

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



**Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety –
Part 2-55: Particular requirements for electrical appliances for use with
aquariums and garden ponds**



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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



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Part 2-55: Particular requirements for electrical appliances for use with
aquariums and garden ponds**

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

HOUSEHOLD AND SIMILAR ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES –
SAFETY –**Part 2-55: Particular requirements for electrical appliances
for use with aquariums and garden ponds**

FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). 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. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
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This redline version of the official IEC Standard allows the user to identify the changes made to the previous edition IEC 60335-2-55:2002+AMD1:2008 CSV. A vertical bar appears in the margin wherever a change has been made. Additions are in green text, deletions are in strikethrough red text.

IEC 60335-2-55 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 61: Safety of household and similar electrical appliances. It is an International Standard.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2002 and Amendment 1:2008. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) the text has been aligned with IEC 60335-1:2020;
- b) some notes have been converted to normative text or deleted (Clause 1, 5.2, 19.101, 21.1, 21.102, 22.101);
- c) updated the depth of immersion symbol (7.1, 7.6, 7.12);
- d) limits on the temperature rise of external accessible surfaces have been introduced (Clause 11).

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

Draft	Report on voting
61/6379/FDIS	61/6429/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/standardsdev/publications.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60335 series, published under the general title *Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety*, can be found on the IEC website.

This Part 2 is to be used in conjunction with the latest edition of IEC 60335-1 and its amendments unless that edition precludes it; in that case, the latest edition that does not preclude it is used. It was established on the basis of the sixth edition (2020) of that standard.

NOTE 1 When "Part 1" is mentioned in this standard, it refers to IEC 60335-1.

This Part 2 supplements or modifies the corresponding clauses in IEC 60335-1, so as to convert that publication into the IEC standard: Particular requirements for electrical appliances for use with aquariums and garden ponds.

When a particular subclause of Part 1 is not mentioned in this Part 2, that subclause applies as far as is reasonable. When this standard states "addition", "modification" or "replacement", the relevant text in Part 1 is to be adapted accordingly.

NOTE 2 The following numbering system is used:

- subclauses, tables and figures that are numbered starting from 101 are additional to those in Part 1;
- unless notes are in a new subclause or involve notes in Part 1, they are numbered starting from 101, including those in a replaced clause or subclause;
- additional annexes are lettered AA, BB, etc.

NOTE 3 The following print types are used:

- requirements: in roman type;

- *test specifications: in italic type;*
- notes: in small roman type.

Words in **bold** in the text are defined in Clause 3. When a definition concerns an adjective, the adjective and the associated noun are also in bold.

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 4 The attention of National Committees is drawn to the fact that equipment manufacturers and testing organizations may need a transitional period following publication of a new, amended or revised IEC publication in which to make products in accordance with the new requirements and to equip themselves for conducting new or revised tests.

It is the recommendation of the committee that the content of this publication be adopted for implementation nationally not earlier than 12 months or later than 36 months from the date of publication.

The following differences exist in the countries indicated below.

- 6.1: Class 0 appliances for indoor use having a rated voltage not exceeding 150 V and class 0I appliances are allowed (Japan).

IMPORTANT – The 'colour inside' logo on the cover page of this publication 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.

INTRODUCTION

It has been assumed in the drafting of this International Standard that the execution of its provisions is entrusted to appropriately qualified and experienced persons.

Guidance documents concerning the application of the safety requirements for appliances can be accessed via TC 61 supporting documents on the IEC website –

<https://www.iec.ch/tc61/supportingdocuments>

This information is given for the convenience of users of this International Standard and does not constitute a replacement for the normative text in this standard.

This standard recognizes the internationally accepted level of protection against hazards such as electrical, mechanical, thermal, fire and radiation of appliances when operated as in normal use taking into account the manufacturer's instructions. It also covers abnormal situations that can be expected in practice and takes into account the way in which electromagnetic phenomena can affect the safe operation of appliances.

This standard takes into account the requirements of IEC 60364 as far as possible so that there is compatibility with the wiring rules when the appliance is connected to the supply mains. However, national wiring rules may differ.

If an appliance within the scope of this standard also incorporates functions that are covered by another Part 2 of IEC 60335, the relevant Part 2 is applied to each function separately, as far as is reasonable. If applicable, the influence of one function on the other is taken into account.

When a Part 2 standard does not include additional requirements to cover hazards dealt with in Part 1, Part 1 applies.

NOTE 1 This means that the technical committees responsible for the Part 2 standards have determined that it is not necessary to specify particular requirements for the appliance in question over and above the general requirements.

This standard is a product family standard dealing with the safety of appliances and takes precedence over horizontal and generic standards covering the same subject.

NOTE 2 Horizontal ~~and generic standards~~ publications, basic safety publications and group safety publications covering a hazard are not applicable since they have been taken into consideration when developing the general and particular requirements for the IEC 60335 series of standards. ~~For example, in the case of temperature requirements for surfaces on many appliances, generic standards, such as ISO 13732-1 for hot surfaces, are not applicable in addition to Part 1 or part 2 standards.~~

An appliance that complies with the text of this standard will not necessarily be considered to comply with the safety principles of the standard if, when examined and tested, it is found to have other features that impair the level of safety covered by these requirements.

An appliance employing materials or having forms of construction differing from those detailed in the requirements of this standard may be examined and tested according to the intent of the requirements and, if found to be substantially equivalent, may be considered to comply with the standard.

NOTE 3 Standards dealing with non-safety aspects of household appliances are:

- IEC standards published by TC 59 concerning methods of measuring performance;
- CISPR 11, CISPR 14-1 and relevant IEC 61000-3 series standards concerning electromagnetic emissions;
- CISPR 14-2 concerning electromagnetic immunity;
- IEC standards published by TC 111 concerning environmental matters.

HOUSEHOLD AND SIMILAR ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES – SAFETY –

Part 2-55: Particular requirements for electrical appliances for use with aquariums and garden ponds

1 Scope

This clause of Part 1 is replaced by the following.

This part of IEC 60335 deals with the safety of electric appliances for use with aquariums and garden ponds for household and similar purposes, their **rated voltage** being not more than 250 V, including direct current (DC) supplied appliances and **battery-operated appliances**.

NOTE 101—Examples of appliances ~~within the scope of~~ that this standard is applicable to are

- aerators;
- aquarium heaters;
- automatic food dispensers;
- **sludge-suction appliances**.

Appliances not intended for normal household use but that nevertheless ~~may~~ **can** be a source of danger to the public, such as appliances intended to be used by laymen in shops and in light industry and farms, are within the scope of this standard.

As far as is practicable, this standard deals with the common hazards presented by appliances that are encountered by all persons in and around the home. However, in general, it does not take into account

- persons (including children) whose
 - physical, sensory or mental capabilities; or
 - lack of experience and knowledge
 prevents them from using the appliance safely without supervision or instruction;
- children playing with the appliance.

NOTE 102—Attention is drawn to the fact that

- for appliances intended to be used in vehicles or on board ships or aircraft, additional requirements ~~may~~ **can** be necessary;
- in many countries additional requirements are specified by the national health authorities, the national authorities responsible for the protection of labour and similar authorities.

NOTE 103—This standard does not apply to

- pumps (IEC 60335-2-41);
- other portable immersion heaters (IEC 60335-2-74);
- luminaires for aquariums and garden ponds (IEC 60598-2-18);
- appliances intended for outdoor use having a rated power input exceeding 100 W;
- appliances intended exclusively for professional use;
- appliances intended to be used in locations where special conditions prevail, such as the presence of a corrosive or explosive atmosphere (dust, vapour or gas).

2 Normative references

This clause of Part 1 is applicable except as follows.

Addition:

IEC 60584-1, *Thermocouples – Part 1: EMF specifications and tolerances*

3 Terms and definitions

This clause of Part 1 is applicable except as follows.

3.1 Definitions relating to physical characteristics

3.1.9 ~~Replacement~~ *Addition:*

~~normal operation~~

operation of the appliance under the following conditions:

Aerators are operated with the outlet immersed in water at a depth of 1 m or at the maximum operating depth if this results in a higher power input.

Sludge-suction appliances are operated with the inlet immersed in water at a depth of 1 m or at the maximum operating depth if this results in a higher power input.

Automatic food dispensers are operated with the dispenser initially filled with the maximum quantity of food.

Heaters are operated in a sufficient quantity of water to maintain the water temperature between 20 °C and 25 °C without the **thermostat** cycling.

3.5 Definitions relating to types of appliances

3.5.101

aerator

appliance that pumps air into the water in order to increase the oxygen content

3.5.102

sludge-suction appliance

hand-held appliance for removing deposits from aquariums or ponds

3.6 Definitions relating to parts of an appliance

3.6.101

functional surface

surface that is intentionally heated by an internal heat source and has to be hot to carry out the function for which the appliance is intended

Note 1 to entry: An example is the heated sheath of a tubular heating element.

4 General requirement

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

5 General conditions for the tests

This clause of Part 1 is applicable except as follows.

5.2 Addition:

~~NOTE 101~~—If the test of 21.103 has to be carried out, an additional sample is required.

6 Classification

This clause of Part 1 is applicable except as follows.

6.2 Addition:

Appliances for use in water shall be IPX8.

Appliances for use above water shall be at least IPX7 unless they are intended to be fixed, in which case they shall be at least IPX4.

Other appliances shall be at least IPX4.

These requirements do not apply to **class III appliances**.

7 Marking and instructions

This clause of Part 1 is applicable except as follows.

7.1 Addition:

Appliances for use in water shall be marked with the maximum operating depth, ~~if greater than 1 m~~ in meters, with a minimum of 1 m, using symbol IEC 60417-6444 (2020-12).

7.6 Addition:

 ~~... m~~ ~~maximum operating depth~~



[symbol IEC 60417-6444 (2020-12)]

maximum operating depth
where X specifies the value

7.12 Addition:

The instructions shall include details regarding

- the operation of the appliance;
- the precautions to be taken for appliances not intended to be used in water;
- the maintenance of the appliance.

The instructions for appliances intended to be fully immersed in water shall state the maximum operating depth, with a minimum of 1 m. If symbol IEC 60417-6444 (2020-12) is used its meaning shall be explained.

The instructions for appliances, other than **class III appliances**, shall include the substance of the following:

WARNING: Unplug or switch off all appliances in the aquarium or pond before carrying out maintenance.

7.12.1 Addition:

The installation instructions for appliances intended to be used above water shall include details regarding fixing, unless they are at least IPX7.

The installation instructions of appliances for outdoor use shall state that the appliance is to be supplied through a residual current device (RCD) having a rated residual operating current not exceeding 30 mA.

The installation instructions of **class III appliances** shall include details regarding the fixing and location of safety isolating transformers to prevent them from falling into the water or from being affected by water.

8 Protection against access to live parts

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

9 Starting of motor-operated appliances

This clause of Part 1 is not applicable.

10 Power input and current

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

11 Heating

This clause of Part 1 is applicable except as follows.

11.3 Addition:

*Where the external **accessible surfaces** are suitably flat and access permits, then the test probe of Figure 101 is used to measure the temperature rises of external **accessible surfaces** specified in Table 101. The probe is applied with a force of $4\text{ N} \pm 1\text{ N}$ to the surface in such a way that the best possible contact between the probe and the surface is ensured. The measurement is performed after a contact period of 30 s.*

The probe may be held in place using a laboratory stand clamp or similar device. Any measuring instrument giving the same results as the probe may be used.

11.7 ~~Replacement~~ Addition:

Appliances are operated until steady conditions are established.

11.8 Modification:

During the test, the temperature rises are monitored continuously and shall not exceed the values shown in Table 3 and Table 101.

Addition:

The temperature rise of handles or grips of vents and air shutters shall not exceed the value specified in Table 3 for surfaces of handles, knobs, grips and similar parts which are held for short periods only in normal use.

Table 101 – Maximum temperature rises for specified external surfaces under normal operating conditions

Surface	Temperature rises of external accessible surfaces ^a K	
	Surfaces of portable appliances situated on the floor	Surfaces of hand-held appliances and other appliances
Bare metal	38	42
Coated metal ^b	42	49
Glass and ceramic	51	56
Plastic and plastic coating > 0,4 mm ^{c, d}	58	62
NOTE 101 The temperature rise limits of knobs, grips, keyboards, keypads and similar parts are specified in Table 3.		
^a Temperature rises are not measured on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – surfaces that are inaccessible to a 75 mm diameter probe having a hemispherical end, applied with a force not exceeding 1 N; – functional surfaces; – surfaces within 25 mm of the outline of the functional surfaces. ^b Metal is considered coated when a coating having a minimum thickness of 90 µm made of enamel or non-substantially plastic coating is used. ^c The temperature rise limit of plastic also applies for plastic material having a metal finish of thickness less than 0,1 mm. ^d When the thickness of the plastic coating does not exceed 0,4 mm, the temperature rise limits of coated metal for underlying metal apply or the temperature rise limits for glass or ceramic material for underlying glass or ceramic material apply.		

12 ~~Void~~ Charging of metal-ion batteries

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

13 Leakage current and electric strength at operating temperature

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

14 Transient overvoltages

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

15 Moisture resistance

This clause of Part 1 is applicable except as follows.

15.1.2 Addition:

Appliances for use in water are immersed for 24 h in water containing approximately 1 % NaCl and having a temperature of $15\text{ °C} \pm 5\text{ °C}$. The appliance is immersed in its normal position of use so that

- its lowest point is located 1 m below the surface, for appliances having a height less than 0,85 m;*
- its highest point is located 0,15 m below the surface of the water, for other appliances.*

However, if the appliance is marked with a maximum operating depth, its lowest point shall be located at this depth.

During immersion, the appliance is supplied at rated voltage and operated in cycles, each cycle consisting of 1 h on and 1 h off.

15.3 Addition:

Appliances classified IPX8 are not subjected to this test.

16 Leakage current and electric strength

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

17 Overload protection of transformers and associated circuits

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

18 Endurance

This clause of Part 1 is not applicable.

19 Abnormal operation

This clause of Part 1 is applicable except as follows.

19.1 Addition:

Aerators are also subjected to the test of 19.101.

19.2 Addition:

Heaters are operated in their normal position of use but without being immersed.

19.101 Aerators for use in water are supplied at **rated voltage** and operated under **normal operation** until steady conditions are established. Valves are rendered inoperative in turn and in any combination. After cooling down, the **aerator** is removed from the water.

Inspection shall show that water has not entered places where electrical components are located. The conditions of 19.13 are not applicable.

*Other aerators are supplied at **rated voltage** and operated for 5 min with the aerator and its outlet placed in the most unfavourable position with regard to the water level. The aerator is not placed in water.* Valves are rendered inoperative in turn and in any combination.

~~NOTE—The aerator is not placed in water.~~

20 Stability and mechanical hazards

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

21 Mechanical strength

This clause of Part 1 is applicable except as follows.

21.1 Addition:

After the application of the impact hammer, aerators for use in water are subjected to the test of 21.101.

For aquarium heaters having a glass enclosure, the impact energy is reduced to 0,2 J and the blows are applied once to three points of the enclosure that are likely to be weak. For this test, the complete length of the glass enclosure shall be in contact with the polyamide sheet.

~~NOTE 101—Care is to be taken to ensure that the complete length of the glass enclosure is in contact with the polyamide sheet.~~

The heater is then subjected to the test of 21.102.

Class II appliances for use in water are subjected to the test of 21.103, which is carried out on a new appliance.

21.101 Aerators for use in water are operated at **rated voltage** while immersed in water at a depth of 1 m or at the maximum operating depth, whichever is greater, until steady conditions are established. The aerator is then switched off, allowed to cool down and removed from the water.

Inspection shall show that water has not entered places where electrical components are located.

21.102 Heaters, other than those intended to be placed on the bottom of the aquarium, having a glass enclosure are fully immersed in water in the vertical position. The quantity of water in the vessel is between 0,33 l and 0,5 l for each watt of **rated power input**. The heater is supplied at **rated voltage** and operated so that the water temperature stabilizes between 20 °C and 25 °C. Water is then removed until half the length of the glass enclosure is exposed. When the heater is at maximum temperature during the cycle of operation of the thermal control, the vessel is refilled with water having a temperature of 15 °C ± 2 °C.

Inspection shall show that water has not entered places where electrical components are located.

~~NOTE—This test is not applied to heaters intended to be placed on the bottom of the aquarium.~~

21.103 Class II appliances for use in water are supplied at **rated voltage** and operated under **normal operation** until steady conditions are established.

If the outer enclosure or its sealing means have been damaged during the impact test, they are made ineffective.

The appliance is then immersed in water containing approximately 1 % NaCl and having a temperature of $20\text{ °C} \pm 5\text{ °C}$. The highest point of the appliance is located 150 mm below the surface of the solution.

After 30 s, the leakage current is measured, as specified in 13.2, between any pole of the supply and a rectangular stainless steel electrode, having dimensions approximately 250 mm × 50 mm, placed in the solution.

The leakage current shall not exceed 3 mA.

22 Construction

This clause of Part 1 is applicable except as follows.

22.33 Addition:

Water is allowed to be in contact with **reinforced insulation** of aquarium heaters having a glass enclosure.

22.101 Appliances intended to be fixed above water shall be constructed so that they can be fixed securely to a support, unless they are classified at least IPX7.

Keyhole slots, hooks, suction fasteners and similar means, without any further means of fixing the appliance to a support shall not be used, unless the appliance is classified at least IPX7.

Compliance is checked by inspection.

~~NOTE Keyhole slots, hooks, suction fasteners and similar means, without any further means to prevent the appliance from being inadvertently lifted off the support, are not considered to be adequate means for fixing the appliance securely.~~

23 Internal wiring

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

24 Components

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

25 Supply connection and external flexible cords

This clause of Part 1 is applicable except as follows.

25.5 Addition:

Type X attachment is not allowed for appliances classified IPX7 or IPX8.

Type Z attachment is allowed.

25.7 Addition:

The **supply cord** of appliances intended for outdoor use, other than **class III appliances**, shall be polychloroprene sheathed cord and not be lighter than ordinary polychloroprene sheathed flexible cord (code designation 60245 IEC 57).

26 Terminals for external conductors

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

27 Provision for earthing

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

28 Screws and connections

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

29 Clearances, creepage distances and solid insulation

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

30 Resistance to heat and fire

This clause of Part 1 is applicable except as follows.

30.2 Addition:

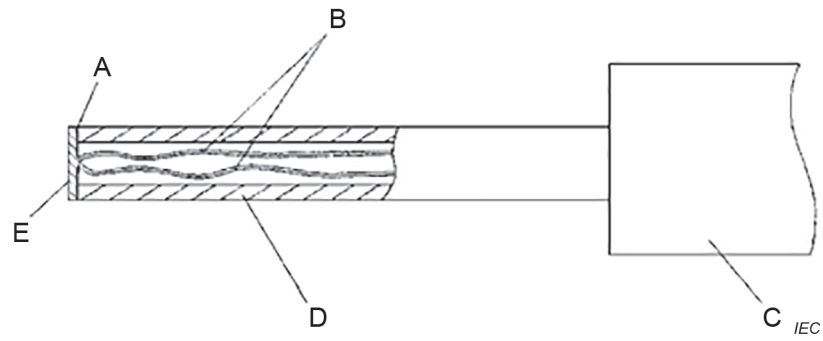
For **sludge-suction appliances**, 30.2.2 is applicable. For other appliances, 30.2.3 is applicable.

31 Resistance to rusting

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.

32 Radiation, toxicity and similar hazards

This clause of Part 1 is applicable.



Key

- A adhesive
- B thermocouple wires 0,3 mm diameter to IEC 60584-1 Type K
- C handle arrangement permitting a contact force of $4\text{ N} \pm 1\text{ N}$
- D polycarbonate tube: inside diameter 3 mm, outside diameter 5 mm
- E tinned copper disc: 5 mm diameter, 0,5 mm thick with flat contact face

Figure 101 – Probe for measuring surface temperatures