

Implementation of
IEC 1231:1993

International lamp coding system (ILCOS)

Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted to Technical Committee CPL/34/1, Electric lamps, upon which the following bodies were represented:

- British Lighting Association for the preparation of Standards (BRITLAPS)
- Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers
- Electricity Association
- Engineering Equipment and Materials Users' Association
- Institution of Lighting Engineers
- Lighting Industry Federation Ltd.
- London Regional Transport
- National Illumination Committee of Great Britain
- Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders Limited

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Electrotechnical Sector Board, was published under the authority of the Standards Board and comes into effect on 15 August 1995

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National foreword

This British Standard reproduces verbatim IEC 1231:1993 and implements it as the UK national standard.

This British Standard is published under the direction of the Electrotechnical Sector Board, whose Technical Committee CPL/34/1 has the responsibility to:

- aid enquirers to understand the text;
- present to the responsible international committee any enquiries on interpretation, or proposals for change, and keep UK interests informed;
- monitor related international and European developments and promulgate them in the UK.

NOTE International and European Standards, as well as overseas standards, are available from Customer Services, BSI, 389 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4AL.

A British Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users of British Standards are responsible for their correct application.

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, the IEC title page, pages ii to vi, pages 1 to 19 and a back cover.

This standard has been updated (see copyright date) and may have had amendments incorporated. This will be indicated in the amendment table on the inside front cover.

**RAPPORT
TECHNIQUE
TECHNICAL
REPORT**

**CEI
IEC
1231**

Première édition
First edition
1993-07

**Système international de codification
des lampes (ILCOS)**

**International lamp coding
system (ILCOS)**



Numéro de référence
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Revision of this publication

The technical content of IEC publications is kept under constant review by the IEC, thus ensuring that the content reflects current technology.

Information on the work of revision, the issue of revised editions and amendment sheets may be obtained from IEC National Committees and from the following IEC sources:

- **IEC Bulletin**
- **IEC Yearbook**
- **Catalogue of IEC Publications**
Published yearly

Terminology

For general terminology, readers are referred to IEC Publication 50: International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV), which is issued in the form of separate chapters each dealing with a specific field, the General Index being published as a separate booklet. Full details of the IEV will be supplied on request.

The terms and definitions contained in the present publication have either been taken from the IEV or have been specifically approved for the purpose of this publication.

Graphical and letter symbols

For graphical symbols, and letter symbols and signs approved by the IEC for general use, readers are referred to:

- IEC Publication 27: Letter symbols to be used in electrical technology;
- IEC Publication 617: Graphical symbols for diagrams.

The symbols and signs contained in the present publication have either been taken from IEC Publications 27 or 617, or have been specifically approved for the purpose of this publication.

IEC publications prepared by the same Technical Committee

The attention of readers is drawn to the back cover, which lists IEC publications issued by the Technical Committee which has prepared the present publication.

Foreword

1) The IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of the IEC is to promote international cooperation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, the IEC publishes International Standards. Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. The IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.

2) The formal decisions or agreements of the IEC on technical matters, prepared by technical committees on which all the National Committees having a special interest therein are represented, express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the subjects dealt with.

3) They have the form of recommendations for international use published in the form of standards, technical reports or guides and they are accepted by the National Committees in that sense.

4) In order to promote international unification, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC International Standards transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional standards. Any divergence between the IEC Standard and the corresponding national or regional standard shall be clearly indicated in the latter.

IEC 1231, which has the status of a technical report, has been prepared by sub-committee 34A: Lamps and related equipment.

The text of this technical report is based on the following documents:

DIS	Report on Voting
34A(CO)627	34A(CO)677

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

A review of this technical report will be carried out in the years to come.

Annex A is for information only.

The following IEC publications are quoted in this technical report:

IEC 81:1984, *Tubular fluorescent lamps for general lighting service*.

IEC 188:1974, *High-pressure mercury vapour lamps*.

IEC 192:1973, *Low-pressure sodium vapour lamps*.

IEC 357:1982, *Tungsten halogen lamps (non-vehicle)*.

IEC 432:1984, *Safety requirements for tungsten filament lamps for domestic and similar general lighting purposes*.

IEC 630:1979, *Maximum lamp outlines for general lighting lamps*.

IEC 662:1980, *High-pressure sodium vapour lamps*.

IEC 887:1988, *Glass bulb designation system for lamps*.

IEC 901:1987, *Single-capped fluorescent lamps — Safety and performance requirements*.

IEC 969:1988, *Self-ballasted lamps for general lighting services — Performance requirements*.

IEC 1167:1992, *Metal halide lamps*.