technical and management actions intended to retain an item in, or restore it to, a state in which it can perform as required

Note 1 to entry: Management is assumed to include supervision activities.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-192:2015, 192-06-01]

3.1.8 visual inspection

visual investigation of the principal features of the switchgear and controlgear

Note 1 to entry: This inspection is generally directed toward pressures and/or levels of fluids, tightness, position of relays, pollution of insulating parts, but actions such as lubricating, cleaning, washing, etc. which can be carried out with the switchgear and controlgear in service are also included.

Note 2 to entry: Observations resulting from inspection can lead to the decision to carry out overhaul.

Note 3 to entry: This inspection can be used for determining the state of tested objects on e.g. cracks in solid insulators.

3.1.9 diagnostic test

comparative test of the characteristic parameters of switchgear and controlgear to verify that it performs its functions, by measuring one or more of these parameters

Note 1 to entry: The result from a diagnostic test can lead to the decision to carry out overhaul.

3.1.10 overhaul

work performed with the objective of repairing or replacing parts which are found to be out of tolerance by inspection, diagnostic test, examination or as required by manufacturer's maintenance manual, in order to restore the component and/or the switchgear and controlgear to an acceptable condition (within tolerance)

3.1.11 failure

loss of ability to perform as required

Note 1 to entry: A failure of an item is an event that results in a fault of that item: see fault (IEC 60050-192:2015, 192-04-01).

Note 2 to entry: Qualifiers, such as catastrophic, critical, major, minor, marginal and insignificant, can be used to categorize failures according to the severity of consequences, the choice and definitions of severity criteria depending upon the field of application.

Note 3 to entry: Qualifiers, such as misuse, mishandling and weakness, may be used to categorize failures according to the cause of failure.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-192:2015, 192-03-01]

3.1.12 major failure (of switchgear and controlgear)

failure of switchgear and controlgear which causes the cessation of one or more of its fundamental functions

Note 1 to entry: A major failure may result in an immediate change in the system operating conditions, for example, the backup protective equipment will be required to remove the fault or will result in mandatory removal from service within 30 min for unscheduled maintenance.

3.1.13

minor failure (of switchgear and controlgear)

any failure of a constructional element or a subassembly which does not cause a major failure of the switchgear and controlgear

3.1.14

defect

imperfection in the state of an item (or inherent weakness) which can result in one or more failures of the item itself, or of another item under the specific service or environmental or maintenance conditions, for a stated period of time

3.1.15

ambient air temperature

temperature, determined under prescribed conditions, of the air surrounding the complete switching device or fuse

Note 1 to entry: For switching devices or fuses installed inside an enclosure, it is the temperature of the air outside the enclosure.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-11-13]

3.1.16

monitoring

observation of the operation of a system or part of a system to verify correct functioning by detecting incorrect functioning, this being done by measuring one or more variables of the system and comparing the measured values with the specified values

Note 1 to entry: Some definitions are given for this term in IEC 60050 (all parts). They are related to different cases of application.

3.1.17

supervision

activity, performed either manually or automatically, intended to observe the state of an item

Note 1 to entry Automatic supervision may be performed internally or externally to the item.

3.1.18

site pollution severity class

SPS

classification of pollution severity at a site, from very light to very heavy, as a function of the SPS (site pollution severity)

Note 1 to entry: Adapted from: IEC TS 60815-1:2008, 3.1.15, modified – the term (site pollution severity) is added.

3.1.19

internal insulation

internal distances of the solid, liquid or gaseous parts of the insulation of equipment which are protected from the effects of atmospheric and other external conditions

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-614:2016, 614-03-03, modified – addition of "parts of".]

3.1.20

non-sustained disruptive discharge

NSDD

disruptive discharge associated with current interruption that does not result in the resumption of power frequency current or, in the case of capacitive current interruption, does not result in current in the main load circuit

3.2 Assemblies of switchgear and controlgear

3.2.1

test object

equipment needed to represent the switchgear and controlgear for a particular type test

3.3 Parts of assemblies

3.3.1

transport unit

part of switchgear and controlgear intended for transportation without being dismantled

3.3.2

busbar

low-impedance conductor to which several electric circuits can be connected at separate points

Note 1 to entry: In many cases, the busbar consists of a bar.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-151:2001, 151-12-30]

3.4 Switching devices

3.4.1

(mechanical) switch

mechanical switching device capable of making, carrying and breaking currents under normal circuit conditions which may include specified operating overload conditions and also carrying for a specified time currents under specified abnormal circuit conditions such as those of short-circuit

Note 1 to entry: A switch may be capable of making but not breaking short-circuit currents.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-14-10]

3.4.2

disconnector

mechanical switching device which provides, in the open position, an isolating distance in accordance with specified requirements

Note 1 to entry: A disconnector is capable of opening and closing a circuit when either negligible current is broken or made, or when no significant change in the voltage across the terminals of each of the poles of the disconnector occurs. It is also capable of carrying currents under normal circuit conditions and carrying currents for a specified time under abnormal conditions such as those of short-circuit.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-14-05]

3.5 Parts of switchgear and controlgear

3.5.1

enclosure

housing affording the type and degree of protection suitable for the intended application

Note 1 to entry: Enclosures provide protection of persons or livestock against access to hazardous parts. Barriers, shapes of openings or any other means (whether attached to the enclosure or formed by the enclosed equipment) suitable to prevent or limit the penetration of the specified test probes, are considered as a part of the enclosure, when they are secured in position either by means of interlocks, keys, or by hardware requiring a tool to be removed.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-826:2004, 826-12-20, modified – the Note 1 to entry has been added]

3.5.2

hazardous part

part that is hazardous to approach or touch

[SOURCE: IEC 60529:1989, 3.5]

3.5.3

contact (of a mechanical switching device)

conductive parts designed to establish circuit continuity when they touch and which, due to their relative motion during an operation, open or close a circuit or, in the case of hinged or sliding contacts, maintain circuit continuity

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-15-05]

3.5.4

auxiliary circuit (of a switching device)

all the conductive parts of a switching device which are intended to be included in a circuit other than the main circuit, the earthing circuit and the control circuits of the device

Note 1 to entry: Some auxiliary circuits fulfil supplementary functions such as signalling, interlocking, etc., and, as such, they may be part of the control circuit of another switching device.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-15-04, modified – "earthing circuit" has been added]

3.5.5

control circuit (of a switching device)

all the conductive parts (other than the main circuit) of a switching device which are included in a circuit used for the closing operation or opening operation, or both, of the device

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-15-03]

3.5.6

auxiliary switch (of a mechanical switching device)

switch containing one or more control and/or auxiliary contacts mechanically operated by a switching device

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-15-11]

3.5.7

control switch (for control and auxiliary circuits)

mechanical switching device which serves the purpose of controlling the operation of switchgear or controlgear, including signalling, electrical interlocking, etc.

Note 1 to entry: A control switch consists of one or more contact elements with a common actuating system.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-14-46]

3.5.8

auxiliary contact

contact included in an auxiliary circuit and operated by the switching device

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-15-10, modified – delete "mechanically"]

3.5.9

control contact

contact included in a control circuit of a switching device and operated by this device

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-15-09, modified – delete "mechanical" and "mechanically"]

3.5.10

connection (bolted or the equivalent)

two or more conductors designed to ensure permanent circuit continuity when forced together by means of screws, bolts or the equivalent

3.5.11

position indicating device

part of a mechanical switching device which indicates whether it is in the open, closed, or where appropriate, earthed position

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-15-25]

3.5.12

monitoring device

device intended to observe automatically the status of an item

3.5.13

pilot switch

non-manual control switch actuated in response to specified condition of an actuating quantity

Note 1 to entry: The actuating quantity may be pressure, temperature, velocity, liquid level, elapsed time, etc.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-14-48]

3.5.14

partition (of an assembly)

part of an assembly separating one compartment from other compartments

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-13-06]

3.5.15

actuator

part of the actuating system to which an external actuating force is applied

Note 1 to entry: The actuator may take the form of a handle, knob, push-button, roller, plunger, etc.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-15-22]

3.5.16

splice

connecting device with barrel(s) accommodating electrical conductor(s) with or without additional provision to accommodate and secure the insulation

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-581:2008, 581-24-19, modified – addition of "electrical".]

3.5.17

terminal

point of interconnection of an electric circuit element, an electric circuit or a network with other electric circuit elements, electric circuits or networks

Note 1 to entry: For an electric circuit element, the terminals are the points at which or between which the related integral quantities are defined. At each terminal, there is only one electric current from outside into the element.

Note 2 to entry: The term "terminal" has a related meaning in IEC 60050-151.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-131:2002, 131-11-11]

3.5.18

terminal block

assembly of terminals in a housing or body of insulating material to facilitate interconnection between multiple conductors

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-581:2008, 581-26-26]

3.5.19

contactor

mechanical contactor

mechanical switching device having only one position of rest, operated otherwise than by hand, capable of making, carrying and breaking currents under normal circuit conditions including operating overload conditions

Note 1 to entry: Contactors may be designated according to the method by which the force for closing the main contacts is provided.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-14-33]

3.5.20

starter

combination of all the switching means necessary to start and stop a motor in combination with suitable overload protection

Note 1 to entry: Starters may be designated according to the method by which the force for closing the main contacts is provided.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-14-38]

3.5.21

vacuum interrupter

component being part of a switching device in which electrical contacts operate in a highly evacuated, hermetically sealed environment

3.5.22

operation counter

device indicating the number of operating cycles a mechanical switching device has accomplished

3.5.23

coil

set of series-connected turns, usually coaxial

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-151:2001, 151-13-15]

3.5.24

auxiliary and control circuits

entity of

- control and auxiliary circuits, mounted on or adjacent to the switchgear or controlgear, including circuits in central control cubicles;
- equipment for monitoring, diagnostics, etc. that is part of the auxiliary circuits of the switchgear or controlgear;
- circuits connected to the secondary terminals of instrument transformers, that are part of the switchgear or controlgear

3.5.25

subassembly (of auxiliary and control circuits)

part of auxiliary and control circuits, with regard to function or position, having its own interface and normally placed in a separate enclosure

3.5.26

interchangeable subassembly (of an auxiliary and control circuits)

subassembly which is intended to be placed in various positions within an auxiliary and control circuits, or intended to be replaced by other similar subassemblies

Note 1 to entry: An interchangeable subassembly has an accessible interface.

3.5.27

interlocking device

device which makes the operation of a switching device dependent upon the position or operation of one or more other pieces of equipment

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-16-49]

3.6 Operational characteristics of switchgear and controlgear

3.6.1

dependent power operation (of a mechanical switching device)

operation by means of energy other than manual, where the completion of the operation is dependent upon the continuity of the power supply (to solenoids, electric or pneumatic motors, etc.)

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-16-14]

3.6.2

stored energy operation (of a mechanical switching device)

operation by means of energy stored in the drive mechanism itself prior to the completion of the operation and sufficient to complete it under predetermined conditions

Note 1 to entry: This kind of operation may be subdivided according to:

- the manner of storing the energy (spring, weight, etc.);
- the origin of the energy (manual, electric, etc.);
- the manner of releasing the energy (manual, electric, etc.).

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-16-15, modified – addition of "drive".]

3.6.3

independent unlatched operation

stored energy operation where energy is stored and released in one continuous operation such that the speed and force of the operation are independent of the rate of applied energy

Note 1 to entry: The energy stored for the operation may originate from the operator (manual) or a power source.

3.6.4

positively driven operation

operation which, in accordance with specified requirements, is designed to ensure that auxiliary contacts of a mechanical switching device are in the respective positions corresponding to the open or closed position of the main contacts

Note 1 to entry: A positively driven operating device is made by the association of a moving part, linked mechanically to the main contact of the primary circuit, without the use of springs, and a sensing element. In the case of mechanical auxiliary contacts, this sensing element can be simply the fixed contact, directly connected to the secondary terminal. In the case where the function is achieved electronically, the sensing element can be a static transducer (optical, magnetic, etc.) associated with a static switch, or associated with an electronic or electro-optic transmitting element.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-16-12, modified – the Note 1 to entry has been added]

3.6.5 Terms and definitions relative to pressure (or density)

3.6.5.1

filling pressure p_{re} for insulation and/or switching

filling density ρ_{re} for insulation and/or switching

pressure (in Pa), for insulation and/or for switching, referred to the standard atmospheric air conditions of 20 °C and 101,3 kPa (or density), which may be expressed in relative or absolute terms, to which the assembly is filled before being put into service, or automatically replenished

3.6.5.2

filling pressure p_{rm} for operation

filling density ρ_{rm} for operation

pressure (in Pa), for operation, referred to the standard atmospheric air conditions of 20 °C and 101,3 kPa (or density), which may be expressed in relative or absolute terms, to which the energy storage device is filled before being put into service or automatically replenished

3.6.5.3

alarm pressure p_{ae} for insulation and/or switching

alarm density ρ_{ae} for insulation and/or switching

pressure (in Pa), for insulation and/or for switching, referred to the standard atmospheric air conditions of 20 °C and 101,3 kPa (or density), which may be expressed in relative or absolute terms, at which a monitoring signal may be provided

3.6.5.4

alarm pressure p_{am} for operation

alarm density ρ_{am} for operation

pressure (in Pa), for operation, referred to the standard atmospheric air conditions of 20 °C and 101,3 kPa (or density), which may be expressed in relative or absolute terms, at which a monitoring signal from the energy storage device may be provided

3.6.5.5

minimum functional pressure p_{me} for insulation and/or switching

minimum functional density ρ_{me} for insulation and/or switching

pressure (in Pa), for insulation and/or for switching, referred to the standard atmospheric air conditions of 20 °C and 101,3 kPa (or density), which may be expressed in relative or absolute terms, at which and above which rated characteristics of switchgear and controlgear are maintained

3.6.5.6

minimum functional pressure p_{mm} for operation

minimum functional density ρ_{mm} for operation

pressure (in Pa), for operation, referred to the standard atmospheric air conditions of 20 °C and 101,3 kPa (or density), which may be expressed in relative or absolute terms, at which and above which rated characteristics of switchgear and controlgear are maintained and at which a replenishment of the energy storage device becomes necessary

Note 1 to entry: This pressure is often designated as interlocking or lockout pressure.

3.6.6 Terms and definitions relating to gas and vacuum tightness

3.6.6.1

controlled pressure system for gas

volume which is automatically replenished from an external compressed gas supply or internal gas source

Note 1 to entry: Examples of controlled pressure systems are air-blast circuit-breakers or pneumatic drive mechanisms.

Note 2 to entry: A volume may consist of several permanently connected gas-filled compartments.

3.6.6.2

closed pressure system for gas

volume which is replenished when needed by manual connection to an external gas source

Note 1 to entry: Example of closed pressure systems are SF₆ single-pressure circuit-breakers.

3.6.6.3

sealed pressure system

volume for which no further liquid, gas or vacuum processing is required during its expected operating duration

Note 1 to entry: Examples of sealed pressure systems are vacuum interrupters or some SF₆ circuit-breakers.

Note 2 to entry: Sealed pressure systems are completely assembled and tested in the factory.

Note 3 to entry: Expected operating duration starts when the device is sealed.

3.6.6.4

absolute leakage rate

F

amount of gas escaped by time unit

Note 1 to entry: The absolute leakage rate is usually expressed in Pa × m³ × s⁻¹.

3.6.6.5

permissible leakage rate

F_p

maximum permissible absolute leakage rate of gas specified for a part, a component or a sub-assembly, or by using the tightness coordination chart, for an arrangement of parts, components or subassemblies connected together in one pressure system

3.6.6.6

relative leakage rate

F_{rel}

absolute leakage rate related to the total amount of gas in the system at filling pressure (or density)

Note 1 to entry: The relative leakage rate is expressed in percentage per year or per day.

3.6.6.7

time between replenishments

t_r

time elapsed between two replenishments performed manually when the pressure (density) reaches the alarm level, to compensate the leakage rate F

Note 1 to entry: This value is applicable to closed pressure systems.

3.6.6.8

number of replenishments per day

N

number of replenishments to compensate the leakage rate F

Note 1 to entry: This value is applicable to controlled pressure systems.

3.6.6.9

pressure drop

Δp

drop of pressure in a given time caused by the leakage rate F , without replenishment

3.6.6.10

tightness coordination chart

survey document supplied by the manufacturer, used when testing parts, components or sub-assemblies, to demonstrate the relationship between the tightness of a complete system and that of the parts, components and/or sub-assemblies

3.6.6.11

sniffing

action of slowly moving a leak meter sensing probe around an assembly to locate a gas leak

3.6.6.12

cumulative leakage measurement

measurement which takes into account all the leaks from a given assembly to determine the leakage rate

3.6.7 Terms and definitions relating to liquid tightness

3.6.7.1

absolute leakage rate

F_{liq}
amount of liquid escaped by time unit

Note 1 to entry: The absolute leakage rate is usually expressed in $\text{cm}^3 \times \text{s}^{-1}$.

3.6.7.2

permissible leakage rate

$F_{\text{p(liq)}}$
maximum permissible leakage rate specified by the manufacturer for a liquid pressure system

3.6.7.3

number of replenishments per day

N_{liq}
number of replenishments to compensate the leakage rate F_{liq}

3.6.7.4

pressure drop

Δp_{liq}
drop in pressure in a given time caused by the leakage rate F_{liq} without replenishment

3.7 Characteristic quantities

3.7.1

isolating distance (of a pole of a mechanical switching device)

clearance between open contacts meeting the withstand voltage requirements specified for disconnectors

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-17-35, modified – "safety" replaced by "withstand voltage".]

3.7.2

rated value

value of a quantity used for specification purposes, established for a specified set of operating conditions of a component, device, equipment or system

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-151:2001, 151-16-08]

3.7.3 highest voltage for equipment

U_m
greatest value of phase-to-phase voltage (RMS value) for which the equipment is designed in respect of its insulation as well as other characteristics which relate to this voltage in the relevant equipment standards

Note 1 to entry: Under normal service conditions specified by the relevant apparatus committee this voltage can be applied continuously to the equipment.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-614: 2016, 614-03-01, modified – The note to entry was added]

3.7.4 supply voltage (of auxiliary and control circuits)

RMS value or, if applicable, the DC value, of the voltage existing at a given instant at a point of supply, measured over a given time interval

Note 1 to entry: If a supply voltage is specified for instance in the supply contract, then it is called “declared supply voltage”.

Note 2 to entry: The supply voltage of auxiliary and control circuits is measured at the circuit terminals of the apparatus itself during its operation, including, if necessary, the auxiliary resistors or accessories supplied or required by the manufacturer to be installed in series with it, but not including the conductors for the connection to the electricity supply.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-614: 2016, 614-01-03, modified – add Note 2 to entry.]

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4 Normal and special service conditions

4.1 Normal service conditions

4.1.1 General

Unless otherwise specified, high-voltage switchgear and controlgear, including the operating devices and the auxiliary equipment which form an integral part of them, are intended to be used in accordance with their rated characteristics and the normal service conditions listed in 4.1.

Operation under normal service conditions is considered to be covered by the type tests according to this document and relevant product standard.

4.1.2 Indoor switchgear and controlgear

The normal service conditions for indoor switchgear and controlgear are:

- a) the ambient air temperature does not exceed 40 °C and its average value, measured over a period of 24 h does not exceed 35 °C. The ambient air temperature does not drop below –5 °C;
- b) there is no influence from solar radiation;
- c) the altitude does not exceed 1 000 m;
- d) the ambient air is not significantly polluted by dust, smoke, corrosive and/or flammable gases, vapours or salt and would be considered as having site pollution severity class (SPS) “very light” according to IEC TS 60815-1:2008;
- e) the conditions of humidity are as follows:
 - the average value of the relative humidity, measured over a period of 24 h, does not exceed 95 %;
 - the average value of the water vapour pressure, over a period of 24 h, does not exceed 2,2 kPa;

- the average value of the relative humidity, over a period of one month, does not exceed 90 %;
- the average value of the water vapour pressure, over a period of one month, does not exceed 1,8 kPa.

NOTE 1 Condensation can be expected where sudden temperature changes occur in periods of high humidity.

NOTE 2 High humidity can also be due to ground level rainwater or for underground applications, from incoming cable raceways connected to switchgear.

- f) vibrations due to causes external to the switchgear and controlgear or earth tremors do not exceed the impact of vibrations caused by operation of the switchgear itself.

4.1.3 Outdoor switchgear and controlgear

The normal service conditions for outdoor switchgear and controlgear are:

- a) the ambient air temperature does not exceed 40 °C and its average value, measured over a period of 24 h does not exceed 35 °C;

the ambient air temperature does not drop below -25 °C;

NOTE 1 Rapid temperature changes can occur, for example a hot sunny day followed by a sudden rain.

- b) solar radiation does not exceed a level of 1 000 W/m²;

NOTE 2 Details of global solar radiation are given in IEC 60721-2-4 [6].

- c) the altitude does not exceed 1 000 m;

- d) the ambient air may be polluted by dust, smoke, corrosive gas, vapours or salt, the pollution does not exceed site pollution severity class (SPS) “medium” as defined by IEC TS 60815-1:2008;

- e) ice coating does not exceed 20 mm;

- f) the wind speed does not exceed 34 m/s;

NOTE 3 Characteristics of wind are defined in IEC 60721-2-2 [8].

- g) the average humidity values given in 4.1.2 e) may be exceeded. Condensation or precipitation may occur;

NOTE 4 Characteristics of precipitation are defined in IEC 60721-2-2 [8].

NOTE 5 The conditions of humidity are always the effect of a combination of relative humidity with other environmental parameters, primarily temperature and rapid change of temperature.

- h) vibrations due to causes external to the switchgear and controlgear or earth tremors do not exceed the impact of vibrations caused by operation of the switchgear itself.

4.2 Special service conditions

4.2.1 General

When high-voltage switchgear and controlgear is expected to be used under conditions different from the normal service conditions given in 4.1, the user's requirements should refer to standardized steps in 4.2.2 up to 4.2.7 if not provided by product standards.

NOTE 1 Appropriate actions are also taken to ensure proper operation under such conditions of other components, such as relays.

NOTE 2 Detailed information concerning classification of environmental conditions is given in IEC 60721-3-3 [9] (indoor) and IEC 60721-3-4 [10] (outdoor).

4.2.2 Altitude

For installations at an altitude higher than 1 000 m, the required insulation withstand level of external insulation at the service location shall be determined according to Clause 4 of IEC 60071-2:1996. The rated insulation level of the switchgear and controlgear should be equal to or higher than this value, reference is made to IEC TR 62271-306 [4].

NOTE 1 For internal insulation, the dielectric characteristics are identical at any altitude and no special precautions need to be taken. For external and internal insulation, refer to IEC 60071-2:1996.

NOTE 2 For low-voltage auxiliary and control equipment, no special precautions need to be taken if the altitude is lower than 2 000 m. For higher altitudes, refer to IEC 60664-1 [11].

4.2.3 Exposure to pollution

For outdoor application ambient air that may be polluted by dust, smoke, corrosive gas, vapours or salt at a level that exceeds severity class (SPS) “medium” as defined by IEC TS 60815-1:2008 should be classified as “heavy” or “very heavy” as defined by IEC TS 60815-1:2008.

For indoor application, ambient air that may be polluted by dust, smoke, corrosive gas, vapours or salt at a level that exceeds severity class (SPS) “very light” as defined by IEC TS 60815-1:2008 should be classified as “light”, “medium”, “heavy” or “very heavy” as defined by IEC TS 60815-1:2008.

NOTE More information about exposure to pollution can be found in Annex K (informative).

For indoor application up to and including 52 kV, IEC TS 62271-304 [12] can be specified, in particular if there are concerns regarding pollution of the switchgear insulation.

4.2.4 Temperature and humidity

For installation at a location where the ambient temperature can be different from the normal service condition ranges stated in 4.1, the ranges of minimum and maximum temperature to be specified should be:

- a) -50 °C to 40 °C for extremely cold climates;
- b) -40 °C to 40 °C for very cold climates;
- c) -30 °C to 40 °C for cold climates;
- d) -25 °C to 40 °C for cold climates (indoor conditions);
- e) -15 °C to 40 °C for moderate climates (indoor conditions);
- f) -5 °C to 55 °C for very hot climates.

In tropical indoor conditions, the average value of relative humidity measured during a period of 24 h can be up to 98 %.

NOTE In certain regions with frequent occurrence of warm humid winds, sudden changes of temperature and/or atmospheric pressure can occur.

4.2.5 Exposure to abnormal vibrations, shock or tilting

Standard switchgear and controlgear is designed for mounting on substantially level structures, free from excessive vibration, shock, or tilting. Where any of these standard conditions may not exist, the requirements for the particular application should be specified by the user.

For installations where earthquakes are likely to occur, the severity level according to a relevant publication or specification (e.g. IEC TR 62271-300 [13], IEC 62271-207 [14] and IEC TS 62271-210 [15]) should be specified by the user. In case of earthquake risk, the user should specify the operational requirements and admissible damage level.

Installations with other unusual forms of vibration shall be identified, such as installations in close proximity to mine blasting or mobile applications.

NOTE Other relevant publications for seismic evaluations are IEEE Standard 693 [16] and IEEE Standard C37.81 [17].