

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

Power cables with extruded insulation and their accessories for rated voltages above 30 kV ($U_m = 36$ kV) up to 150 kV ($U_m = 170$ kV) – Test methods and requirements

Câbles d'énergie à isolation extrudée et leurs accessoires pour des tensions assignées supérieures à 30 kV ($U_m = 36$ kV) et jusqu'à 150 kV ($U_m = 170$ kV) – Méthodes et exigences d'essai



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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	6
INTRODUCTION.....	8
1 Scope.....	9
2 Normative references.....	9
3 Terms and definitions	10
3.1 Definitions of dimensional values (thicknesses, cross-sections, etc.).....	10
3.2 Definitions concerning tests	11
3.3 Other definitions	11
4 Voltage designations and materials	12
4.1 Rated voltages	12
4.2 Cable insulating materials	12
4.3 Cable metal screens/sheaths	12
4.4 Cable oversheathing materials	12
5 Precautions against water penetration in cables	12
6 Cable characteristics	13
7 Accessory characteristics.....	13
8 Test conditions	14
8.1 Ambient temperature	14
8.2 Frequency and waveform of power frequency test voltages	14
8.3 Waveform of lightning impulse test voltages.....	14
8.4 Relationship of test voltages to rated voltages.....	14
8.5 Determination of the cable conductor temperature	14
9 Routine tests on cables and on the main insulation of prefabricated accessories	15
9.1 General.....	15
9.2 Partial discharge test.....	15
9.3 Voltage test.....	15
9.4 Electrical test on oversheath of the cable	15
10 Sample tests on cables	16
10.1 General.....	16
10.2 Frequency of tests.....	16
10.3 Repetition of tests.....	16
10.4 Conductor examination	16
10.5 Measurement of electrical resistance of conductor and metal screen.....	16
10.6 Measurement of thickness of cable insulation and oversheath.....	17
10.6.1 General	17
10.6.2 Requirements for the insulation.....	17
10.6.3 Requirements for the cable oversheath	17
10.7 Measurement of thickness of metal sheath.....	18
10.7.1 Lead or lead alloy sheath	18
10.7.2 Plain or corrugated aluminium sheath	18
10.8 Measurement of diameters	19
10.9 Hot set test for XLPE, EPR and HEPR insulations	19
10.9.1 Procedure.....	19
10.9.2 Requirements	19
10.10 Measurement of capacitance.....	19

10.11	Measurement of density of HDPE insulation	19
10.11.1	Procedure	19
10.11.2	Requirements	19
10.12	Lightning impulse voltage test	19
10.13	Water penetration test	20
10.14	Tests on components of cables with a longitudinally applied metal tape or foil, bonded to the oversheath	20
11	Sample tests on accessories	20
11.1	Tests on components	20
11.2	Tests on complete accessory	20
12	Type tests on cable systems	20
12.1	General	20
12.2	Range of type approval	21
12.3	Summary of type tests	21
12.4	Electrical type tests on complete cable systems	22
12.4.1	Test voltage values	22
12.4.2	Tests and sequence of tests	22
12.4.3	Bending test	23
12.4.4	Partial discharge tests	24
12.4.5	Tan δ measurement	24
12.4.6	Heating cycle voltage test	24
12.4.7	Lightning impulse voltage test followed by a power frequency voltage test	25
12.4.8	Examination	25
12.4.9	Resistivity of semi-conducting screens	25
12.5	Non-electrical type tests on cable components and on complete cable	26
12.5.1	Check of cable construction	26
12.5.2	Tests for determining the mechanical properties of insulation before and after ageing	26
12.5.3	Tests for determining the mechanical properties of oversheaths before and after ageing	27
12.5.4	Ageing tests on pieces of complete cable to check compatibility of materials	27
12.5.5	Loss of mass test on PVC oversheaths of type ST ₂	28
12.5.6	Pressure test at high temperature on oversheaths	28
12.5.7	Test on PVC oversheaths (ST ₁ , ST ₂) at low temperature	28
12.5.8	Heat shock test for PVC oversheaths (ST ₁ and ST ₂)	29
12.5.9	Ozone resistance test for EPR and HEPR insulations	29
12.5.10	Hot set test for EPR, HEPR and XLPE insulations	29
12.5.11	Measurement of density of HDPE insulation	29
12.5.12	Measurement of carbon black content of black PE oversheaths (ST ₃ and ST ₇)	29
12.5.13	Test under fire conditions	29
12.5.14	Water penetration test	30
12.5.15	Tests on components of cables with a longitudinally applied metal tape or foil, bonded to the oversheath	30
12.5.16	Shrinkage test for PE, HDPE and XLPE insulations	30
12.5.17	Shrinkage test for PE oversheaths (ST ₃ and ST ₇)	30
12.5.18	Determination of hardness of HEPR insulation	30
12.5.19	Determination of the elastic modulus of HEPR insulation	31

13	Prequalification test of the cable system.....	31
13.1	General and range of prequalification test approval.....	31
13.2	Prequalification test on complete system.....	32
13.2.1	Summary of prequalification tests	32
13.2.2	Test voltage values	32
13.2.3	Test arrangement	32
13.2.4	Heating cycle voltage test	33
13.2.5	Lightning impulse voltage test	34
13.2.6	Examination.....	34
13.3	Tests for the extension of the prequalification of a cable system.....	34
13.3.1	Summary of the extension of prequalification test.....	34
13.3.2	Electrical part of the extension of prequalification tests on complete cable system.....	34
14	Type tests on cables	36
14.1	General	36
14.2	Range of type approval	36
14.3	Summary of type tests	37
14.4	Electrical type tests on completed cables	37
15	Type tests on accessories.....	38
15.1	General	38
15.2	Range of type approval	38
15.3	Summary of type tests	38
15.4	Electrical type tests on accessories.....	39
15.4.1	Test voltage values.....	39
15.4.2	Tests and sequence of tests	39
16	Electrical tests after installation	40
16.1	General.....	40
16.2	DC voltage test of the oversheath	40
16.3	AC voltage test of the insulation.....	40
	Annex A (informative) Determination of the cable conductor temperature.....	47
	Annex B (normative) Rounding of numbers.....	52
	Annex C (informative) List of type, prequalification and extension of prequalification tests for cable systems, cables and accessories	53
	Annex D (normative) Method of measuring resistivity of semi-conducting screens.....	56
	Annex E (normative) Water penetration test	58
	Annex F (normative) Tests on components of cables with a longitudinally applied metal tape or foil, bonded to the oversheath.....	60
	Annex G (normative) Tests of outer protection for joints	63
	Annex H (normative) Determination of hardness of HEPR insulations	65
	Bibliography	67
	Figure 1 – Example of the test arrangement for the prequalification test.....	33
	Figure 2 – Example of extension of prequalification test arrangement for the prequalification of a system with another joint, designed for rigid and flexible installation	35
	Figure A.1 – Typical test set-up for the reference loop and the main test loop	48
	Figure A.2 – Example of an arrangement of the temperature sensors on the conductor of the reference loop	49

Figure D.1 – Preparation of samples for measurement of resistivity of conductor and insulation screens	57
Figure E.1 – Schematic diagram of apparatus for water penetration test	59
Figure F.1 – Adhesion of metal foil	60
Figure F.2 – Example of overlapped metal foil	61
Figure F.3 – Peel strength of overlapped metal foil	61
Figure H.1 – Test on surfaces of large radius of curvature	66
Figure H.2 – Test on surfaces of small radius of curvature	66
 Table 1 – Insulating compounds for cables	 40
Table 2 – Oversheathing compounds for cables	41
Table 3 – Tan δ requirements for insulating compounds for cables	41
Table 4 – Test voltages	41
Table 5 – Non-electrical type tests for insulating and oversheathing compounds for cables	42
Table 6 – Test requirements for mechanical characteristics of insulating compounds for cables (before and after ageing)	43
Table 7 – Test requirements mechanical characteristics of oversheathing compounds for cables (before and after ageing)	44
Table 8 – Test requirements for particular characteristics of insulating compounds for cables	45
Table 9 – Test requirements for particular characteristics of PVC oversheathing for cables	46
Table C.1 – Type tests on cable systems, on cables and on accessories	54
Table C.2 – Prequalification tests on cable systems with a calculated nominal conductor electric stress above 8,0 kV/mm or a calculated nominal insulation electric stress above 4,0 kV/mm	54
Table C.3 – Extension of prequalification tests on cable systems with a calculated nominal conductor electric stress above 8,0 kV/mm or a calculated nominal insulation electric stress above 4,0 kV/mm	55
Table G.1 – Impulse voltage tests	64

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**POWER CABLES WITH EXTRUDED INSULATION AND
THEIR ACCESSORIES FOR RATED VOLTAGES ABOVE 30 kV
($U_m = 36$ kV) UP TO 150 kV ($U_m = 170$ kV) –
TEST METHODS AND REQUIREMENTS**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 60840 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 20: Electric cables.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition, published in 2004, and constitutes a major technical revision.

The significant technical change with respect to the previous edition is as follows:

- introduction of a prequalification test procedure for cables with high electrical stresses and tested as a cable system including accessories.

NOTE For a more detailed history of events leading up to this fourth edition, see the Introduction.

The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
20/1267/FDIS	20/1277A/RVD

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

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

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

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

Withdrawn

INTRODUCTION

The first edition of IEC 60840, published in 1988, dealt only with cables. Accessories were added to the second edition, published in February 1999, which separately covered test methods and test requirements for

- a) cables alone,
- b) cables together with accessories (a cable system).

Some countries then suggested that a better discrimination be made between systems, cables and accessories, particularly for the lower voltages of the scope, e.g. 45 kV. This was taken into account in the third edition and is retained in this revision, which gives the type approval requirements and the range of approvals for

- a) cable systems,
- b) cables alone,
- c) accessories alone.

Manufacturers and users may choose the most appropriate option for type approval.

At its meeting in November 2004, TC 20 decided to prepare a further major revision of IEC 60840 and concluded that this edition should incorporate the recommendations for testing HV and EHV extruded cables that were under preparation by CIGRE study committee B1 WG B1.06. This work was made available as CIGRE technical brochure No. 303, before the meeting of TC 20 in October 2006. The brochure, entitled "Revision of qualification procedures for extruded (extra) high voltage a.c. underground cables", has therefore been considered by TC 20, and considerable parts implemented in this standard. Cables with high electrical stresses at the conductor screen and/or insulation screen are now required to undergo a prequalification test procedure (simplified compared to that in IEC 62067) as a cable system inclusive of accessories.

Additionally the following other significant changes to this standard have been introduced:

- a) The clause numbering of this standard and IEC 62067 (which has been revised at the same time as this standard) has been coordinated to achieve as much commonality as possible to assist users who use both standards.
- b) In the case of the sample test, the lightning impulse voltage test is no longer followed by a power frequency voltage test.

A list of relevant CIGRE references is given in the bibliography.

**POWER CABLES WITH EXTRUDED INSULATION AND
THEIR ACCESSORIES FOR RATED VOLTAGES ABOVE 30 kV
($U_m = 36$ kV) UP TO 150 kV ($U_m = 170$ kV) –
TEST METHODS AND REQUIREMENTS**

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies test methods and requirements for power cable systems, cables alone and accessories alone, for fixed installations and for rated voltages above 30 kV ($U_m = 36$ kV) up to and including 150 kV ($U_m = 170$ kV).

The requirements apply to single-core cables and to individually screened three-core cables and to their accessories for usual conditions of installation and operation, but not to special cables and their accessories, such as submarine cables, for which modifications to the standard tests may be necessary or special test conditions may need to be devised.

This standard does not cover transition joints between cables with extruded insulation and paper insulated cables.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

NOTE The IEC 60811 series is currently undergoing a revision, which will lead to a restructuring of its parts. A description of this, as well as a cross-reference table between the current and planned parts will be given in IEC 60811-100.

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

IEC 60183, *Guide to the selection of high-voltage cables*

IEC 60228, *Conductors of insulated cables*

IEC 60229:2007, *Electric cables – Tests on extruded oversheaths with a special protective function*

IEC 60230, *Impulse tests on cables and their accessories*

IEC 60287-1-1:2006, *Electric cables – Calculation of the current rating – Part 1-1: Current rating equations (100 % load factor) and calculation of losses – General*

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 60811-1-1:1993, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric cables – Part 1: Methods for general application – Section 1: Measurement of thickness and overall dimensions – Tests for determining the mechanical properties*
Amendment 1 (2001)

IEC 60811-1-2:1985, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric cables – Part 1: Methods for general application – Section Two: Thermal ageing methods*
Amendment 1 (1989)
Amendment 2 (2000)

IEC 60811-1-3:1993, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric cables – Part 1-3: General application – Methods for determining the density – Water absorption tests – Shrinkage test*
Amendment 1 (2001)

IEC 60811-1-4:1985, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric cables – Part 1: Methods for general application – Section Four: Tests at low temperature*
Amendment 1 (1993)
Amendment 2 (2001)

IEC 60811-2-1:1998, *Common test methods for Insulating and sheathing materials of electric and optical cables –Part 2-1: Methods specific to elastomeric compounds – Ozone resistance, hot set and mineral oil immersion tests*
Amendment 1 (2001)

IEC 60811-3-1:1985, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric cables – Part 3-1: Methods specific to PVC compounds –Pressure test at high temperature – Tests for resistance to cracking*
Amendment 1 (1994)
Amendment 2 (2001)

IEC 60811-3-2:1985, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric cables – Part 3: Methods specific to PVC compounds –Loss of mass test – Section two: Thermal stability test*
Amendment 1 (1993)
Amendment 2 (2003)

IEC 60811-4-1:2004, *Insulating and sheathing materials of electric and optical cables – Common test methods – Part 4-1: Methods specific to polyethylene and polypropylene compounds – Resistance to environmental stress cracking –Measurement of the melt flow index – Carbon black and/or mineral filler content measurement in polyethylene by direct combustion – Measurement of carbon black content by thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) – Assessment of carbon black dispersion in polyethylene using a microscope*

IEC 60885-3, *Electrical test methods for electric cables – Part 3: Test methods for partial discharge measurements on lengths of extruded power cables*

ISO 48, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic – Determination of hardness (hardness between 10 IRHD and 100 IRHD)*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1 Definitions of dimensional values (thicknesses, cross-sections, etc.)

3.1.1

nominal value

value by which a quantity is designated and which is often used in tables

NOTE Usually, in this standard, nominal values give rise to values to be checked by measurements taking into account specified tolerances.

3.1.2

median value

when several test results have been obtained and ordered in an increasing (or decreasing) succession, middle value if the number of available values is odd, and mean of the two middle values if the number is even

3.2 Definitions concerning tests

3.2.1

routine test

tests made by the manufacturer on each manufactured component (length of cable or accessory) to check that the component meets the specified requirements

3.2.2

sample test

tests made by the manufacturer on samples of completed cable or components taken from a completed cable or accessory, at a specified frequency as to verify that the finished product meets the specified requirements

3.2.3

type test

tests made before supplying on a general commercial basis a type of cable system or cable or accessory covered by this standard, in order to demonstrate satisfactory performance characteristics to meet the intended application

NOTE Once successfully completed, these tests need not be repeated, unless changes are made in the cable or accessory with respect to materials, manufacturing process, design or design electrical stress levels, which might adversely change the performance characteristics.

3.2.4

prequalification test

test made before supplying on a general commercial basis a type of cable system covered by this standard, in order to demonstrate satisfactory long term performance of the complete cable system

3.2.5

extension of prequalification test

tests made before supplying on a general commercial basis a type of cable system covered by this standard, in order to demonstrate satisfactory long term performance of the complete cable system, taking into account an already prequalified cable system

3.2.6

electrical test after installation

tests made to demonstrate the integrity of the cable system as installed

3.3 Other definitions

3.3.1

cable system

cable with installed accessories including components used for thermo-mechanical restraint of systems limited to those used for terminations and joints only

3.3.2

nominal electrical stress

electrical stress calculated at U_0 using nominal dimensions

4 Voltage designations and materials

4.1 Rated voltages

In this standard, the symbols U_0 , U and U_m are used to designate the rated voltages of cables and accessories where these symbols have the meanings given in IEC 60183.

4.2 Cable insulating materials

This standard applies to cables insulated with one of the materials listed in Table 1. It also specifies for each type of insulating compound the maximum operating conductor temperatures on which the specified test conditions are based.

4.3 Cable metal screens/sheaths

This standard applies to the various designs in use. It covers designs providing a radial watertightness and other designs.

Designs that provide radial watertightness mainly consist of

- metal sheaths,
- longitudinally applied metal tapes or foils bonded to the oversheath,
- composite screens, involving a bunch of wires and, in addition, either a metal sheath or a metal tape or foil bonded to the oversheath, acting as a radial water impermeable barrier (see Clause 5),

and other designs such as

- metal tapes or foils not bonded to the oversheath,
- bunch of metal wires only.

NOTE In all cases the metal screen/sheath should be able to carry the total fault current.

4.4 Cable oversheathing materials

Tests are specified for four types of oversheath, as follows:

- ST₁ and ST₂ based on polyvinyl chloride (PVC);
- ST₃ and ST₇ based on polyethylene (PE).

The choice of the type of oversheath depends on the design of the cable and the mechanical, thermal and fire constraints during installation and operation.

The maximum conductor temperatures in normal operation for the different types of oversheathing materials covered by this standard are given in Table 2.

NOTE For some applications the oversheath can be covered by a functional layer (e.g. semi-conductive).

5 Precautions against water penetration in cables

When cable systems are installed in ground, in easily flooded galleries or in water, a radial water impermeable barrier around the cable is recommended.

NOTE A test for radial water penetration is currently not available.

Longitudinal water barriers may also be applied in order to avoid the need to replace long sections of cable in case of damage in the presence of water.

A test for longitudinal water penetration is given in 12.5.14.

6 Cable characteristics

For the purpose of carrying out the cable system or cable tests described in this standard and recording the results, the cable shall be identified. The following characteristics shall be known or declared:

- Name of manufacturer, type, designation and manufacturing date or date code.
- Rated voltage: values shall be given for U_0 , U , U_m (see 4.1 and 8.4).
- Type of conductor, its material and nominal cross-sectional area, in square millimetres; conductor construction; presence, if any, and nature of measures taken to reduce skin effect; presence, if any, and nature of measures taken to achieve longitudinal watertightness; if the nominal cross-sectional area is not in accordance with IEC 60228, the d.c. conductor resistance, corrected to 1 km length and to 20 °C.
- Material and nominal thickness of insulation (t_n) (see 4.2). If the insulation is XLPE, special additives shall be declared if the higher value of $\tan \delta$ according to Table 3 is applicable.
- Type of manufacturing process for insulation system.
- Presence, if any, and nature of watertightness measures in the screening area.
- Material and construction of metal screen, e.g. number and diameter of wires. (The d.c. resistance of the metal screen shall be declared.) Material, construction and nominal thickness of metal sheath, or longitudinally applied metal tape or foil bonded to the oversheath, if any.
- Material and nominal thickness of oversheath.
- Nominal diameter of the conductor (d).
- Nominal overall diameter of the cable (D).
- Nominal inner diameter (d_{ii}) and calculated nominal outer diameter (D_{io}) of the insulation.
- Nominal capacitance, corrected to 1 km length, between conductor and metal screen/sheath.
- Calculated nominal electrical stress at conductor screen (E_i) and at insulation screen (E_o):

$$E_i = \frac{2U_0}{d_{ii} \times \ln(D_{io} / d_{ii})}$$

$$E_o = \frac{2U_0}{D_{io} \times \ln(D_{io} / d_{ii})}$$

where

$$D_{io} = d_{ii} + 2t_n;$$

D_{io} is the calculated nominal outer diameter of the insulation;

d_{ii} is the declared nominal inner diameter of the insulation;

t_n is the declared nominal insulation thickness.

The value of U_0 is given in Table 4.

7 Accessory characteristics

For the purpose of carrying out the cable system or accessory tests described in this standard and recording the results, the accessory shall be identified.

The following characteristics shall be known or declared:

- a) cables used for testing accessories shall be correctly identified as in Clause 6;
- b) conductor connections used within the accessories shall be correctly identified, where applicable, with respect to
 - assembly technique,
 - tooling, dies and necessary setting,
 - preparation of contact surfaces,
 - type, reference number and any other identification of the connector,
 - details of the type test approval of the connector, if applicable;
- c) accessories to be tested shall be correctly identified with respect to
 - name of manufacturer,
 - type, designation and manufacturing date or date code,
 - rated voltage (see 6 b) above),
 - installation instructions (reference and date).

8 Test conditions

8.1 Ambient temperature

Unless otherwise specified in the details for the particular test, tests shall be carried out at an ambient temperature of $(20 \pm 15) ^\circ\text{C}$.

8.2 Frequency and waveform of power frequency test voltages

Unless otherwise indicated in this standard, the frequency of the alternating test voltages shall be in the range 49 Hz to 61 Hz. The waveform shall be substantially sinusoidal. The values quoted are r.m.s. values.

8.3 Waveform of lightning impulse test voltages

In accordance with IEC 60230, the front time of the standard lightning impulse voltage shall be between $1 \mu\text{s}$ and $5 \mu\text{s}$. The time to half value shall be $50 \mu\text{s} \pm 10 \mu\text{s}$ as specified in IEC 60060-1.

8.4 Relationship of test voltages to rated voltages

Where test voltages are specified in this standard as multiples of the rated voltage U_0 , the value of U_0 for the determination of the test voltages shall be as specified in Table 4.

For cables and accessories of rated voltages not shown in the table, the value of U_0 for determination of test voltages may be the same as for the nearest rated voltage which is given, provided that the value of U_m for the cable and accessory is not higher than the corresponding value in the table. Otherwise, and particularly if the rated voltage is not close to one of the values in the table, the value of U_0 on which the test voltages are based shall be the rated value, i.e. U divided by $\sqrt{3}$.

The test voltages in this standard are based on the assumption that the cables and accessories are used on systems of category A or B, as defined in IEC 60183.

8.5 Determination of the cable conductor temperature

It is recommended that one of the test methods described in Annex A is used to determine the actual conductor temperature.

9 Routine tests on cables and on the main insulation of prefabricated accessories

9.1 General

The following tests shall be carried out on each manufactured length of cable:

- a) partial discharge test (see 9.2);
- b) voltage test (see 9.3);
- c) electrical test on oversheath of the cable, if required (see 9.4).

The order in which these tests are carried out is at the discretion of the manufacturer.

The main insulation of each prefabricated accessory shall undergo partial discharge (see 9.2) and voltage routine tests (see 9.3) according to either 1), 2) or 3) below:

- 1) on accessories installed on cable;
- 2) by using a host accessory into which a component of an accessory is substituted for test;
- 3) by using a simulated accessory rig in which the electrical stress environment of a main insulation component is reproduced.

In cases 2) and 3), the test voltage shall be selected so as to obtain electrical stresses at least the same as those on the component in a complete accessory when subjected to the test voltages specified in 9.2 and 9.3.

NOTE The main insulation of prefabricated accessories consists of the components that come in direct contact with the cable insulation and are necessary to control the electric stress distribution in the accessory. Examples are premoulded or precast elastomer or filled epoxy resin insulating components that may be used singly or jointly to provide the necessary insulation or screening of accessories.

9.2 Partial discharge test

The partial discharge test shall be carried out in accordance with IEC 60885-3 for cables, except that the sensitivity as defined in IEC 60885-3 shall be 10 pC or better. Testing of accessories follows the same principles, but the sensitivity shall be 5 pC or better.

The test voltage shall be raised gradually to and held at $1,75 U_0$ for 10 s and then slowly reduced to $1,5 U_0$ (see Table 4, column 5).

There shall be no detectable discharge exceeding the declared sensitivity from the test object at $1,5 U_0$.

9.3 Voltage test

The voltage test shall be made at ambient temperature using an alternating test voltage at power frequency.

The test voltage shall be raised gradually to $2,5 U_0$ (see Table 4, column 4) and then be held for 30 min between the conductor and metal screen/sheath.

No breakdown of the insulation shall occur.

9.4 Electrical test on oversheath of the cable

When the test is required by the particular contract, the cable oversheath shall be subjected to the electrical test specified in Clause 3 of IEC 60229:2007.

10 Sample tests on cables

10.1 General

The following tests shall be carried out on samples which, for the tests in items b) and g), may be complete drum lengths of cable, taken to represent batches:

- a) conductor examination (see 10.4);
- b) measurement of electrical resistance of conductor and of metal screen (see 10.5);
- c) measurement of thickness of insulation and oversheath (see 10.6);
- d) measurement of thickness of metal sheath (see 10.7);
- e) measurement of diameters, if required (see 10.8);
- f) hot set test for XLPE, EPR and HEPR insulations (see 10.9);
- g) measurement of capacitance (see 10.10);
- h) measurement of density of HDPE insulation (see 10.11);
- i) lightning impulse voltage test for a cable with calculated nominal conductor stress $> 8,0$ kV/mm when calculated according to Clause 6, item m) (see 10.12);
- j) water penetration test, if applicable (see 10.13);
- k) tests on components of cables with a longitudinally applied metal tape or foil, bonded to the oversheath (see 10.14).

10.2 Frequency of tests

The sample tests in items a) to h) and k) of 10.1 shall be carried out on one length from each batch (manufacturing series) of the same type and cross-section of cable, but shall be limited to not more than 10 % of the number of lengths in any contract, rounded to the nearest whole number.

The frequency of the tests in items i) and j) of 10.1 shall be in accordance with agreed quality control procedures. In the absence of such an agreement, one test shall be made for contracts with a cable length greater than 20 km.

10.3 Repetition of tests

If the sample from any length selected for the tests fails in any of the tests in 10.1, further samples shall be taken from two further lengths of the same batch and subjected to the same tests as those in which the original sample failed. If both additional samples pass the tests, the other cables in the batch from which they were taken shall be regarded as having complied with the requirements of this standard. If either fails, this batch of cables shall be regarded as having failed to comply.

10.4 Conductor examination

Compliance with the requirements of IEC 60228 for conductor construction, or the declared construction, shall be checked by inspection and measurement when practicable.

10.5 Measurement of electrical resistance of conductor and metal screen

The cable length, or a sample thereof, shall be placed in the test room, which shall be maintained at a reasonably constant temperature for at least 12 h before the test. If there is a doubt that the conductor or metal screen temperature is not the same as the room temperature, the resistance shall be measured after the cable has been in the test room for 24 h. Alternatively, the resistance can be measured on a sample of conductor or metal screen, conditioned for at least 1 h in a temperature-controlled liquid bath.

The d.c. resistance of the conductor or metal screen shall be corrected to a temperature of 20 °C and 1 km length in accordance with the formulae and factors given in IEC 60228. For screen other than copper or aluminium, temperature coefficients and correction formulae shall be taken respectively from Table 1 and 2.1.1 of IEC 60287-1-1:2006.

The corrected d.c. resistance of the conductor at 20 °C shall not exceed either the appropriate maximum value specified in IEC 60228 or the declared value.

The corrected d.c. resistance of the metal screen at 20 °C shall not exceed the declared value.

10.6 Measurement of thickness of cable insulation and oversheath

10.6.1 General

The test method shall be in accordance with Clause 8 of IEC 60811-1-1:1993 and its Amendment 1:2001.

Each cable length selected for the test shall be represented by a piece taken from one end after having discarded, if necessary, any portion that may have suffered damage.

10.6.2 Requirements for the insulation

The lowest measured thickness shall not fall below 90 % of the nominal thickness:

$$t_{\min} \geq 0,90 t_n$$

and additionally:

$$\frac{t_{\max} - t_{\min}}{t_{\max}} \leq 0,15$$

where

$t_{\max}$ is the maximum thickness, in millimetres;

$t_{\min}$ is the minimum thickness, in millimetres;

t_n is the nominal thickness, in millimetres.

NOTE $t_{\max}$ and $t_{\min}$ are measured at the same cross-section of the insulation.

The thickness of the semi-conducting screens on the conductor and over the insulation shall not be included in the thickness of the insulation.

10.6.3 Requirements for the cable oversheath

The lowest measured thickness shall not fall below 85 % of the nominal thickness by more than 0,1 mm:

$$t_{\min} \geq 0,85 t_n - 0,1$$

where

$t_{\min}$ is the minimum thickness, in millimetres;

t_n is the nominal thickness, in millimetres.

In addition, for oversheaths applied onto a substantially smooth surface, the average of the measured values rounded to 0,1 mm in accordance with Annex B shall be not less than the nominal thickness.

The latter requirement does not apply to oversheaths applied onto an irregular surface, such as one formed by metal screens of wires and/or tapes or corrugated metal sheath.

10.7 Measurement of thickness of metal sheath

The following tests apply if the cable has a metal sheath of lead, lead alloy or aluminium.

10.7.1 Lead or lead alloy sheath

The minimum thickness of the sheath shall not fall below 95 % of the nominal thickness by more than 0,1 mm:

$$t_{\min} \geq 0,95 t_n - 0,1$$

The thickness of the sheath shall be measured by one of the following methods, at the discretion of the manufacturer.

10.7.1.1 Strip method

The measurement shall be made with a micrometer with plane faces of 4 mm to 8 mm diameter and an accuracy of $\pm 0,01$ mm.

The measurement shall be made on a test piece of sheath about 50 mm in length removed from the completed cable. The piece shall be slit longitudinally and carefully flattened. After cleaning the test piece, a sufficient number of measurements shall be made along the circumference of the sheath and not less than 10 mm away from the edge of the flattened piece to ensure that the minimum thickness is measured.

10.7.1.2 Ring method

The measurements shall be made with a micrometer having either one flat nose and one ball nose, or one flat nose and a flat rectangular nose 0,8 mm wide and 2,4 mm long. The ball nose or the flat rectangular nose shall be applied to the inside of the ring. The accuracy of the micrometer shall be $\pm 0,01$ mm.

The measurements shall be made on a ring of the sheath carefully cut from the sample. The thickness shall be determined at a sufficient number of points around the circumference of the ring to ensure that the minimum thickness is measured.

10.7.2 Plain or corrugated aluminium sheath

The minimum thickness of the sheath shall not fall below 90 % of the nominal thickness by more than 0,1 mm for plain aluminium sheath:

$$t_{\min} \geq 0,9 t_n - 0,1$$

and 85 % of the nominal thickness by more than 0,1 mm for corrugated aluminium sheath:

$$t_{\min} \geq 0,85 t_n - 0,1$$

The measurements shall be made with a micrometer having ball noses of radii about 3 mm. The accuracy shall be $\pm 0,01$ mm.

The measurements shall be made on a ring of the sheath, about 50 mm wide, carefully removed from the complete cable. The thickness shall be determined at a sufficient number of points around the circumference of the ring to ensure that the minimum thickness is measured.

10.8 Measurement of diameters

If the purchaser requires that the diameter of the core and/or the overall diameter of the cable shall be measured, the measurements shall be carried out in accordance with 8.3 of IEC 60811-1-1:1993 and Amendment 1:2001.

10.9 Hot set test for XLPE, EPR and HEPR insulations

10.9.1 Procedure

The sampling and test procedure shall be carried out in accordance with Clause 9 of IEC 60811-2-1:1998 and Amendment 1:2001, employing the test conditions given in Table 8.

The test pieces shall be taken from that part of the insulation where the degree of cross-linking is considered to be the lowest for the curing process employed.

10.9.2 Requirements

The test results shall comply with the requirements given in Table 8.

10.10 Measurement of capacitance

The capacitance shall be measured between conductor and metal screen/sheath at ambient temperature, and the ambient temperature shall be recorded with the test data.

The measured value of the capacitance shall be corrected to a 1 km length and shall not exceed the declared nominal value by more than 8 %.

10.11 Measurement of density of HDPE insulation

10.11.1 Procedure

The density of HDPE shall be measured using the sampling and test procedure given in Clause 8 of IEC 60811-1-3:1993 and Amendment 1:2001.

10.11.2 Requirements

The results of the test shall comply with the requirements given in Table 8.

10.12 Lightning impulse voltage test

This test is only required for cables with a nominal electric conductor stress $> 8,0$ kV/mm.

The test shall be performed on a complete cable at least 10 m in length excluding test accessories, at a conductor temperature 5 K to 10 K above maximum conductor temperature in normal operation.

The assembly shall be heated by conductor current only, until the cable reaches the required temperature.

NOTE If, for practical reasons, the test temperature cannot be reached, additional thermal insulation may be applied.

The impulse voltage shall be applied according to the procedure given in IEC 60230.

The cable shall withstand without failure 10 positive and 10 negative voltage impulses of the appropriate value given in Table 4, column 8.

No breakdown of the insulation shall occur.

10.13 Water penetration test

If applicable, samples shall be taken from the complete cable, the test shall be applied and the requirements shall be met as described in 12.5.14.

10.14 Tests on components of cables with a longitudinally applied metal tape or foil, bonded to the oversheath

For cables with a longitudinally applied metal tape or foil bonded to the oversheath, a 1 m sample shall be taken from the complete cable and subjected to the tests and requirements in 12.5.15.

11 Sample tests on accessories

11.1 Tests on components

The characteristics of each component shall be verified in accordance with the specifications of the accessories manufacturer, either through test reports from the supplier of a given component or through internal tests.

The manufacturer of a given accessory shall provide a list of the tests to be performed on each component, indicating the frequency of each test.

The components shall be inspected against their drawings. There shall be no deviation outside the declared tolerances.

NOTE As components differ from one supplier to another, it is not possible to define common sample tests on components in this standard.

11.2 Tests on complete accessory

For accessories where the main insulation cannot be routine tested (see 9.1), the following electrical tests shall be carried out by the manufacturer on a fully assembled accessory:

- a) partial discharge test (see 9.2);
- b) voltage test (see 9.3).

The sequence in which these tests are carried out is at the discretion of the manufacturer.

NOTE Examples of main insulations that are not routine tested are heat shrink insulations and insulations taped and/or moulded on site.

These tests shall be performed on one accessory of each type per contract if the number of that type in the contract is above 50.

If the sample fails either of the above two tests, two further samples of the same accessory type shall be taken from the contract and subjected to the same tests. If both additional samples pass the tests, the other accessories of the same type from the contract shall be regarded as having complied with the requirements of this standard. If either fails, this type of accessory of the contract shall be regarded as having failed to comply.

12 Type tests on cable systems

12.1 General

The tests specified in this clause are intended to demonstrate the satisfactory performance of cable systems.

A table of the subclause references to be considered during a type test on a cable system is given in Annex C.

NOTE Tests on terminations referring to environmental conditions are not specified in this standard.

12.2 Range of type approval

When type tests have been successfully performed on one or more cable system(s) of specific cross-section(s), and of the same rated voltage and construction, the type approval shall be considered as valid for cable systems within the scope of this standard with other cross-sections, rated voltages and constructions provided that all the conditions of a) to f) are met:

NOTE 1 Type tests which have been successfully performed according to the previous edition of this standard are valid.

- a) the voltage group is not higher than that of the tested cable system(s);

NOTE 2 In this context, cable systems of the same rated voltage group are those of rated voltages having a common value of U_m , highest voltage for equipment, and the same test voltage levels (see Table 4, column 1 and 2).

- b) the conductor cross-section is not larger than that of the tested cable,
c) the cable and the accessories have the same or similar constructions as that of the tested cable system(s);

NOTE 3 Cables and accessories of similar construction are those of the same type and manufacturing process of insulation and semi-conducting screens. Repetition of the electrical type tests is not necessary on account of the differences in the conductor or connector type or material or of the protective layers applied over the screened cores or over the main insulation part of the accessory, unless these are likely to have a significant effect on the results of the test. In some instances it may be appropriate to repeat one or more of the type tests (e.g. bending test, heating cycle test and/or compatibility test).

- d) the calculated nominal electrical stress and the impulse voltage stress calculated using nominal dimensions at the cable conductor screen do not exceed the respective calculated stresses of the tested cable system(s) by more than 10 %;
e) the calculated nominal electrical stress at the cable insulation screen and the impulse voltage stress calculated using nominal dimensions do not exceed the respective calculated stresses of the tested cable system(s);
f) the calculated nominal electrical stresses and the impulse voltage stresses calculated using nominal dimensions within the main insulation parts of the accessory and at the cable and accessory interfaces do not exceed the respective calculated stresses of the tested cable system(s).

The type tests on cable components (see 12.5) only need to be carried out on samples from cables of different voltage ratings and/or conductor cross-sectional areas if different materials and/or different manufacturing processes are used to produce them. However, repetition of the ageing tests on pieces of completed cable to check compatibility of materials (see 12.5.4) may be required if the combination of materials applied over the screened core is different from that of the cable on which type tests have been carried out previously.

A type test certificate signed by the representative of a competent witnessing body, or a report by the manufacturer giving the test results and signed by the appropriate qualified officer, or a type test certificate issued by an independent test laboratory, shall be acceptable as evidence of type testing.

12.3 Summary of type tests

The type tests shall comprise the electrical tests on the complete cable system as specified in 12.4, and the appropriate non-electrical tests on cable components and completed cable specified in 12.5.

The non-electrical tests on cable components and complete cable are listed in Table 5, indicating which tests are applicable to each insulation and oversheath material. The test under fire conditions is only required if the manufacturer wishes to claim compliance with this test as a special feature of the design of the cable.

The tests listed in 12.4.2 shall be performed on one or more samples of complete cable, depending on the number of accessories involved, at least 10 m in length excluding the accessories.

The minimum length of free cable between accessories shall be 5 m.

The accessories shall be installed after the bending test on the cable. One sample of each accessory type shall be tested.

Cable and accessories shall be assembled in the manner specified by the manufacturer's instructions, with the grade and quantity of materials supplied, including lubricants if any.

The external surface of accessories shall be dry and clean, but neither the cables nor the accessories shall be subjected to any form of conditioning not specified in the manufacturer's instructions which might modify the electrical, thermal or mechanical performance.

During tests c) to g) of 12.4.2, it is necessary to test joints with their outer protection fitted. If it can be shown that the outer protection does not influence the performance of the joint insulation, e.g. there are no thermo-mechanical or compatibility effects, the protection need not be fitted.

Measurement of resistivity of semi-conducting screens described in 12.4.9 shall be made on a separate sample.

12.4 Electrical type tests on complete cable systems

12.4.1 Test voltage values

Prior to the electrical type tests, the insulation thickness of the cable shall be measured by the method specified in 8.1 of IEC 60811-1-1:1993 and Amendment 1:2001 on a representative piece of the length to be used for the tests, to check that the average thickness is not excessive compared with the nominal value.

If the average thickness of the insulation does not exceed the nominal value by more than 5 %, the test voltages shall be the values specified in Table 4 for the rated voltage of the cable.

If the average thickness of the insulation exceeds the nominal value by more than 5 % but by not more than 15 %, the test voltage shall be adjusted to give an electrical stress at the conductor screen equal to that applying when the average thickness of the insulation is equal to the nominal value and the test voltages are the normal values specified for the rated voltage of the cable.

The cable length used for the electrical type tests shall not have an average insulation thickness exceeding the nominal value by more than 15 %.

12.4.2 Tests and sequence of tests

The tests in items a) to h) shall be made in the following sequence:

- a) bending test on the cable (see 12.4.3) followed by installation of the accessories and a partial discharge test at ambient temperature (see 12.4.4);
- b) $\tan \delta$ measurement (see 12.4.5);

NOTE 1 This test may be carried out on a different cable sample with special test terminations from that used for the remainder of the sequence of tests.

- c) heating cycle voltage test (see 12.4.6);
- d) partial discharge tests (see 12.4.4);
 - at ambient temperature, and
 - at high temperature.

The tests shall be carried out after the final cycle of item c) above or, alternatively, after the lightning impulse voltage test in item e) below;

- e) lightning impulse voltage test followed by a power frequency voltage test (see 12.4.7);
- f) partial discharge tests, if not previously carried out in item d) above;
- g) tests of outer protection for joints (see Annex G);

NOTE 2 These tests may be applied to a joint which has passed the test in item c), heating cycle voltage test, or to a separate joint which has undergone at least three thermal cycles (see Annex G).

NOTE 3 If the cable and joint are not to be subjected to wet conditions in service (i.e. not directly buried in earth or not intermittently or continuously immersed in water), the tests in Clause G.3 and G.4.2 may be omitted.

- h) examination of the cable system with cable and accessories on completion of the above tests (see 12.4.8);
- i) the resistivity of the cable semi-conducting screens (see 12.4.9) shall be measured on a separate sample.

Test voltages shall be in accordance with the values given in the appropriate column of Table 4.

12.4.3 Bending test

The cable sample shall be bent around a test cylinder (for example, the hub of a drum) at ambient temperature for at least one complete turn and unwound, without axial rotation. The sample shall then be rotated through 180 ° and the process repeated.

This cycle of operations shall be carried out three times in total.

The diameter of the test cylinder shall not be greater than

- for cables with plain aluminium sheaths:
 - $36(d + D) + 5\%$ for single-core cables;
 - $25(d + D) + 5\%$ for three-core cables;
- for cables with lead, lead-alloy, corrugated metal sheaths or with longitudinally applied metal tape or foils (overlapped or welded) bonded to the oversheath:
 - $25(d + D) + 5\%$ for single-core cables;
 - $20(d + D) + 5\%$ for three-core cables;
- for other cables:
 - $20(d + D) + 5\%$ for single-core cables;
 - $15(d + D) + 5\%$ for three-core cables;

where

d is the nominal diameter of the conductor, in millimetres (see Clause 6, item i));

D is the nominal overall diameter of the cable, in millimetres (see Clause 6, item j)).

NOTE A negative tolerance is not specified, but testing at diameters below the specified values should only be done by agreement with the manufacturer.

12.4.4 Partial discharge tests

The tests shall be performed in accordance with IEC 60885-3, the sensitivity being 5 pC or better.

The test voltage shall be raised gradually to and held at $1,75 U_0$ for 10 s and then slowly reduced to $1,5 U_0$ (see Table 4, column 5).

When performed at high temperature, the test shall be carried out on the assembly at a cable conductor temperature 5 K to 10 K above the maximum cable conductor temperature in normal operation. The conductor temperature shall be maintained within the stated temperature limits for at least 2 h.

The assembly shall be heated by conductor current only, until the cable reaches the required temperature.

NOTE If, for practical reasons, the test temperature cannot be reached, additional thermal insulation may be applied.

There shall be no detectable discharge exceeding the declared sensitivity from the test object at $1,5 U_0$.

12.4.5 Tan δ measurement

The sample shall be heated by conductor current only and the temperature of the conductor determined either by measuring its resistance or by temperature sensors on the surface of the screen/sheath, or by temperature sensors on the conductor of another sample of the same cable heated by the same means.

The sample shall be heated until the conductor reaches a temperature which shall be 5 K to 10 K above the maximum conductor temperature in normal operation.

NOTE If, for practical reasons, the test temperature cannot be reached, additional thermal insulation may be applied.

The tan δ shall then be measured at a power frequency voltage of U_0 at the temperature specified above (see Table 4, column 6).

The measured value shall not exceed the value given in Table 3.

12.4.6 Heating cycle voltage test

The cable shall have a U-bend with a diameter as specified in 12.4.3.

The assembly shall be heated by conductor current only, until the cable conductor reaches a steady temperature 5 K to 10 K above the maximum conductor temperature in normal operation.

NOTE 1 If, for practical reasons, the test temperature cannot be reached, additional thermal insulation may be applied.

The heating shall be applied for at least 8 h. The conductor temperature shall be maintained within the stated temperature limits for at least 2 h of each heating period. This shall be followed by at least 16 h of natural cooling to a conductor temperature less than or equal to 30 °C or within 10 K of ambient temperature, whichever is the higher. The conductor current during the last 2 h of each heating period shall be recorded.

The cycle of heating and cooling shall be carried out 20 times.

During the whole of the test period, a voltage of $2 U_0$ shall be applied to the assembly (see Table 4, column 7).

Interruption of the test is allowed provided 20 complete heating cycles in total under voltage are completed.

NOTE 2 Heating cycles with a conductor temperature higher than 10 K above the maximum conductor temperature in normal operation are considered valid.

12.4.7 Lightning impulse voltage test followed by a power frequency voltage test

The assembly shall be heated by conductor current only, until the cable conductor reaches a steady temperature 5 K to 10 K above the maximum conductor temperature in normal operation.

The conductor temperature shall be maintained within the stated temperature limits for at least 2 h.

NOTE If, for practical reasons, the test temperature cannot be reached, additional thermal insulation may be applied.

The lightning impulse voltage shall be applied according to the procedure given in IEC 60230.

The assembly shall withstand without failure or flashover 10 positive and 10 negative voltage impulses of the appropriate value given in Table 4, column 8.

After the lightning impulse voltage test, the assembly shall be subjected to a power frequency voltage test at $2,5 U_0$ for 15 min (see Table 4, column 9). At the discretion of the manufacturer, this test may be carried out either during the cooling period or at ambient temperature.

No breakdown of the insulation or flashover shall occur.

12.4.8 Examination

12.4.8.1 Cable and accessories

Examination of the cable by dissection of a sample and, whenever possible, of the accessories by dismantling, with normal or corrected vision without magnification, shall reveal no signs of deterioration (e.g. electrical degradation, leakage, corrosion or harmful shrinkage) which could affect the system in service operation.

12.4.8.2 Cables with a longitudinally applied metal tape or foil, bonded to the oversheath

A 1 m sample shall be taken from the cable length and subjected to the tests in 12.5.15.

12.4.9 Resistivity of semi-conducting screens

Measurement of resistivity of the cable semi-conducting screens shall be made on a separate sample.

The resistivity of extruded semi-conducting screens applied over the conductor and over the insulation shall be determined by measurements on test pieces taken from the core of a sample of cable as manufactured, and a sample of cable which has been subjected to the ageing treatment to test the compatibility of component materials specified in 12.5.4.

12.4.9.1 Procedure

The test procedure shall be in accordance with Annex D.

The measurements shall be made at a temperature within ± 2 K of the maximum conductor temperature in normal operation.

12.4.9.2 Requirements

The resistivity, both before and after ageing, shall not exceed the following values:

- conductor screen: 1 000 $\Omega \cdot m$;
- insulation screen: 500 $\Omega \cdot m$.

12.5 Non-electrical type tests on cable components and on complete cable

The tests are as follows:

- a) check of cable construction (see 12.5.1);
- b) tests for determining the mechanical properties of insulation before and after ageing (see 12.5.2);
- c) tests for determining the mechanical properties of oversheaths before and after ageing (see 12.5.3);
- d) ageing tests on pieces of complete cable to check compatibility of materials (see 12.5.4);
- e) loss of mass test on PVC oversheaths of type ST₂ (see 12.5.5);
- f) pressure test at high temperature on oversheaths (see 12.5.6);
- g) tests on PVC oversheaths (ST₁, ST₂) at low temperature (see 12.5.7);
- h) heat shock test for PVC oversheaths (ST₁ and ST₂) (see 12.5.8);
- i) ozone resistance test for EPR and HEPR insulations (see 12.5.9);
- j) hot set test for EPR, HEPR and XLPE insulations (see 12.5.10);
- k) measurement of density of HDPE insulation (see 12.5.11);
- l) measurement of carbon black content of black PE oversheaths (ST₃ and ST₇, see 12.5.12);
- m) test under fire conditions (see 12.5.13);
- n) water penetration test (see 12.5.14);
- o) tests on components of cables with a longitudinally applied metal tape or foil, bonded to the oversheath (see 12.5.15);
- p) shrinkage test for PE, HDPE and XLPE insulations (see 12.5.16);
- q) shrinkage test for PE oversheaths (ST₃ and ST₇) (see 12.5.17);
- r) determination of hardness of HEPR insulation (see 12.5.18);
- s) determination of the elastic modulus of HEPR insulation (see 12.5.19).

12.5.1 Check of cable construction

The examination of the conductor and measurements of insulation, oversheath and metal sheath thicknesses shall be carried out in accordance with, and shall comply with, the requirements given in 10.4, 10.6 and 10.7.

12.5.2 Tests for determining the mechanical properties of insulation before and after ageing

12.5.2.1 Sampling

Sampling and preparation of test pieces shall be carried out in accordance with 9.1 of IEC 60811-1-1:1993 and Amendment 1:2001.

12.5.2.2 Ageing treatment

The ageing treatment shall be carried out in accordance with 8.1 of IEC 60811-1-2:1985 and Amendment 1:1989 and Amendment 2:2000 under the conditions specified in Table 6.

12.5.2.3 Conditioning and mechanical tests

Conditioning and measurement of mechanical properties shall be carried out in accordance with 9.1 of IEC 60811-1-1:1985.

12.5.2.4 Requirements

The test results for unaged and aged test pieces shall comply with the requirements given in Table 6.

12.5.3 Tests for determining the mechanical properties of oversheaths before and after ageing

12.5.3.1 Sampling

Sampling and preparation of test pieces shall be carried out in accordance with 9.2 of IEC 60811-1-1:1993 and Amendment 1:2001.

12.5.3.2 Ageing treatment

The ageing treatment shall be carried out in accordance with 8.1 of IEC 60811-1-2:1985 and Amendment 1:1989 and Amendment 2:2000 under the conditions given in Table 7.

12.5.3.3 Conditioning and mechanical tests

Conditioning and the measurement of mechanical properties shall be carried out in accordance with 9.2 of IEC 60811-1-1:1993 and Amendment 1:2001.

12.5.3.4 Requirements

The test results for unaged and aged test pieces shall comply with the requirements given in Table 7.

12.5.4 Ageing tests on pieces of complete cable to check compatibility of materials

12.5.4.1 General

The ageing test on pieces of completed cable shall be carried out to check that the insulation, the extruded semi-conducting layers and the oversheath are not liable to deteriorate excessively in operation due to contact with other components in the cable.

The test is applicable to cables of all types.

12.5.4.2 Sampling

Samples for the test on insulation and oversheath shall be taken from the completed cable as described in 8.1.4 of IEC 60811-1-2:1985 and Amendment 1:1989 and Amendment 2:2000.

12.5.4.3 Ageing treatment

The ageing treatment of the pieces of cable shall be carried out in an air oven, as described in 8.1.4 of IEC 60811-1-2:1985 and Amendment 1:1989 and Amendment 2:2000, under the following conditions:

- temperature: (10 ± 2) K above the maximum conductor temperature of the cable in normal operation (see Table 1);
- duration: 7×24 h.

12.5.4.4 Mechanical tests

Test pieces of insulation and oversheath from the aged pieces of cable shall be prepared and subjected to mechanical tests as described in 8.1.4 of IEC 60811-1-2:1985 and Amendment 1:1989 and Amendment 2:2000.

12.5.4.5 Requirements

The variations between the median values of tensile strength and elongation at break after ageing and the corresponding values obtained without ageing (see 12.5.2 and 12.5.3) shall not exceed the values applying to the test after ageing in an air oven given in Table 6 for insulations and in Table 7 for oversheaths.

12.5.5 Loss of mass test on PVC oversheaths of type ST₂

12.5.5.1 Procedure

The loss of mass test for ST₂ oversheaths shall be carried out as described in 8.2 of IEC 60811-3-2:1985 and Amendment 1:1993 and Amendment 2:2003 under the conditions given in Table 9.

12.5.5.2 Requirements

The results shall comply with the requirements given in Table 9.

12.5.6 Pressure test at high temperature on oversheaths

12.5.6.1 Procedure

The pressure test at high temperature for ST₁, ST₂ and ST₇ oversheaths shall be carried out as described in 8.2 of IEC 60811-3-1:1985 and Amendment 1:1994 and Amendment 2:2001, employing the test conditions given in the test method and in Table 7.

12.5.6.2 Requirements

The results shall comply with the requirements given in 8.2 of IEC 60811-3-1:1985 and Amendment 1:1994 and Amendment 2:2001.

12.5.7 Test on PVC oversheaths (ST₁, ST₂) at low temperature

12.5.7.1 Procedure

The test at low temperature for ST₁ and ST₂ oversheaths shall be carried out as described in Clause 8 of IEC 60811-1-4:1985 and Amendment 1:1993 and Amendment 2:2001, employing the test temperature given in Table 9.

12.5.7.2 Requirements

The results of the test shall comply with the requirements given in Clause 8 of IEC 60811-1-4:1985 and Amendment 1:1993 and Amendment 2:2001.

12.5.8 Heat shock test for PVC oversheaths (ST₁ and ST₂)

12.5.8.1 Procedure

The heat shock test on ST₁ and ST₂ oversheaths shall be carried out as described in 9.2 of IEC 60811-3-1:1985 and Amendment 1:1994 and Amendment 2:2001, the test temperature and duration being in accordance with Table 9.

12.5.8.2 Requirements

The results of the test shall comply with the requirements given in 9.2 of IEC 60811-3-1:1985 and Amendment 1:1994 and Amendment 2:2001.

12.5.9 Ozone resistance test for EPR and HEPR insulations

12.5.9.1 Procedure

EPR and HEPR insulations shall be tested for resistance to ozone using the sampling and test procedure described in Clause 8 of IEC 60811-2-1:1998 and Amendment 1:2001. The ozone concentration and test duration shall be in accordance with Table 8.

12.5.9.2 Requirements

The results of the test shall comply with the requirements given in Clause 8 of IEC 60811-2-1:1998 and Amendment 1:2001.

12.5.10 Hot set test for EPR, HEPR and XLPE insulations

EPR, HEPR and XLPE insulations shall be subjected to the hot set test described in 10.9 and shall comply with its requirements.

12.5.11 Measurement of density of HDPE insulation

The density of HDPE insulation shall be measured in accordance with 10.11 and shall comply with its requirements.

12.5.12 Measurement of carbon black content of black PE oversheaths (ST₃ and ST₇)

12.5.12.1 Procedure

The carbon black content of ST₃ and ST₇ oversheaths shall be measured using the sampling and test procedure described in Clause 11 of IEC 60811-4-1:2004.

12.5.12.2 Requirements

The nominal value of the carbon black content shall be $(2,5 \pm 0,5) \%$.

NOTE Lower values are allowed for special application not exposed to UV.

12.5.13 Test under fire conditions

The test under fire condition in accordance with IEC 60332-1-2 shall be carried out on a sample of completed cable, if the manufacturer wishes to claim that the particular design of cable complies with the requirements.

The results shall comply with the requirements given in IEC 60332-1-2.

12.5.14 Water penetration test

The water penetration test shall be applied to those designs of cable where barriers to longitudinal water penetration have been included as declared in Clause 6, item c) and Clause 6, item f). The test is designed to meet the requirements for buried cables and is not intended to apply to cables which are constructed for use as submarine cables.

The apparatus, sampling, test procedure and requirements shall be in accordance with Annex E.

12.5.15 Tests on components of cables with a longitudinally applied metal tape or foil, bonded to the oversheath

The sample shall be subjected to the following tests:

- a) visual examination (see Clause F.1);
- b) adhesion strength of metal foil (see Clause F.2);
- c) peel strength of overlapped metal foil (see Clause F.3).

The apparatus, test procedure and requirements shall be in accordance with Annex F.

12.5.16 Shrinkage test for PE, HDPE and XLPE insulations

12.5.16.1 Procedure

The shrinkage test shall be carried out on insulations of PE, HDPE or XLPE using the sampling and test procedure described in Clause 10 of IEC 60811-1-3:1993 and Amendment 1:2001 and the conditions specified in Table 8.

12.5.16.2 Requirements

The results of the test shall comply with the requirements given in Table 8.

12.5.17 Shrinkage test for PE oversheaths (ST₃ and ST₇)

12.5.17.1 Procedure

The shrinkage test shall be carried out on PE oversheaths of ST₃ and ST₇ using the sampling and test procedure described in Clause 11 of IEC 60811-1-3:1993 and Amendment 1:2001 and the conditions specified in Table 7.

12.5.17.2 Requirements

The results of the test shall comply with the requirements given in Table 7.

12.5.18 Determination of hardness of HEPR insulation

12.5.18.1 Procedure

The sampling and test procedure shall be carried out in accordance with Annex H.

12.5.18.2 Requirements

The results of the test shall comply with Table 8.

12.5.19 Determination of the elastic modulus of HEPR insulation

12.5.19.1 Procedure

Sampling, preparation of the test pieces and the test procedure shall be carried out in accordance with Clause 9 of IEC 60811-1-1:1993 and Amendment 1:2001.

The loads required for 150 % elongation shall be measured. The corresponding stresses shall be calculated by dividing the loads measured by the cross-sectional areas of the unstretched test pieces. The ratios of the stresses to strains shall be determined to obtain the elastic modulus at 150 % elongation.

The elastic modulus shall be the median value.

12.5.19.2 Requirements

The results of the test shall comply with the requirements of Table 8.

13 Prequalification test of the cable system

13.1 General and range of prequalification test approval

When a prequalification test has been successfully performed on a cable system, it qualifies the manufacturer as a supplier of cable systems of the same family with the same or lower voltage ratings, as long as the calculated nominal electrical stresses at the cable insulation screen are equal to or lower than for the tested cable system.

The prequalification test shall be performed on cable systems where the calculated nominal electrical stresses at the conductor screen will be higher than 8,0 kV/mm and/or at the insulation screen higher than 4,0 kV/mm. The prequalification test shall be performed except:

- if cable systems with the same construction and accessories of the same family have been prequalified for a higher rated voltage;
- or if the manufacturer can demonstrate good service experience with cable systems with equal or higher calculated electrical stresses on the conductor and insulation screens, in the main insulation part(s) and in boundaries of the accessories and of accessories of the same family;
- or if the manufacturer has fulfilled the requirements of an equivalent long term test following a national or customer specification on cable systems with the same construction and accessories of the same family.

When a prequalified cable system is changed by exchanging a cable and/or accessory with another one that is already prequalified in another cable system with the same or higher calculated nominal electrical stresses at the insulation screen of the subjected system, the current prequalification shall be extended with this or another cable and/or accessory when the requirements of 13.3 are all met.

When a prequalified cable system is changed by using another cable and/or accessory that is not part of a prequalified cable system, or is already prequalified in another cable system with lower calculated nominal electrical stresses at the insulation screen of the subjected system, the prequalification test on this new complete cable system shall be performed by meeting all requirements of 13.2.

A list of prequalification tests as well as extension of prequalification tests is given in Annex C.

NOTE 1 The prequalification test need only be carried out once unless there is substantial change in the cable system with respect to material, manufacturing process, design or design electrical stress levels.

NOTE 2 A substantial change is defined as that which might adversely affect the performance of the cable system. The supplier should provide a detailed case, including test evidence, if modifications are introduced, which are claimed no to constitute a substantial change.

NOTE 3 It is recommended to carry out a prequalification test using a cable of a large conductor cross-section in order to cover thermo-mechanical aspects.

A prequalification test certificate signed by the representative of a competent witnessing body, or a report by the manufacturer giving the test results and signed by the appropriate qualified officer, or a prequalification test certificate issued by an independent test laboratory shall be acceptable as evidence of prequalification testing.

13.2 Prequalification test on complete system

13.2.1 Summary of prequalification tests

The prequalification test shall comprise the electrical tests on the complete cable system with a minimum of 20 m of full sized cable including at least one of each type of accessory. The minimum length of free cable between accessories shall be 10 m. The sequence of tests shall be as follows:

- a) heating cycle voltage test (see 13.2.4);
- b) lightning impulse voltage test (see 13.2.5);
- c) examination of the cable system after completion of the tests above (see 13.2.6).

It could be the case that one or more of the accessories do not fulfil all the requirements of the prequalification tests in 13.2. After repair of the test assembly the prequalification tests may be continued on the remaining cable system (cable with the remaining accessories). If all the requirements of the tests in 13.2 are met by this remaining cable system, this remaining system is prequalified. The accessory or accessories that did not fulfil the requirements are excluded from this prequalification. However, the test may be continued for prequalification of the cable with the replaced accessory until all requirements of 13.2 are met. If the manufacturer decides to include the repaired accessory in the cable system prequalification, the beginning of the prequalification test of the complete system is considered to start after the repair.

13.2.2 Test voltage values

Prior to the prequalification test of the cable system, the insulation thickness of the cable shall be measured and the test voltage values adjusted, if necessary, as stated in 12.4.1.

13.2.3 Test arrangement

Cable and accessories shall be assembled in the manner specified by the manufacturer's instructions, with the grade and quantity of materials supplied, including lubricants, if any.

The test may be performed in a laboratory and not necessarily in a situation simulating the real installation conditions.

If a joint is designed for use both in flexible and rigid installations, one joint shall be installed a flexible configuration and another in a rigid configuration, see Figure 1. If the joint is designed only for use in rigid installations, the joint shall be installed rigidly fixed at both sides. If a joint is designed only for flexible installations, the joint shall be installed in a flexible configuration at both sides.

The test loop shall have a U-bend with a diameter specified in 12.4.3.

NOTE The example in Figure 1 is easier to realize than a full simulation of practical laying conditions. Thermo-mechanical aspects of the design will not be tested with this test set-up.

In special cases where thermo-mechanical aspects have to be considered, special test arrangements representative of installation design conditions should be considered. Ambient conditions may vary between installations and during the test and are not considered to have any major influence.

As an outdoor test facility may be used, the commonly specified limits on ambient temperature (20 ± 15) °C do not apply.

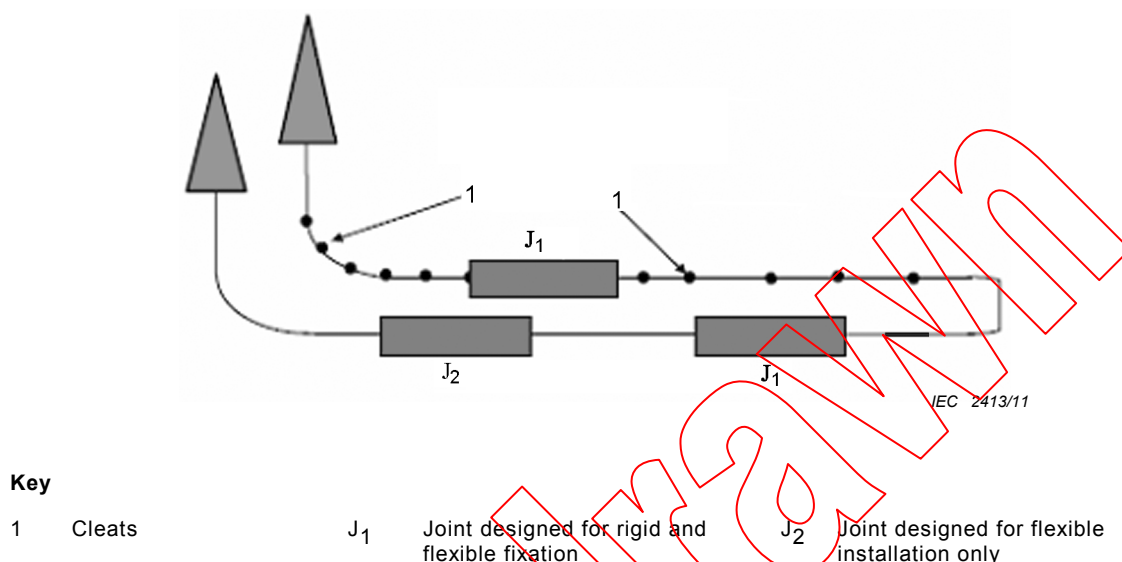


Figure 1 – Example of the test arrangement for the prequalification test

13.2.4 Heating cycle voltage test

The assembly shall be heated by conductor current only, until the cable reaches a temperature 0 K to 5 K above the maximum conductor temperature in normal operation. Variable ambient conditions may require adjustment of the conductor current during the test.

The heating arrangements shall be selected so that the cable conductor attains the temperature specified above, remote from the accessories. The surface temperature of the cable shall be recorded for information.

The heating shall be applied for at least 8 h. The conductor temperature shall be maintained within the stated temperature limits for at least 2 h of each heating period. This shall be followed by at least 16 h of natural cooling to a conductor temperature of less than or equal to 30 °C or within 10 K of ambient temperature, whichever is the higher.

NOTE 1 If, for practical reasons, the test temperature cannot be reached, additional thermal insulation may be applied.

The cycle of heating and cooling shall be carried out 180 times. During the whole of the test period, a voltage of $1,7 U_0$ shall be applied to the assembly.

No breakdown shall occur.

NOTE 2 Partial discharge measurements are recommended to provide an early warning of possible degradation and to enable the possibility of a repair before failure.

NOTE 3 Some cycles where the duration at the hot and/or cold temperature does not fully meet the requirement, are permissible, with a maximum of 10.

NOTE 4 The total number of cycles shall be carried out irrespective of eventual interruptions.

NOTE 5 Heating cycles with a conductor temperature higher than 5 K above the maximum conductor temperature in normal operation are considered valid.

13.2.5 Lightning impulse voltage test

The test shall be performed on one or more cable samples, with a minimum of total active length of 10 m, cut from the assembly, with the cable conductor temperature 0 K to 5 K above the maximum conductor temperature in normal operation. The conductor temperature shall be maintained within the stated temperature limits for at least 2 h.

NOTE 1 As an alternative, the test may be carried out on the whole assembly.

NOTE 2 If, for practical reasons, the test temperature cannot be reached, additional thermal insulation may be applied.

The impulse voltage shall be applied according to the procedure given in IEC 60230.

The test assembly shall withstand without failure 10 positive and 10 negative voltage impulses of the appropriate value given in Table 4, column 8.

13.2.6 Examination

The examination of the cable system (cable and accessories) and the requirements shall be as stated in 12.4.8.

13.3 Tests for the extension of the prequalification of a cable system

13.3.1 Summary of the extension of prequalification test

The extension of prequalification tests shall comprise the electrical part of the tests on the complete cable system as specified in 13.3.2 and the non-electrical tests on the cable as specified in 12.5.

13.3.2 Electrical part of the extension of prequalification tests on complete cable system

13.3.2.1 General

The tests listed in 13.3.2.3 shall be performed on one or more samples of complete cable of the already prequalified cable system, depending on the number of accessories involved. The sample of the cable system shall contain at least one accessory of each type that need the extension of the prequalification. The test may be performed in a laboratory and not necessarily in a situation simulating the real installation conditions.

The minimum length of cable between accessories shall be 5 m. The minimum total cable length shall be 20 m.

Cable and accessories shall be assembled in the manner specified by the manufacturer's instructions, with the grade and quantity of materials supplied, including lubricants, if any.

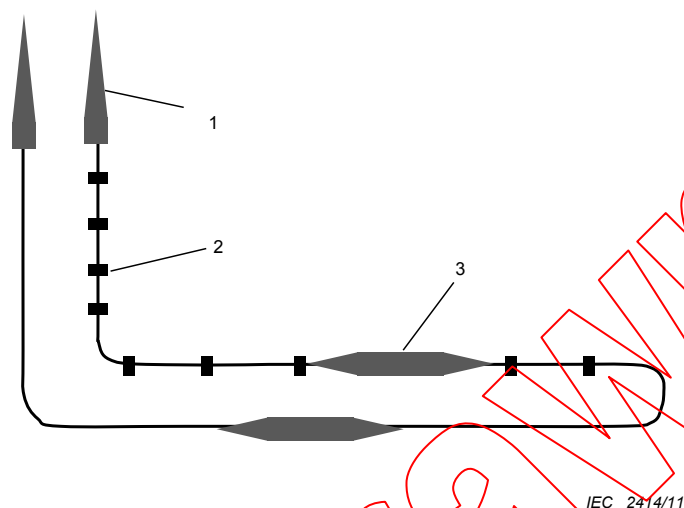
If the prequalification of a joint is to be extended for use both in flexible and in rigid installations, one joint shall be installed in a flexible configuration and the other one in a rigid configuration, see Figure 2.

If the cable is part of the extension of prequalification, the test loop shall have a U-bend with a diameter specified in 12.4.3.

With the exception of the provisions of 13.3.2.2, all the tests listed in 13.3.2.3 shall be applied successively to the same sample. The accessories shall be installed after the bending test on the cable.

Measurement of the resistivity of semi-conducting screens described in 12.4.9 shall be made on a separate sample.

Measurement of the resistivity of semi-conducting screens is not required if the extension of the prequalification is only for accessories.



Key

- 1 termination
- 2 cleat
- 3 joint

Figure 2 – Example of extension of prequalification test arrangement for the prequalification of a system with another joint, designed for rigid as well as flexible installation

13.3.2.2 Test voltage values

Prior to the electrical extension of prequalification tests, the insulation thickness of the cable shall be measured and the test voltage values adjusted, if necessary, as stated in 12.4.1.

13.3.2.3 Sequence of the electrical part of the extension of prequalification tests

The normal sequence of the electrical part of the extension of prequalification tests shall be as follows:

- a) bending test (see 12.4.3) without final partial discharge test (see 12.4.4) followed by installation of the accessories that are part of the tests for the extension of the prequalification;
- b) a partial discharge test (see 12.4.4) is applied after the bending test and the installation of the accessories to check the quality of the installed accessories;
- c) heating cycle test without voltage (see 13.3.2.4);
- d) $\tan \delta$ measurement (see 12.4.5);

NOTE 1 This test may be carried out on a different cable sample with special test terminations from that used for the remainder of the sequence of tests.

- e) heating cycle voltage test (see 12.4.6);
- f) partial discharge test (see 12.4.4) at ambient temperature and at high temperature. This test shall be carried out after the final cycle of item e) above or, alternatively, after the lightning impulse voltage test in item g) below;
- g) lightning impulse voltage test followed by a power frequency voltage test (see 12.4.7);

- h) partial discharge tests, if not previously carried out in item e) above;
- i) tests of outer protection for joints (see Annex G);

NOTE 2 These tests may be applied to a joint which has passed the test in item c), heating cycle voltage test, or to a separate joint which has passed at least three thermal cycles (see Annex G).

NOTE 3 If the cable and joint are not to be subjected to wet conditions in service (i.e. not directly buried in earth or not intermittently or continuously immersed in water), the tests in Clause G.3 and G.4.2 may be omitted.

- j) examination of the cable system with cable and accessories shall be carried out after completion of the tests above (see 12.4.8);
- k) the resistivity of semi-conducting screens (see 12.4.9) shall be measured on a separate sample.

The test voltage values shall be in accordance with the values given in the appropriate column of Table 4 with the eventual adjustments of 13.3.2.2.

13.3.2.4 Heating cycle test without voltage

The assembly shall be heated by conductor current only, until the cable conductor reaches a temperature 0 K to 5 K above the maximum conductor temperature in normal operation.

The heating shall be applied for at least 8 h. The conductor temperature shall be maintained within the stated temperature limits for at least 2 h of each heating period. This shall be followed by at least 16 h of natural cooling to a conductor temperature less than or equal to 30 °C or within 10 K of ambient temperature, whichever is the higher. The conductor current during the last 2 h of each heating period shall be recorded.

The cycle of heating and cooling shall be carried out 60 times.

NOTE Heating cycles with a conductor temperature higher than 5 K above the maximum conductor temperature in normal operation are considered valid.

14 Type tests on cables

14.1 General

The tests specified in this clause are intended to demonstrate the satisfactory performance of cables alone.

This test procedure shall be performed on cables where the calculated nominal electrical stress at the conductor screen is not higher than 8,0 kV/mm and at the insulation screen not higher than 4,0 kV/mm. In other cases the type tests on the cable system according to Clause 12 shall apply.

A list of type tests on cables is given in Annex C.

14.2 Range of type approval

When type tests have been successfully performed on one or more cables of specific cross-section(s), and of the same rated voltage and construction, the type approval shall be considered as valid for cables within the scope of this standard with other cross-sections, rated voltages and constructions provided that all the conditions of a) to e) are met.

NOTE 1 Type tests which have been successfully performed according to the previous edition of this standard are valid.

- a) The voltage group is not higher than that of the tested cable(s).

NOTE 2 In this context, cables of the same rated voltage group are those of rated voltages having a common value of U_m , highest voltage for equipment, and the same test voltage levels (see Table 4, columns 1 and 2).

- b) The conductor cross-section is not larger than that of the tested cable.
- c) The cable has the same or similar construction to that of the tested cable(s).

NOTE 3 Cables of similar construction are those of the same type and manufacturing process of insulation and semi-conducting screens. Repetition of the electrical type tests is not necessary on account of the differences in the conductor type or material or of the protective layers applied over the screened cores, unless these are likely to have a significant effect on the results of the test. In some instances, it may be appropriate to repeat one or more of the type tests (e.g. bending test, heating cycle test and/or compatibility test).

- d) The calculated nominal electrical stress at the cable conductor screen does not exceed the nominal electrical stress at the conductor screen of the tested cable(s) by more than 10 %.
- e) The calculated nominal electrical stress at the cable insulation screen does not exceed the nominal electrical stress at the insulation screen of the tested cable(s).

The type tests on cable components (see 12.5) only need to be carried out on samples from cables of different voltage ratings and/or conductor cross-sectional areas if different materials and/or different manufacturing processes have been used to produce them. However, repetition of the ageing tests on pieces of completed cable to check compatibility of materials (see 12.5.4) may be required if the combination of materials applied over the screened core is different from that of the cable on which type tests have been carried out previously.

A type test certificate signed by the representative of a competent witnessing body, or a report by the manufacturer giving the test results and signed by the appropriate qualified officer, or a type test certificate issued by an independent test laboratory shall be acceptable as evidence of type testing.

14.3 Summary of type tests

The type tests shall comprise the electrical tests on the completed cable as specified in 12.4.1, and 14.4 and the appropriate non-electrical tests on cable components and completed cable specified in 12.5.

The non-electrical tests on cable components and completed cable are summarized in Table 5, indicating which tests are applicable to each insulation and oversheath material. The tests under fire conditions are only if the manufacturer wishes to claim compliance with this test as a special feature of the design of the cable

14.4 Electrical type tests on completed cables

The tests a) to f) shall be performed in sequence on a sample of completed cable at least 10 m in length excluding the test accessories:

- a) bending test (see 12.4.3) followed by installation of the test terminations and a partial discharge test (see 12.4.4);
- b) $\tan \delta$ measurement (see 12.4.5);

NOTE This test may be carried out on a different sample from that used for the remainder of the sequence of tests.

- c) heating cycle voltage test (see 12.4.6), followed by partial discharge measurement at ambient temperature (see 12.4.4), which shall be carried out after the final cycle or, alternatively, after the lightning impulse voltage test (see item d) below);
- d) lightning impulse voltage test followed by a power frequency voltage test (see 12.4.7);
- e) partial discharge test at ambient temperature (see 12.4.4), if not previously carried out in c) above;
- f) examination of the cable on completion of the above tests (see 12.4.8);

- g) the resistivity of semi-conducting screens (see 12.4.9) shall be measured on a separate sample.

Test voltages shall be in accordance with the values given in the appropriate column of Table 4.

15 Type tests on accessories

15.1 General

The tests specified in this clause are intended to demonstrate the satisfactory performance of accessories alone.

This test procedure shall be performed on accessories for cables where the calculated nominal electrical stress at the conductor screen is not higher than 8,0 kV/mm and at the insulation screen not higher than 4,0 kV/mm. In other cases the type tests on the cable system according to Clause 12 shall apply.

A list of type tests on accessories is given in Annex C.

NOTE Tests on terminations referring to environmental conditions are not specified in this standard.

15.2 Range of type approval

When type tests have been successfully performed on one or more accessories with one or more cable(s) of specific cross-section(s), and of the same rated voltage and construction, the type approval shall be considered as valid for accessories within the scope of this standard with other rated voltages, constructions and with other cables, provided that all the conditions of a) to d) are met.

NOTE 1 Type tests which have been successfully performed according to the previous edition of this standard are valid.

- a) The voltage group is not higher than that of the tested accessory(ies).

NOTE 2 In this context, accessories of the same rated voltage group are those of rated voltages having a common value of U_m , highest voltage for equipment, and the same test voltage levels (see Table 4, columns 1 and 2).

- b) The cable with another conductor cross-section, rated voltage and construction is within the range of type approval as stated in 14.2. When the calculated nominal electrical stress at the cable insulation screen does not exceed 2,5 kV/mm, the type approval shall be considered as valid for accessories on all cables in this range.

- c) Accessories have the same or a similar construction as that of the tested accessory(ies).

NOTE 3 Accessories of similar construction are those of the same type and manufacturing process of insulation and semi-conducting screens. Repetition of the electrical type tests is not necessary on account of the differences in the connector type or material or of the protective layers applied over the main insulation part of the accessory, unless these are likely to have a significant effect on the results of the test. In some instances, it may be appropriate to repeat one or more of the type tests (e.g. partial discharge test).

- d) The calculated nominal electrical stresses within the main insulation parts of the accessory and at the cable and accessory interfaces do not exceed those of the tested accessory(ies).

A type test certificate signed by the representative of a competent witnessing body, or a report by the manufacturer giving the test results and signed by the appropriate qualified officer, or a type test certificate issued by an independent test laboratory, shall be acceptable as evidence of type testing.

15.3 Summary of type tests

Accessories shall comply with the tests specified in 15.4.1 and 15.4.2.

The minimum length of free cable between accessories shall be 5 m.

One sample of each accessory type shall be tested.

The accessories shall be installed before the first partial discharge test.

The accessories shall be assembled on the cable in the manner specified by the manufacturer's instructions, with the grade and quantity of materials supplied, including lubricants, if any.

The external surface of accessories shall be dry and clean, but neither the cables nor the accessories shall be subjected to any form of conditioning not specified in the manufacturer's instructions which might modify the electrical, thermal or mechanical performance.

During tests a) to e) of 15.4.2, it is necessary to test joints with their outer protection fitted. If it can be shown that the outer protection does not influence the performance of the joint insulation, e.g. there are no thermo-mechanical or compatibility effects, the protection need not be fitted.

15.4 Electrical type tests on accessories

15.4.1 Test voltage values

Prior to the electrical type tests of the accessories, the insulation thickness of the cable used shall be measured and the test voltage values adjusted, if necessary, as stated in 12.4.1.

15.4.2 Tests and sequence of tests

Accessories shall be subjected to the following sequence:

- a) partial discharge test at ambient temperature (see 12.4.4);
- b) heating cycle voltage test (see 12.4.6);
NOTE 1 The cable may have a U-bend with the diameter as specified in 12.4.3.
- c) partial discharge tests (see 12.4.4);
 - at ambient temperature, and
 - at high temperature;

The tests shall be carried out after the final cycle of item b) above or, alternatively, after the lightning impulse voltage test in item d) below.

- d) lightning impulse voltage test followed by a power frequency voltage test (see 12.4.7);
- e) partial discharge tests, if not previously carried out in item c) above;
- f) tests of outer protection for joints (see Annex G);

NOTE 2 These tests may be applied to a joint which has passed the test in item b), heating cycle voltage test, or to a separate joint which has passed at least three thermal cycles (see Annex G).

NOTE 3 If the joint is not to be subjected to wet conditions in service (i.e. not directly buried in earth or not intermittently or continuously immersed in water), the tests in item f) may be omitted.

- g) examination of the accessories after completion of the above tests (see 12.4.8.1).

Test voltages shall be in accordance with the values given in the appropriate column of Table 4.

16 Electrical tests after installation

16.1 General

Tests on new installations are carried out when the installation of the cable system has been completed.

A d.c. oversheath test according to 16.2 and/or an a.c. insulation test according to 16.3 is recommended.

For installations where only the oversheath test according to 16.2 is carried out, quality assurance procedures during installation of accessories may, by agreement between the purchaser and contractor, replace the insulation test according to 16.3.

16.2 DC voltage test of the oversheath

The voltage level and duration specified in Clause 5 of IEC 60229:2007 shall be applied between each metal sheath or metal screen and the ground.

For the test to be effective, it is necessary that the ground makes good contact with all of the outer surface of the oversheath. A conductive layer on the oversheath can assist in this respect.

16.3 AC voltage test of the insulation

The a.c. test voltage to be applied shall be subject to agreement between the purchaser and the contractor. The waveform shall be substantially sinusoidal and the frequency shall be between 20 Hz and 300 Hz. A voltage according to Table 4, column 10, shall be applied for 1 h.

Alternatively, a voltage of U_0 may be applied for 24 h.

NOTE For installations which have been in use, lower voltages than given in Table 4, column 10 and/or shorter durations may be used. Values should be negotiated, taking into account the age, environment, history of breakdowns and the purpose of carrying out the test.

Table 1 – Insulating compounds for cables

Insulating compound	Maximum conductor temperature °C	
	Normal operation	Short-circuit (maximum duration 5 s)
Low density thermoplastic polyethylene (PE)	70	130 ^a
High density thermoplastic polyethylene (HDPE)	80	160 ^a
Cross-linked polyethylene (XLPE)	90	250
Ethylene-propylene rubber (EPR)	90	250
High modulus or hard grade ethylene-propylene rubber (HEPR)	90	250
^a For PE and HDPE, short-circuit temperatures up to 20 °C in excess of those shown may be acceptable with suitable semi-conducting layers over the conductor and the insulation and by agreement between manufacturer and purchaser.		

Table 2 – Oversheathing compounds for cables

Oversheathing compound	Abbreviated designation	Maximum conductor temperature in normal operation °C
Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)	ST ₁	80
	ST ₂	90
Polyethylene (PE)	ST ₃	80
	ST ₇	90

Table 3 – Tan δ requirements for insulating compounds for cables

Designation of compound (see 4.2)	PE	HDPE	EPR/HEPR	XLPE
Maximum tan δ	10 ⁻⁴	10	50	10 ^a

^a For cables produced with an XLPE compound containing special additives, the maximum tan δ is 50 × 10⁻⁴.

Table 4 – Test voltages

1	2	3	4 ^a	5 ^a	6 ^a	7 ^a	8 ^a	9 ^a	10 ^b
Rated voltage	Highest voltage for equipment	Value of U_0 for determination of test voltages	Voltage test of 9.3	Partial discharge test of 9.2 and 12.4.4	Tan δ measurement of 12.4.5	Heating cycle voltage test of 12.4.6	Lightning impulse voltage test of 10.12, 12.4.7 and 13.2.5	Voltage test of 12.4.7	Voltage test after installation of 16.3
U	U_m	U_0	2,5 U_0	1,5 U_0	U_0	2 U_0		2,5 U_0	
kV	kV	kV	kV	kV	kV	kV	kV	kV	kV
45 to 47	52	26	65	39	26	52	250	65	52
60 to 69	72,5	36	90	54	36	72	325	90	72
110 to 115	123	64	160	96	64	128	550	160	128
132 to 138	145	76	190	114	76	152	650	190	132
150 to 161	170	87	218	131	87	174	750	218	150

^a If necessary, these test voltages shall be adjusted as stated in 12.4.1.

^b If necessary these test voltages shall be adjusted as stated in 16.3.