BS EN IEC 62368-1:2024

BSI Standards Publication

Audio/video, information and communication technology equipment

Part 1: Safety requirements

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National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN IEC 62368-1:2024. It is identical to IEC 62368-1:2023. It supersedes BS EN IEC 62368-1:2020+A11:2020, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee EPL/108, Safety of electronic equipment within the field of audio/video, information technology and communication technology.

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

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Published by BSI Standards Limited 2024

ISBN 978 0 539 18425 9

ICS 29.020; 33.160.01; 35.020

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This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 30 April 2024.

Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

EN IEC 62368-1

April 2024

ICS 33.160.01; 35.020

Supersedes EN IEC 62368-1:2020; EN IEC 62368-1:2020/A11:2020; EN IEC 62368-1:2020/AC:2020-05

English Version

Audio/video, information and communication technology equipment - Part 1: Safety requirements (IEC 62368-1:2023)

Equipements des technologies de l'audio/vidéo, de l'information et de la communication - Partie 1: Exigences de sécurité (IEC 62368-1:2023)

Einrichtungen für Audio/Video-, Informations- und Kommunikationstechnik - Teil 1: Sicherheitsanforderungen (IEC 62368-1:2023)

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European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

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Ref. No. EN IEC 62368-1:2024 E

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European foreword

The text of document 108/800/FDIS, future edition 4 of IEC 62368-1, prepared by IEC/TC 108 "Safety of electronic equipment within the field of audio/video, information technology and communication technology" was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN IEC 62368-1:2024.

The following dates are fixed:

- latest date by which the document has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2025-02-15
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the document have to be withdrawn (dow) 2027-02-15

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

AUDIO/VIDEO, INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT –

Part 1: Safety requirements

FOREWORD

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IEC 62368-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee TC 108: Safety of electronic equipment within the field of audio/video, information technology and communication technology. It is an International Standard.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2018. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

a) new table with requirements for external circuits;
b) revision of requirements for openings in fire enclosures;
c) revision of requirements for liquid filled components;
d) revision of battery charging requirements.

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

Draft	Report on voting
108/800/FDIS	108/804/RVD

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/publications.

A list of all parts in the IEC 62368 series, published under the general title *Audio/video, information and communication technology equipment*, can be found on the IEC website.

The "in some countries" notes regarding differing national practices are contained in the following clauses, subclauses and tables:

0.2.1, Clause 1, 3.3.8.1, 3.3.8.3, 4.1.15, 4.7.3, 5.4.2.3.2.4, 5.4.2.5, 5.4.5.1, 5.4.10.2.1, 5.4.10.2.2, 5.4.10.2.3, 5.5.2.1, 5.5.6, 5.6.4.2.1, 5.6.8, 5.7.6, 5.7.7.1, 8.5.4.2.3, 10.5.3, 10.6.1, F.3.3.4, F.3.3.6, Y.4.1, Y.4.5, Table 12, Table 13 and Table 38.

In this document, the following print types or formats are used:

– requirements proper and normative annexes: in roman type;
– compliance statements and test specifications: *in italic type*;
– notes/explanatory matter: in smaller roman type;
– normative conditions within tables: in smaller roman type;
– terms that are defined in 3.3: **bold**.

In figures and tables, if colour is available:

– green colour denotes a class 1 energy source;
– yellow colour denotes a class 2 energy source;
– red colour denotes a class 3 energy source.

A comparison of terms introduced in this document that are different from other existing IEC documents is given in Annex W.

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The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under 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.

NOTE Explanatory information related to IEC 62368-1 is contained in IEC TR 62368-2. It provides rationale together with explanatory information related to this document.

IMPORTANT – The "colour inside" logo on the cover page of this document indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this document using a colour printer.

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INTRODUCTION

0 Principles of this product safety standard

0.1 Objective

This part of IEC 62368 is a product safety standard that classifies energy sources, prescribes **safeguards** against those energy sources, and provides guidance on the application of, and requirements for, those **safeguards**.

The prescribed **safeguards** are intended to reduce the likelihood of pain, injury and, in the case of fire, property damage.

The objective of the introduction is to help designers to understand the underlying principles of safety in order to design safe equipment. These principles are informative and not an alternative to the detailed requirements of this document.

0.2 Persons

0.2.1 General

This document describes **safeguards** for the protection of three kinds of persons: the **ordinary person**, the **instructed person**, and the **skilled person**. Unless otherwise specified in this document, the requirements for an **ordinary person** apply. This document assumes that a person will not intentionally create conditions or situations that could cause pain or injury.

NOTE 1 In Australia, the work conducted by an **instructed person** or **skilled person** can require formal licensing from regulatory authorities.

NOTE 2 In Germany, a person can only be regarded as an **instructed person** or a **skilled person** if certain legal requirements are fulfilled.

0.2.2 Ordinary person

Ordinary person is the term applied to all persons other than **instructed persons** and **skilled persons**. **Ordinary persons** include not only users of the equipment, but also all persons who can possibly have access to the equipment or who could be in the vicinity of the equipment. Under **normal operating conditions** or **abnormal operating conditions**, **ordinary persons** should not be exposed to parts comprising energy sources capable of causing pain or injury. Under a **single fault condition**, **ordinary persons** should not be exposed to parts comprising energy sources capable of causing injury.

0.2.3 Instructed person

Instructed person is a term applied to persons who have been instructed and trained by a **skilled person**, or who are supervised by a **skilled person**, to identify energy sources that can cause pain (see Table 1) and to take precautions to avoid unintentional contact with or exposure to those energy sources. Under **normal operating conditions**, **abnormal operating conditions** or **single fault conditions**, **instructed persons** should not be exposed to parts comprising energy sources capable of causing injury.

0.2.4 Skilled person

Skilled person is a term applied to persons who have training or experience in the equipment technology, particularly in knowing the various energies and energy magnitudes used in the equipment. **Skilled persons** are expected to use their training and experience to recognize energy sources capable of causing pain or injury and to take action for protection from injury from those energies. **Skilled persons** should also be protected against unintentional contact or exposure to energy sources capable of causing injury.

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0.3 Model for pain and injury

An energy source that causes pain or injury does so through the transfer of some form of energy to or from a body part.

This concept is represented by a three-block model (see Figure 1).

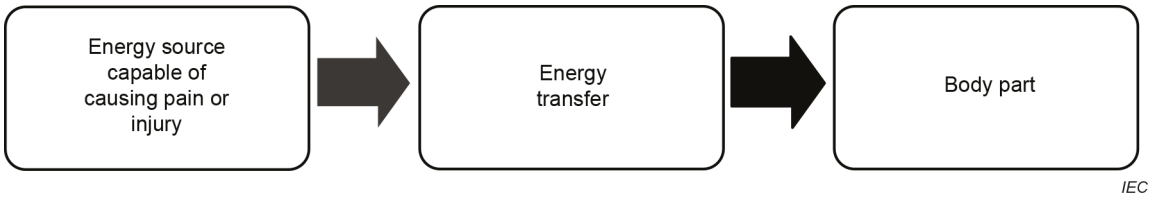

Figure 1 – Three block model for pain and injury

This safety standard specifies three classes of energy sources defined by magnitudes and durations of source parameters relative to the body responses to those electrical and thermal energy sources (see Table 1). Source parameters relative to responses to **combustible material**, mechanical energy sources and radiation energy sources are specified based on experience and basic safety standards.

Table 1 – Response to energy class

Energy source	Effect on the body	Effect on combustible materials
Class 1	Not painful, but can be detectable	Ignition not likely
Class 2	Painful, but not an injury	Ignition possible, but limited growth and spread of fire
Class 3	Injury	Ignition likely, rapid growth and spread of fire

The energy threshold for pain or injury is not constant throughout the population. For example, for some energy sources, the threshold is a function of body mass; the lower the mass, the lower the threshold, and vice-versa. Other body variables include age, state of health, state of emotions, effect of drugs, skin characteristics, etc. Furthermore, even where outward appearances otherwise appear equal, individuals differ in their thresholds of susceptibility to the same energy source.

The effect of duration of energy transfer is a function of the specific energy form. For example, pain or injury from thermal energy can be very short (1 s) for high skin temperature, or very long (several hours) for low skin temperature.

Furthermore, the pain or injury can occur some considerable time after the transfer of energy to a body part. For example, it is possible that pain or injury from some chemical or physiological reaction does not manifest itself for days, weeks, months, or years.

0.4 Energy sources

Energy sources are addressed by this document, together with the pain or injury that results from a transfer of that energy to the body, and the likelihood of property damage that results from fire escaping the equipment.

An electrical product is connected to an electrical energy source (for example, the **mains**), an external power supply unit, or a **battery**. An electrical product uses the electrical energy to perform its intended functions.

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In the process of using electrical energy, the product transforms the electrical energy into other forms of energy (for example, thermal energy, kinetic energy, optical energy, audio energy, electromagnetic energy, etc.). Some energy transformations can be a deliberate part of the product function (for example, moving parts of a printer, images on a visual display unit, sound from a speaker, etc.). Some energy transformations can be a by-product of the product function (for example, heat dissipated by functional circuits, X-radiation from a cathode-ray tube, etc.).

Some products can use energy sources that are non-electrical energy sources such as moving parts or chemicals. The energy in these other sources can be transferred to or from a body part, or can be transformed into other energy forms (for example, chemical energy can be converted to electrical energy through a **battery**, or a moving body part transfers its kinetic energy to a sharp edge).

Examples of the types of energy forms and the associated injuries and property damage addressed in this document are in Table 2.

Table 2 – Examples of body response or property damage related to energy sources

Forms of energy	Examples of body response or property damage	Clause
Electrical energy (for example, energized conductive parts)	Pain, fibrillation, cardiac arrest, respiratory arrest, skin burn, or internal organ burn	5
Thermal energy (for example, electrical ignition and spread of fire)	Electrically-caused fire leading to burn-related pain or injury, or property damage	6
Chemical reaction (for example, electrolyte, poison)	Skin damage, organ damage, or poisoning	7
Kinetic energy (for example, moving parts of equipment, or a moving body part against an equipment part)	Laceration, puncture, abrasion, contusion, crush, amputation, or loss of a limb, eye, ear, etc.	8
Thermal energy (for example, hot **accessible** parts)	Skin burn	9
Radiated energy (for example, electromagnetic energy, optical energy, acoustic energy)	Loss of sight, skin burn, or loss of hearing	10

0.5 Safeguards

0.5.1 General

Many products necessarily use energy capable of causing pain or injury. Product design cannot eliminate such energy use. Consequently, such products should use a scheme that reduces the likelihood of such energy being transferred to a body part. The scheme that reduces the likelihood of energy transfer to a body part is a **safeguard** (see Figure 2).

Figure 2 – Three block model for safety

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A **safeguard** is a **device** or scheme or system that:

– is interposed between an energy source capable of causing pain or injury and a body part, and

– reduces the likelihood of transfer of energy capable of causing pain or injury to a body part.

NOTE **Safeguard** mechanisms against transfer of energy capable of causing pain or injury include:

– attenuating the energy (reduces the value of the energy); or

– impeding the energy (slows the rate of energy transfer); or

– diverting the energy (changes the energy direction); or

– disconnecting, interrupting, or disabling the energy source; or

– enveloping the energy source (reduces the likelihood of the energy from escaping); or

– interposing a barrier between a body part and the energy source.

A **safeguard** can be applied to the equipment, to the local installation, to a person or can be a learned or directed behaviour (for example, resulting from an **instructional safeguard**) intended to reduce the likelihood of transfer of energy capable of causing pain or injury. A **safeguard** can be a single element or a set of elements.

Generally, this document uses an order of preference for providing **safeguards** based on the requirements given in ISO/IEC Guide 51 as follows:

– **equipment safeguards** are always useful, since they do not require any knowledge or actions by persons coming into contact with the equipment;

– **installation safeguards** are useful when a safety characteristic can only be provided after installation (for example, the equipment shall be bolted to the floor to provide stability);

– behavioural **safeguards** are useful when the equipment requires an energy source to be **accessible**.

In practice, **safeguard** selection accounts for the nature of the energy source, the intended user, the functional requirements of the equipment, and similar considerations.

0.5.2 Equipment safeguard

An **equipment safeguard** may be a **basic safeguard**, a **supplementary safeguard**, a **double safeguard**, or a **reinforced safeguard**.

0.5.3 Installation safeguard

Installation safeguards are not controlled by the equipment manufacturer, although in some cases, **installation safeguards** may be specified in the equipment installation instructions.

Generally, with respect to equipment, an **installation safeguard** is a **supplementary safeguard**.

NOTE For example, the **supplementary safeguard** providing **protective earthing** is located partly in the equipment and partly in the installation. The **supplementary safeguard** providing **protective earthing** is not effective until the equipment is connected to the **protective earthing** of the installation.

Requirements for **installation safeguards** are not addressed in this document. However, this document does assume some **installation safeguards**, such as **protective earthing**, are in place and are effective.

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0.5.4 Personal safeguard

A **personal safeguard** may be a **basic safeguard**, a **supplementary safeguard**, or a **reinforced safeguard**.

Requirements for **personal safeguards** are not addressed in this document. However, this document does assume that **personal safeguards** are available for use as specified by the manufacturer.

0.5.5 Behavioural safeguards

0.5.5.1 Introduction to behavioural safeguards

In the absence of an **equipment**, **installation**, or **personal safeguard**, a person can use a specific behaviour as a **safeguard** to avoid energy transfer and consequent injury. A behavioural **safeguard** is a voluntary or instructed behaviour intended to reduce the likelihood of transfer of energy to a body part.

Three kinds of behavioural **safeguards** are specified in this document. Each kind of behavioural **safeguard** is associated with a specific kind of person. An **instructional safeguard** is usually addressed to an **ordinary person**, but can also be addressed to an **instructed person** or a **skilled person**. A **precautionary safeguard** is used by an **instructed person**. A **skill safeguard** is used by a **skilled person**.

As an **equipment safeguard** provides protection for all persons, it is preferred above a behavioural **safeguard**. However, in certain situations a **precautionary safeguard** or a **skill safeguard** is accepted as a replacement of an **equipment safeguard**.

0.5.5.2 Instructional safeguard

An **instructional safeguard** is a means of providing information, describing the existence and location of an energy source capable of causing pain or injury, and is intended to invoke a specific behaviour on the part of a person to reduce the likelihood of transfer of energy to a body part (see Annex F).

An **instructional safeguard** may be a visual indicator (symbols or words or both) or an audible message, as applicable to the expected use of the product.

When accessing locations where the equipment needs to be energized to perform a service activity, an **instructional safeguard** can be considered acceptable protection to bypass an **equipment safeguard** such that the person is made aware of how to avoid contact with a class 2 or class 3 energy source.

If **equipment safeguards** would interfere with or prohibit the equipment function, an **instructional safeguard** may replace an **equipment safeguard**.

If exposure to an energy source capable of causing pain or injury is essential to the correct functioning of equipment, an **instructional safeguard** may be used to ensure protection of persons instead of another **safeguard**. Consideration should be given as to whether the **instructional safeguard** should use a **personal safeguard**.

Provision of an **instructional safeguard** does not result in an **ordinary person** becoming an **instructed person** (see 0.5.5.3).

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0.5.5.3 Precautionary safeguard (used by an instructed person)

A **precautionary safeguard** is the training and experience or supervision of an **instructed person** by a **skilled person** to use precautions to protect the **instructed person** against class 2 energy sources. **Precautionary safeguards** are not specifically prescribed in this document but are assumed to be effective when the term **instructed person** is used.

During equipment servicing, it is possible that an **instructed person** will need to remove or defeat an **equipment safeguard**. In this case, an **instructed person** is expected to then apply precaution as a **safeguard** to avoid exposure to class 2 energy sources.

0.5.5.4 Skill safeguard (used by a skilled person)

A **skill safeguard** is the education, training, knowledge and experience of the **skilled person** that is used to protect the **skilled person** against class 2 or class 3 energy sources. **Skill safeguards** are not specifically prescribed in this document but are assumed to be effective when the term **skilled person** is used.

During equipment servicing, it is possible that a **skilled person** will need to remove or defeat an **equipment safeguard**. In this case, a **skilled person** is expected to then apply skill as a **safeguard** to avoid injury.

0.5.6 Safeguards during ordinary or instructed person service conditions

During **ordinary person** or **instructed person** service conditions, **safeguards** for such persons can be applicable. Such **safeguards** may be **equipment safeguards**, **personal safeguards**, or **instructional safeguards**.

0.5.7 Equipment safeguards during skilled person service conditions

During **skilled person** service conditions, **equipment safeguards** should be provided to protect against the effects of a body's involuntary reaction (for example, startle) that might cause unintentional contact with a class 3 energy source located outside the view of the **skilled person**.

NOTE This **safeguard** typically applies in large equipment, where the **skilled person** needs to partially or wholly enter between two or more class 3 energy source locations while servicing.

0.5.8 Examples of safeguard characteristics

Table 3 lists some examples of **safeguard** characteristics.

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Table 3 – Examples of safeguard characteristics

Safeguard	Basic safeguard	Supplementary safeguard	Reinforced safeguard
Equipment safeguard: a physical part of an equipment	Effective under **normal operating conditions**	Effective in the event of failure of the **basic safeguard**	Effective under **normal operating conditions** and in the event of a **single fault condition** elsewhere in the equipment
	Example: **basic insulation**	Example: **supplementary insulation**	Example: **reinforced insulation**
	Example: normal temperatures below ignition temperatures	Example: **fire enclosure**	Not applicable
Installation safeguard: a physical part of a man-made installation	Effective under **normal operating conditions**	Effective in the event of failure of an equipment **basic safeguard**	Effective under **normal operating conditions** and in the event of a **single fault condition** elsewhere in the equipment
	Example: wire size	Example: overcurrent protective **device**	Example: socket-outlet
Personal safeguard: a physical **device** worn on the body	In the absence of any **equipment safeguard**, effective under **normal operating conditions**	Effective in the event of failure of an equipment **basic safeguard**	In the absence of any **equipment safeguard**, effective under **normal operating conditions** and in the event of a **single fault condition** elsewhere in the equipment
	Example: gloves	Example: insulating floor mat	Example: electrically-insulated glove for handling live conductors
Instructional safeguard: a voluntary or instructed behaviour intended to reduce the likelihood of transfer of energy to a body part	In the absence of any **equipment safeguard**, effective under **normal operating conditions**	Effective in the event of failure of an equipment **basic safeguard**	Only effective on an exceptional basis, when providing all appropriate **safeguards** would prevent the intended functioning of the equipment
	Example: **instructional safeguard** to disconnect telecommunication cable before opening the cover	Example: after opening a door, an **instructional safeguard** against hot parts	Example: **instructional safeguard** of hot parts in an office photocopier, or a continuous roll paper cutter on a commercial printer

0.6 Electrically-caused pain or injury (electric shock)

0.6.1 Models for electrically-caused pain or injury

Electrically-caused pain or injury can occur when electrical energy capable of causing pain or injury is transferred to a body part (see Figure 3).

Electrical energy transfer occurs when there are two or more electrical contacts to the body:

– the first electrical contact is between a body part and a conductive part of the equipment;
– the second electrical contact is between another body part and
  - earth, or
  - another conductive part of the equipment.

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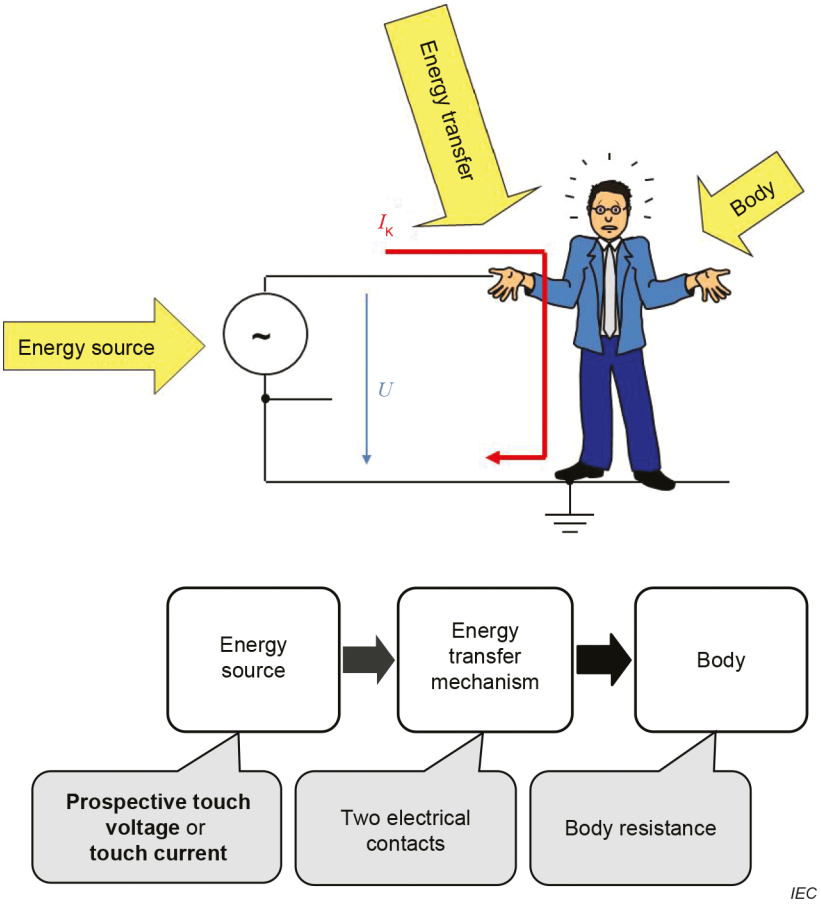

Figure 3 – Schematic and model for electrically-caused pain or injury

Depending on the magnitude, duration, wave shape, and frequency of the current, the effect on the human body varies from undetectable to detectable to painful to injurious.

0.6.2 Models for protection against electrically-caused pain or injury

One or more **safeguards** are interposed between an electrical energy source capable of causing pain or injury and a body part to protect against electrically-caused pain or injury (see Figure 4).

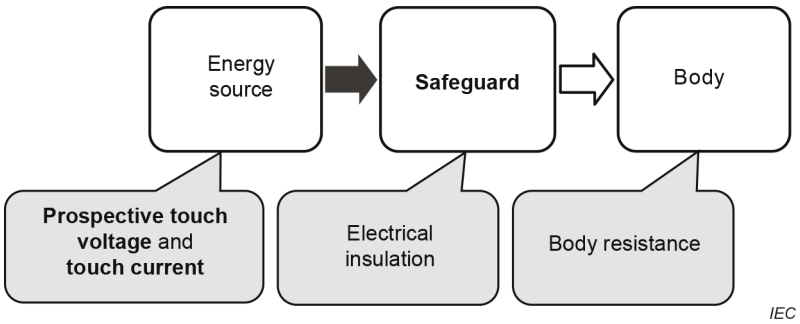

Figure 4 – Model for protection against electrically-caused pain or injury

Protection against electrically-caused pain is provided under **normal operating conditions** and **abnormal operating conditions**. For such protection, under **normal operating conditions** and **abnormal operating conditions**, a **basic safeguard** is interposed between an electrical energy source capable of causing pain and an **ordinary person**.

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The most common **basic safeguard** against an electrical energy source capable of causing pain is electrical insulation (also known as **basic insulation**) interposed between the energy source and a body part.

Protection against electrically-caused injury is provided under **normal operating conditions**, **abnormal operating conditions**, and **single fault conditions**. For such protection, under **normal operating conditions** and **abnormal operating conditions**, both a **basic safeguard** and a **supplementary safeguard** are interposed between an electrical energy source capable of causing injury and an **ordinary person** (see 4.3.2.4), or an **instructed person** (see 4.3.3.3). In the event of a failure of either **safeguard**, the other **safeguard** becomes effective. The **supplementary safeguard** against an electrical energy source capable of causing injury is placed between the **basic safeguard** and a body part. A **supplementary safeguard** may be additional electrical insulation (**supplementary insulation**) or a protectively earthed conductive barrier or other construction that performs the same function.

Another **safeguard** against an electrical energy source capable of causing injury is electrical insulation (also known as **double insulation** or **reinforced insulation**) placed between the energy source and a body part.

Likewise, a **reinforced safeguard** may be placed between an electrical energy source capable of causing injury and a body part.

0.7 Electrically-caused fire

0.7.1 Models for electrically-caused fire

Electrically-caused fire is due to conversion of electrical energy to thermal energy (see Figure 5), where the thermal energy heats a fuel material followed by ignition and combustion.

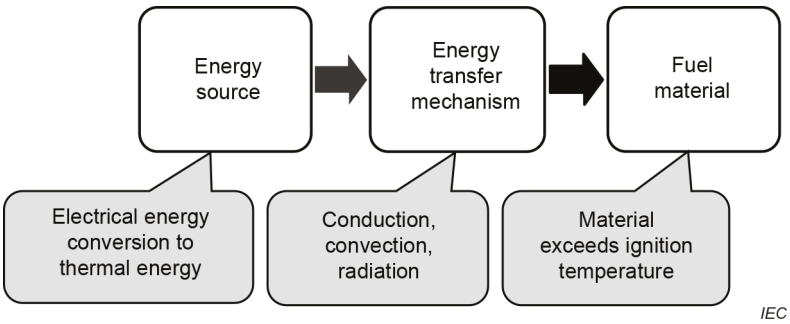

Figure 5 – Model for electrically-caused fire

Electrical energy is converted to thermal energy either in a resistance or in an arc and is transferred to a fuel material by conduction, convection, or radiation. As the fuel material heats, it chemically decomposes into gases, liquids and solids. When the gas is at its ignition temperature, the gas can be ignited by an ignition source. When the gas is at its spontaneous ignition temperature, the gas ignites by itself. Both result in fire.

0.7.2 Models for protection against electrically-caused fire

The **basic safeguard** against electrically-caused fire (see Figure 6) is that the temperature of a material, under **normal operating conditions** and **abnormal operating conditions**, does not cause the material to ignite.

The **supplementary safeguard** against electrically-caused fire reduces the likelihood of ignition or, in the case of ignition, reduces the likelihood of spread of fire.

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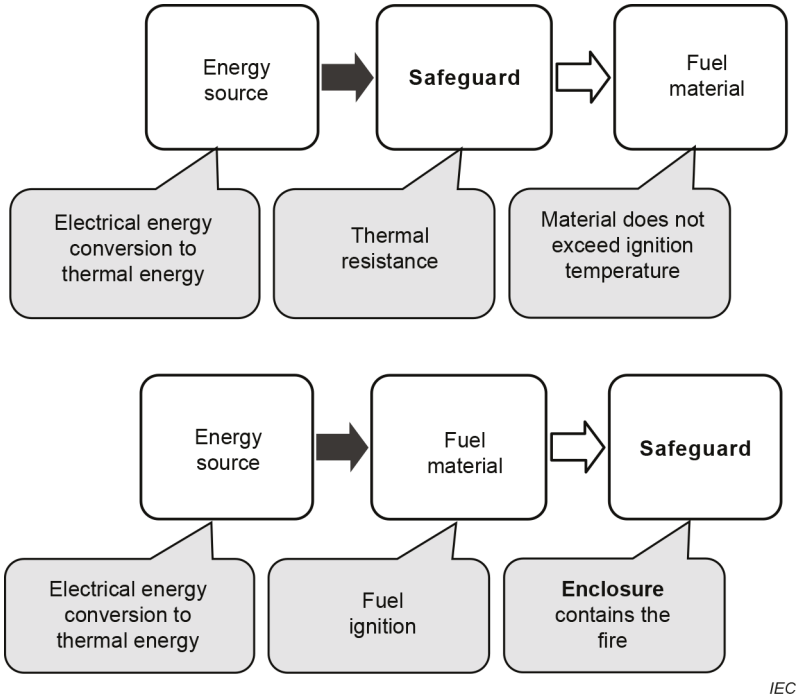

Figure 6 – Models for protection against fire

0.8 Injury caused by hazardous substances

Injury caused by **hazardous substances** is due to a chemical reaction with a body part. The extent of injury by a given substance depends on both the magnitude and duration of exposure and on the body part susceptibility to that substance.

The **basic safeguard** against injury caused by **hazardous substances** is containment of the material.

Supplementary safeguards against injury caused by **hazardous substances** may include:

– a second container or a spill-resistant container;
– containment trays;
– tamper-proof screws to prevent unauthorized access;
– **instructional safeguards**.

National and regional regulations govern the use of and exposure to **hazardous substances** used in equipment. These regulations do not enable a practical classification of **hazardous substances** in the manner in which other energy sources are classified in this document. Therefore, energy source classifications are not applied in Clause 7.

0.9 Mechanically-caused injury

Mechanically-caused injury is due to kinetic energy transfer to a body part when a collision occurs between a body part and an equipment part. The kinetic energy is a function of the relative motion between a body part and **accessible** parts of the equipment, including parts ejected from the equipment that collide with a body part.

Examples of kinetic energy sources are:

– body motion relative to sharp edges and corners;
– part motion due to rotating or other moving parts, including pinch points;
– part motion due to loosening, exploding, or imploding parts;

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– equipment motion due to instability;
– equipment motion due to wall, ceiling, or rack mounting means failure;
– equipment motion due to handle failure;
– part motion due to an exploding **battery**;
– equipment motion due to cart or stand instability or failure.

The **basic safeguard** against mechanically-caused injury is a function of the specific energy source. **Basic safeguards** may include:

– rounded edges and corners;
– an **enclosure** to prevent a moving part from being **accessible**;
– an **enclosure** to prevent expelling a moving part;
– a **safety interlock** to control access to an otherwise moving part;
– means to stop the motion of a moving part;
– means to stabilize the equipment;
– robust handles;
– robust mounting means;
– means to contain parts expelled during **explosion** or implosion.

The **supplementary safeguard** against mechanically-caused injury is a function of the specific energy source. **Supplementary safeguards** may include:

– **instructional safeguards**;
– instructions and trainings;
– additional **enclosures** or barriers;
– **safety interlocks**.

The **reinforced safeguard** against mechanically-caused injury is a function of the specific energy source. **Reinforced safeguards** may include:

– extra thick glass on the front of a CRT;
– rack slide-rails and means of support;
– **safety interlock**.

0.10 Thermally-caused injury (skin burn)

0.10.1 Models for thermally-caused injury

Thermally-caused injury can occur when thermal energy capable of causing injury is transferred to a body part (see Figure 7).

Thermal energy transfer occurs when a body touches a hot equipment part. The extent of injury depends on the temperature difference, the thermal mass of the object, rate of thermal energy transfer to the skin, and duration of contact.

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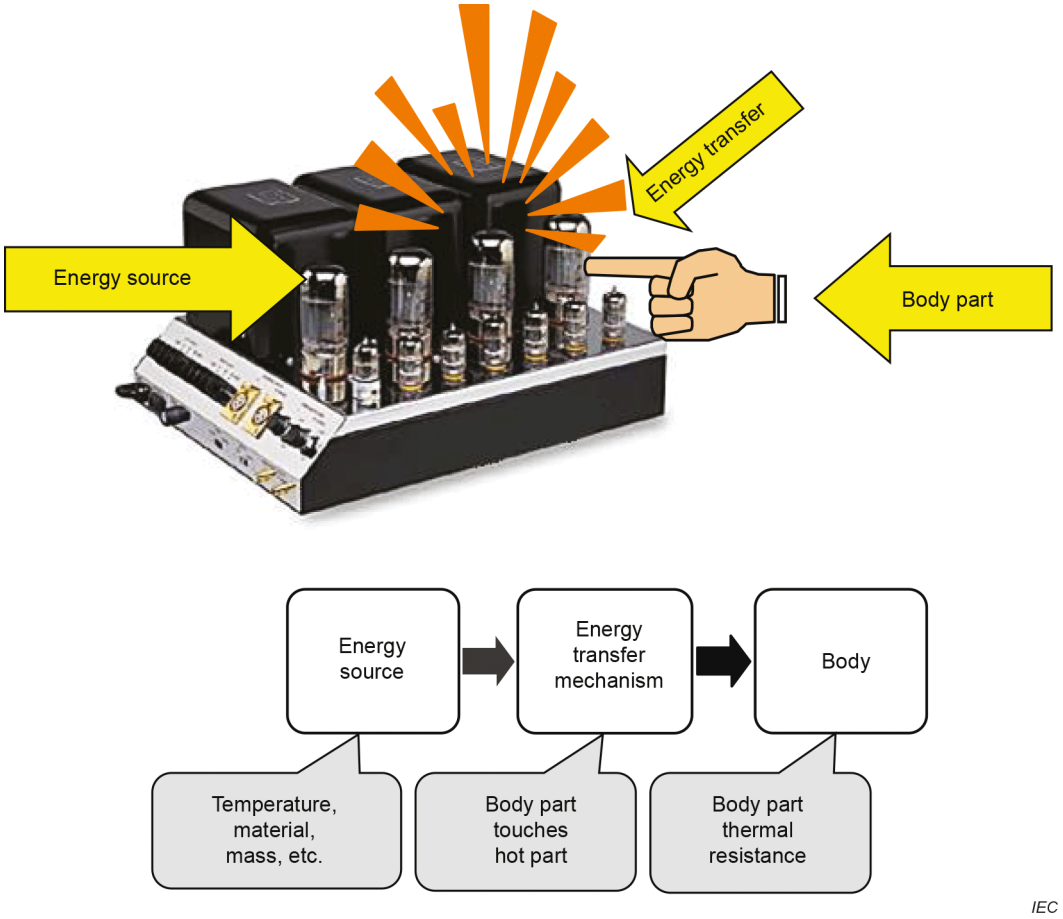

Figure 7 – Schematic and model for thermally-caused injury

Depending on the temperature, contact duration, material properties, and mass of the material, the perception of the human body varies from warmth to heat that can result in pain or injury (burn).

0.10.2 Models for protection against thermally-caused pain or injury

One or more **safeguards** are interposed between a thermal energy source capable of causing pain or injury and an **ordinary person** (see Figure 8).

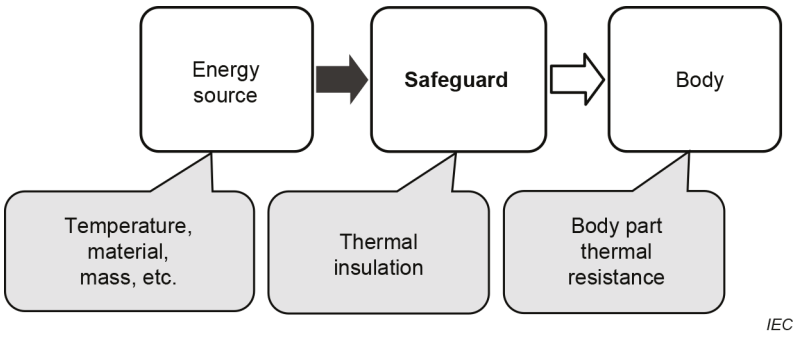

Figure 8 – Model for protection against thermally-caused injury

Under **normal operating conditions** and **abnormal operating conditions**, protection is used against thermally-cause pain. For such protection, a **basic safeguard** is interposed between a thermal energy source capable of causing pain and an **ordinary person**.

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Under **normal operating conditions**, **abnormal operating conditions** and **single fault conditions**, protection is used against thermally-caused injury. For such protection, a **basic safeguard** and a **supplementary safeguard** are interposed between a thermal energy source capable of causing injury and an **ordinary person**.

The **basic safeguard** against a thermal energy source capable of causing pain or injury is thermal insulation placed between the energy source and a body part. In some cases, a **basic safeguard** against a thermal energy source capable of causing pain or injury can be an **instructional safeguard** identifying the hot parts and how to reduce the likelihood of injury. In some cases, a **basic safeguard** reduces the likelihood of a non-injurious thermal energy source from becoming a thermal energy source capable of causing pain or injury.

Examples of such **basic safeguards** are:

– control of electrical energy being converted to thermal energy (for example, a **thermostat**);
– heat sinking, etc.

The **supplementary safeguard** against a thermal energy source capable of causing injury is thermal insulation placed between the energy source and a body part. In some cases, a **supplementary safeguard** against a thermal energy source capable of causing pain or injury can be an **instructional safeguard** identifying the hot parts and how to reduce the likelihood of injury.

0.11 Radiation-caused injury

Radiation-caused injury within the scope of this document is generally attributed to one of the following energy transfer mechanisms:

– heating of a body organ caused by exposure to non-ionising radiation, such as the highly localised energy of a laser impinging on the retina; or
– auditory injury caused by over stimulation of the ear by excessive peaks or sustained loud sound, leading to physical or nerve damage; or
– X-radiation; or
– UV radiation.

Radiated energy is transferred by impingement of wave emission upon a body part.

The **basic safeguard** against radiation-caused injury is containment of the energy within an **enclosure** that is opaque to the radiated energy.

There are several **supplementary safeguards** against radiation-caused injury. The **supplementary safeguards** can include **safety interlocks** to disconnect power to the generator, tamper-proof screws to prevent unauthorized access, etc.

The **basic safeguard** against auditory injury is to limit the acoustic output level of personal music players and their associated headphones and earphones.

Examples of **supplementary safeguards** against auditory pain and injury are the provision of warnings and information advising the user how to use the equipment correctly.

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AUDIO/VIDEO, INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT –

Part 1: Safety requirements

1 Scope

This part of IEC 62368 is applicable to the safety of electrical and electronic equipment within the field of audio, video, information and communication technology, and business and office machines with a **rated voltage** not exceeding 600 V. This document does not include requirements for performance or functional characteristics of equipment.

NOTE 1 Examples of equipment within the scope of this document are given in Annex A.

NOTE 2 A **rated voltage** of 600 V is considered to include equipment rated 400/690 V.

Explanatory information related to this document is contained in IEC TR 62368-2. It provides rationale together with explanatory information that can be helpful to apply to this document.

This document is also applicable to:

– components and **subassemblies** intended for incorporation in this equipment. Such components and **subassemblies** need not comply with every requirement of this document, provided that the complete equipment, incorporating such components and **subassemblies**, does comply;
– external power supply units intended to primarily supply equipment within the scope of this document;
– accessories intended to be used with equipment within the scope of this document;
– large equipment installed in **restricted access areas**. For equipment having large machinery aspects, additional requirements can apply; and
– equipment to be used in tropical regions.

This document also includes requirements for audio/video, information and communication technology equipment intended to be installed in an **outdoor location**. The requirements for **outdoor equipment** also apply, where relevant, to **outdoor enclosures** suitable for direct installation in the field and supplied for housing audio/video, information and communication technology equipment to be installed in an **outdoor location**. See Annex Y for specific construction requirements not covered elsewhere in this document.

This document harmonizes with IEC 61140 and gives consideration to the electrical installation by properly interfacing with the common safety aspects of the installation.

Each installation can have particular requirements. In addition, requirements for protection of the **outdoor equipment** against the effects of direct lightning strikes are not covered by this document.

NOTE 3 For information on this subject, see IEC 62305-1.

This document assumes a maximum altitude of 2 000 m unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer.

Additional requirements for equipment having the capability to supply or receive DC power over commonly used communication cables, such as USB or Ethernet (PoE), are given in IEC 62368-3. IEC 62368-3 does not apply to:

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– equipment supplying or receiving power using proprietary connectors; or
– equipment using a proprietary protocol to enable the power transfer.

This document specifies **safeguards** for **ordinary persons**, **instructed persons**, and **skilled persons**. Additional requirements can apply for equipment that is clearly designed or intended for use by children or specifically attractive to children.

NOTE 4 In Australia, the work conducted by an **instructed person** or a **skilled person** can require formal licensing from regulatory authorities.

NOTE 5 In Germany, in many cases a person can only be regarded as an **instructed person** or a **skilled person** if certain legal requirements are fulfilled.

This document does not apply to:

– equipment with non-self-contained hazardous moving parts, such as robotic equipment;

NOTE 6 For requirements related to robotic equipment in an industrial environment, see IEC 60204-1, IEC 60204-11, ISO 10218-1 and ISO 10218-2.

– personal care robots, including mobile servant robots, physical assistant robots, and person carrier robots;

NOTE 7 For requirements related to personal care robots, see ISO 13482.

– power supply systems that are not an integral part of the equipment, such as motor-generator sets, **battery** backup systems and distribution transformers;
– equipment to be used in wet areas indoors.

This document does not address:

– manufacturing processes except for **routine tests**;
– injurious effects of gases released by thermal decomposition or combustion;
– disposal processes;
– effects of transport (other than as specified in this document);
– effects of storage of materials, components, or the equipment itself;
– the likelihood of injury from particulate radiation such as alpha particles and beta particles;
– the use of the equipment in oxygen-enriched or **explosive** atmospheres;
– exposure to chemicals other than as specified in Clause 7;
– electrostatic discharge events;
– exposure to electromagnetic fields;
– environmental aspects; or
– requirements for functional safety, except for those related to **work cells**.

NOTE 8 For specific functional and software safety requirements of electronic safety-related systems (for example, protective electronic circuits), see IEC 61508-1.

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 60027-1, *Letter symbols to be used in electrical technology – Part 1: General*

IEC 60038, *IEC standard voltages*

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IEC 60068-2-6, *Environmental testing – Part 2-6: Tests – Test Fc: Vibration (sinusoidal)*

IEC 60068-2-11, *Basic environmental testing procedures – Part 2-11: Tests – Test Ka: Salt mist*

IEC 60068-2-78, *Environmental testing – Part 2-78: Tests – Test Cab: Damp heat, steady state*

IEC 60073, *Basic and safety principles for man-machine interface, marking and identification – Coding principles for indicators and actuators*

IEC TR 60083, *Plugs and socket-outlets for domestic and similar general use standardized in member countries of IEC*

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

IEC 60086-4, *Primary batteries – Part 4: Safety of lithium batteries*

IEC 60086-5, *Primary batteries – Part 5: Safety of batteries with aqueous electrolyte*

IEC 60107-1:1997, *Methods of measurement on receivers for television broadcast transmissions – Part 1: General considerations – Measurements at radio and video frequencies*

IEC 60112, *Method for the determination of the proof and the comparative tracking indices of solid insulating materials*

IEC 60127 (all parts), *Miniature fuses*

IEC 60127-8, *Miniature fuses – Part 8: Fuse resistors with particular overcurrent protection*

IEC 60227-1, *Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 60227-2:1997[1], *Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V – Part 2: Test methods*
IEC 60227-2:1997/AMD1:2003

IEC 60243-1, *Electric strength of insulating materials – Test methods – Part 1: Tests at power frequencies*

IEC 60245-1, *Rubber insulated cables – Rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 60268-1:1985, *Sound system equipment – Part 1: General*
IEC 60268-1:1985/AMD1:1988
IEC 60268-1:1985/AMD2:1988

IEC 60309 (all parts), *Plugs, socket-outlets and couplers for industrial purposes*

IEC 60317 (all parts), *Specifications for particular types of winding wires*

IEC 60317-0-7:2017, *Specifications for particular types of winding wires – Part 0-7: General requirements – Fully insulated (FIW) zero-defect enamelled round copper wire*

[1] This publication was withdrawn and replaced with IEC 63294:2021.

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IEC 60317-43, *Specifications for particular types of winding wires – Part 43: Aromatic polyimide tape wrapped round copper wire, class 240*

IEC 60317-56, *Specifications for particular types of winding wires – Part 56: Solderable fully insulated (FIW) zero-defect polyurethane enamelled round copper wire, class 180*

IEC 60320 (all parts), *Appliance couplers for household and similar general purposes*

IEC 60320-1, *Appliance couplers for household and similar general purposes – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 60332-1-2, *Tests on electric and optical fibre cables under fire conditions – Part 1-2: Test for vertical flame propagation for a single insulated wire or cable – Procedure for 1 kW pre-mixed flame*

IEC 60332-1-3, *Tests on electric and optical fibre cables under fire conditions – Part 1-3: Test for vertical flame propagation for a single insulated wire or cable – Procedure for determination of flaming droplets/particles*

IEC 60332-2-2, *Tests on electric and optical fibre cables under fire conditions – Part 2-2: Test for vertical flame propagation for a single small insulated wire or cable – Procedure for diffusion flame*

IEC 60384-14:2013, *Fixed capacitors for use in electronic equipment – Part 14: Sectional specification – Fixed capacitors for electromagnetic interference suppression and connection to the supply mains*
IEC 60384-14:2013/AMD1:2016

IEC 60417, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment*, available at http://www.graphical-symbols.info/equipment

IEC 60529:1989, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)*
IEC 60529:1989/AMD1:1999
IEC 60529:1989/AMD2:2013

IEC 60664-1:2020, *Insulation coordination for equipment within low-voltage systems – Part 1: Principles, requirements and tests*

IEC 60664-3, *Insulation coordination for equipment within low-voltage systems – Part 3: Use of coating, potting or moulding for protection against pollution*

IEC 60691:2015, *Thermal-links – Requirements and application guide*

IEC 60695-2-11, *Fire hazard testing – Part 2-11: Glowing/hot-wire based test methods – Glow-wire flammability test method for end-products (GWEPT)*

IEC 60695-10-2, *Fire hazard testing – Part 10-2: Abnormal heat – Ball pressure test method*

IEC 60695-10-3, *Fire hazard testing – Part 10-3: Abnormal heat – Mould stress relief distortion test*

IEC 60695-11-5:2016, *Fire hazard testing – Part 11-5: Test flames – Needle-flame test method – Apparatus, confirmatory test arrangement and guidance*

IEC 60695-11-10, *Fire hazard testing – Part 11-10: Test flames – 50 W horizontal and vertical flame test methods*

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IEC 60851-3:2009/AMD2:2019

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IEC 60896-21:2004, *Stationary lead-acid batteries – Part 21: Valve regulated types – Methods of test*

IEC 60896-22, *Stationary lead-acid batteries – Part 22: Valve regulated types – Requirements*

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IEC 60906-2, *IEC system of plugs and socket-outlets for household and similar purposes – Part 2: Plugs and socket-outlets 15 A 125 V a.c. and 20 A 125 V a.c.*

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IEC 60998-1, *Connecting devices for low-voltage circuits for household and similar purposes – Part 1: General requirements*

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IEC 61810-1:2015/AMD1:2019

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IEC 61965:2003, *Mechanical safety of cathode ray tubes*

IEC 61984, *Connectors – Safety requirements and tests*

IEC 62061, *Safety of machinery – Functional safety of safety-related control systems*

IEC 62133-1, *Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline or other non-acid electrolytes – Safety requirements for portable sealed secondary cells, and for batteries made from them, for use in portable applications – Part 1: Nickel systems*

IEC 62133-2:2017, *Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline or other non-acid electrolytes – Safety requirements for portable sealed secondary cells, and for batteries made from them, for use in portable applications – Part 2: Lithium systems*
IEC 62133-2:2017/AMD1:2021

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IEC 62281, *Safety of primary and secondary lithium cells and batteries during transport*

IEC 62440:2008, *Electric cables with a rated voltage not exceeding 450/750 V – Guide to use*

IEC 62471:2006, *Photobiological safety of lamps and lamp systems*

IEC 62471-5:2015, *Photobiological safety of lamps and lamp systems – Part 5: Image projectors*

IEC 62485-2, *Safety requirements for secondary batteries and battery installations – Part 2: Stationary batteries*

IEC 62619:2022, *Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline or other non-acid electrolytes – Safety requirements for secondary lithium cells and batteries, for use in industrial applications*

IEC 62821-1, *Electric cables - Halogen-free, low smoke, thermoplastic insulated and sheathed cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 62821-2[2], *Electric cables - Halogen-free, low smoke, thermoplastic insulated and sheathed cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V – Part 2: Test methods*

IEC 62821-3, *Electric cables - Halogen-free, low smoke, thermoplastic insulated and sheathed cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V – Part 3: Flexible cables (cords)*

[2] This publication was withdrawn and replaced with IEC 63294:2021.

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Full document details: BS EN IEC 62368-1:2024

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IEC 63010-2[3], *Halogen-free thermoplastic insulated and sheathed flexible cables of rated voltages up to and including 300/300 V – Part 2: Test methods*

IEC 63294:2021, *Test methods for electric cables with rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V*

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ISO 178, *Plastics – Determination of flexural properties*

ISO 179-1, *Plastics – Determination of Charpy impact properties – Part 1: Non-instrumented impact test*

ISO 180, *Plastics – Determination of Izod impact strength*

ISO 306, *Plastics – Thermoplastic materials – Determination of Vicat softening temperature (VST)*

ISO 527 (all parts), *Plastics – Determination of tensile properties*

ISO 871, *Plastics – Determination of ignition temperature using a hot-air furnace*

ISO 1798, *Flexible cellular polymeric materials – Determination of tensile strength and elongation at break*

ISO 1817:2022, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic – Determination of the effect of liquids*

ISO 2719, *Determination of flash point – Pensky-Martens closed cup method*

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ISO 4892-4, *Plastics – Methods of exposure to laboratory light sources – Part 4: Open-flame carbon-arc lamps*

ISO 7000, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment – Registered symbols,* available at http://www.graphical-symbols.info/equipment

[3] This publication was withdrawn and replaced with IEC 63294:2021.

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Full document details: BS EN IEC 62368-1:2024

ISO 7010, *Graphical symbols – Safety colours and safety signs – Registered safety signs*

ISO 8256, *Plastics – Determination of tensile-impact strength*

ISO 9772, *Cellular plastics – Determination of horizontal burning characteristics of small specimens subjected to a small flame*

ISO 9773, *Plastics – Determination of burning behaviour of thin flexible vertical specimens in contact with a small-flame ignition source*

ISO 13849-1, *Safety of machinery – Safety-related parts of control systems – Part 1: General principles for design*

ISO 14993, *Corrosion of metals and alloys – Accelerated testing involving cyclic exposure to salt mist, "dry" and "wet" conditions*

ISO 21207, *Corrosion tests in artificial atmospheres – Accelerated corrosion tests involving alternate exposure to corrosion-promoting gases, neutral salt-spray and drying*

ISO 22479, *Corrosion of metals and alloys – Sulfur dioxide test in a humid atmosphere (fixed gas method)*

ASTM D412, *Standard Test Methods for Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Elastomers – Tension*

ASTM D471-98, *Standard Test Method for Rubber Property – Effect of Liquids*

ASTM D3574, *Standard Test Methods for Flexible Cellular Materials – Slab, Bonded, and Molded Urethane Foams*

EN 50332-1:2013, *Sound system equipment: Headphones and earphones associated with personal music players – Maximum sound pressure level measurement methodology – Part 1: General method for "one package equipment"*

EN 50332-2, *Sound system equipment: Headphones and earphones associated with personal music players – Maximum sound pressure level measurement methodology – Part 2: Matching of sets with headphones if either or both are offered separately, or are offered as one package equipment but with standardised connectors between the two allowing to combine components of different manufacturers or different design*

EN 50332-3:2017, *Sound system equipment: Headphones and earphones associated with personal music players – Maximum sound pressure level measurement methodology – Part 3: Measurement method for sound dose management*

3 Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms

3.1 Energy source abbreviated terms

Abbreviation	Description	
ES	Electrical energy source	see 5.2
ES1	Electrical energy source class 1	
ES2	Electrical energy source class 2	
ES3	Electrical energy source class 3	
MS	Mechanical energy source	see 8.2

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Abbreviation	Description	
MS1	Mechanical energy source class 1	
MS2	Mechanical energy source class 2	
MS3	Mechanical energy source class 3	
PS	Power source	see 6.2
PS1	Power source class 1	
PS2	Power source class 2	
PS3	Power source class 3	
RS	Radiation energy source	see 10.2
RS1	Radiation energy source class 1	
RS2	Radiation energy source class 2	
RS3	Radiation energy source class 3	
TS	Thermal energy source	see 9.2
TS1	Thermal energy source class 1	
TS2	Thermal energy source class 2	
TS3	Thermal energy source class 3	

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3.2 Other abbreviated terms

Abbreviation	Description
AIT	auto ignition temperature
AWG	American wire gauge
CD	compact disc
CD ROM	compact disc read-only memory
CRT	cathode ray tube
CSD	**calculated sound dose**
CTI	comparative tracking index
dBFS	**digital signal level relative to full scale**
DVD	digital versatile disc
E	sound exposure
EIS	electrical insulation system
EUT	equipment under test
FIW	**fully insulated winding wire**
GDT	gas discharge tube
IC	integrated circuit
ICX	integrated circuit with X-capacitor function
IR	infrared
LED	light emitting diode
LEL	lower explosion limit
LFL	lower flammability limit
LFC	**liquid filled component**
LPS	limited power source
MEL	**momentary exposure level**
MOV	metal oxide varistor
NEMA	National Electrical Manufacturers Association
NiCd	nickel cadmium
PIS	**potential ignition source**
PMP	personal music player
PoE	power over Ethernet
PPE	personal protective equipment
PTC	positive temperature coefficient
PTI	proof tracking index
RC	resistor-capacitor
RG	risk group
Sb	antimony
SEL	**sound exposure level**
SRME	slide rail mounted equipment
TSS	thyristor surge suppressor
UPS	uninterruptible power supply
USB	universal serial bus
UV	ultraviolet
VDR	voltage dependent resistor
VRLA	valve regulated lead acid

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3.3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document the following terms and definitions 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

For the convenience of the user, the defined terms are listed below in alphabetical order indicating the number of the defined term.

Where the words "voltage" and "current" or their abbreviations are used, they are RMS values unless otherwise specified in this document.

5VA class material	3.3.4.2.1
5VB class material	3.3.4.2.2
abnormal operating condition	3.3.7.1
accessible	3.3.6.1
audio amplifier	3.3.1.1
arcing PIS	3.3.9.2
backfeed	3.3.6.2
backfeed safeguard	3.3.11.1
basic insulation	3.3.5.1
basic safeguard	3.3.11.2
battery	3.3.17.1
button cell battery	3.3.17.3
calculated sound dose, CSD	3.3.19.1
cell	3.3.17.2
cheesecloth	3.3.6.3
class I equipment	3.3.15.1
class II construction	3.3.15.2
class II equipment	3.3.15.3
class III equipment	3.3.15.4
clearance	3.3.12.1
coin cell battery	3.3.17.3
combustible material	3.3.4.1
consumable material	3.3.16.1
coolant	3.3.6.4
creepage distance	3.3.12.2
DC voltage	3.3.14.1
device	3.3.6.5
digital signal level relative to full scale, dBFS	3.3.19.5
direct plug-in equipment	3.3.3.1
disconnect device	3.3.6.6
double insulation	3.3.5.2

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