
International Standard



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Acoustics — Test code for the measurement of airborne noise emitted by rotating electrical machinery — Part 1: Engineering method for free-field conditions over a reflecting plane

Acoustique — Code d'essai pour le mesurage du bruit aérien émis par les machines électriques tournantes — Partie 1: Méthode d'expertise pour les conditions de champ libre au-dessus d'un plan réfléchissant

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Foreword

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Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council. They are approved in accordance with ISO procedures requiring at least 75 % approval by the member bodies voting.

International Standard ISO 1680/1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 43, *Acoustics*.

Users should note that all International Standards undergo revision from time to time and that any reference made herein to any other International Standard implies its latest edition, unless otherwise stated.

It cancels and replaces ISO Recommendation R 1680-1970 of which it constitutes a technical revision.

Acoustics — Test code for the measurement of airborne noise emitted by rotating electrical machinery —

Part 1: Engineering method for free-field conditions over a reflecting plane

0 Introduction

This part of ISO 1680 is based on ISO 3744 and has been drafted in accordance with ISO 3740.

The main purpose of this part of ISO 1680 is to specify a clearly defined measurement method for rotating electrical machines operating under steady-state conditions, the results of which can be expressed in sound power levels so that all machines tested using this code can be directly compared. Other methods, such as the precision methods of ISO 3741, 3742 and 3745, may also be used for determining sound power levels if the installation and operating conditions of this part of ISO 1680 are used.

1 Scope and field of application

1.1 General

This part of ISO 1680 specifies, in accordance with ISO 2204, an engineering method (grade 2) for measuring the sound pressure levels on a rectangular parallelepiped surface enveloping the machine and for calculating the sound power level produced by the machine. It outlines the procedures which may be used to evaluate the test environment and specifies the characteristics of suitable measuring instruments. A method is given for determining the A-weighted sound power level and, if required, octave or one-third octave band sound power levels of the machine from the mean of the sound pressure levels measured on the rectangular parallelepiped surface.

This part of ISO 1680 applies to the measurement of airborne noise from rotating electrical machines, such as motors and generators (d.c. and a.c. machines) without any limitation on the output or voltage, when fitted with their normal auxiliaries. It applies to rotating electrical machines with any linear dimension (length, width or height) not exceeding 15 m.

This part of ISO 1680 applies to measurements carried out in environmental conditions that meet the criteria given in clause 4 and annex A (environmental correction $K \leq 2$ dB, correction for background noise ≤ 1 dB). If these criteria are not met, standard deviations of the test results may be greater than those given in table 1, i.e. the engineering grade of accuracy

may not be achieved. The method given in ISO 1680/2 shall then be used, which will result in A-weighted sound power levels of lower accuracy. In this case, no reference shall be made to this part of ISO 1680.

1.2 Measurement uncertainty

Measurements carried out in conformity with this part of ISO 1680 usually result in standard deviations which are equal to or less than those given in table 1. The standard deviations given in table 1 reflect the cumulative effects of all causes of measurement uncertainty, excluding variations in the sound power level of the machine from test to test. For a machine which emits noise with a relatively "flat" spectrum in the 100 to 10 000 Hz frequency range, the A-weighted sound power level is determined with a standard deviation of approximately 2 dB. For outdoor measurements, the standard deviation in the octave band centred on 63 Hz will be approximately 5 dB.

NOTE — The standard deviations in table 1 include the effects of allowable variations in the positioning of the measurement positions and in the selection of the stipulated measurement surface.

Table 1 — Uncertainty in determining sound power levels for engineering measurements indoors or outdoors

Octave band centre frequencies Hz	One-third octave band centre frequencies Hz	Standard deviation of mean value dB
125	100 to 160	3,0
250 to 500	200 to 630	2,0
1 000 to 4 000	800 to 5 000	1,5
8 000	6 300 to 10 000	2,5

2 References

ISO 266, *Acoustics — Preferred frequencies for measurements.*

ISO 354, *Acoustics — Measurement of sound absorption in a reverberation room.*

ISO 1680/2, *Acoustics — Test code for the measurement of airborne noise emitted by rotating electrical machinery — Part 2: Survey method.*



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ISO 2204, *Acoustics — Guide to International Standards on the measurement of airborne acoustical noise and evaluation of its effects on human beings.*

ISO 3740, *Acoustics — Determination of sound power levels of noise sources — Guidelines for the use of basic standards and for the preparation of noise test codes.*

ISO 3741, *Acoustics — Determination of sound power levels of noise sources — Precision methods for broad-band sources in reverberation rooms.*

ISO 3742, *Acoustics — Determination of sound power levels of noise sources — Precision methods for discrete-frequency and narrow-band sources in reverberation rooms.*

ISO 3744, *Acoustics — Determination of sound power levels of noise sources — Engineering methods for free-field conditions over a reflecting plane.*

ISO 3745, *Acoustics — Determination of sound power levels of noise sources — Precision methods for anechoic and semi-anechoic rooms.*

ISO 6926, *Acoustics — Determination of sound power levels of noise sources — Characterization and calibration of reference sound sources.*¹⁾

IEC Publication 34-1, *Rotating electrical machines — Part 1: Rating and performance.*

IEC Publication 225, *Octave, half-octave and third-octave band filters intended for the analysis of sounds and vibrations.*

IEC Publication 651, *Sound level meters.*

3 Definitions

For the purposes of this part of ISO 1680, the following definitions apply.

3.1 free field: A sound field in a homogeneous, isotropic medium free of boundaries. In practice, it is a field in which the effects of the boundaries are negligible over the frequency range of interest.

3.2 free field over a reflecting plane: A sound field in the presence of a reflecting plane on which the source is located.

3.3 anechoic room: A test room the surfaces of which absorb essentially all the incident sound energy over the frequency range of interest, thereby affording free-field conditions over the measurement surface.

3.4 semi-anechoic room: A test room with a hard reflecting floor the other surfaces of which absorb essentially all the incident sound energy over the frequency range of interest, thereby affording free-field conditions above a reflecting plane.

3.5 sound pressure level, L_p , in decibels: Twenty times the logarithm to the base 10 of the ratio of the sound pressure

to the reference sound pressure. The weighting network or the width of the frequency band and its centre frequency used shall be indicated: for example, A-weighted sound pressure level, L_{pA} , octave band sound pressure level, one-third octave band sound pressure level, etc. The reference sound pressure is 20 μPa .

3.6 surface sound pressure: The sound pressure averaged in time on a mean-square basis and also averaged over the measurement surface using the averaging procedures specified in 8.1 and corrected for the effects of background noise and the influence of reflected sound at the measurement surface.

3.7 surface sound pressure level, $\overline{L_{pt}}$, in decibels: Ten times the logarithm to the base 10 of the ratio of the square of the surface sound pressure to the square of the reference sound pressure.

3.8 sound power level, L_W , in decibels: Ten times the logarithm to the base 10 of the ratio of a given sound power to the reference sound power. The weighting network or the width of the frequency band used shall be indicated: for example, A-weighted sound power level, L_{WA} , octave band sound power level, one-third octave band sound power level, etc. The reference sound power is 1 pW ($= 10^{-12} \text{ W}$).

NOTE — The surface sound pressure level is numerically different from the sound power level and its use in lieu of the sound power level is not correct because the size of the measurement surface is not covered by this quantity.

3.9 frequency range of interest: For general purposes, the frequency range of interest includes the octave bands with centre frequencies between 125 and 8 000 Hz or the one-third octave bands with centre frequencies between 100 and 10 000 Hz. Any band may be excluded in which the level is more than 40 dB below the highest band pressure level. For special purposes, the frequency range of interest may be extended at either end, provided that the test environment and instrument accuracy are satisfactory for use over the extended frequency range. For sources which radiate predominantly high (or low) frequency sound, the frequency range of interest may be limited in order to optimize the test facility and procedures.

3.10 measurement surface: A hypothetical surface of area S enveloping the source on which the measurement positions are located and which terminates on the reflecting plane.

3.11 reference box: A hypothetical surface which is the smallest rectangular parallelepiped that just encloses the source and terminates on the reflecting plane.

3.12 measurement distance: The minimum distance from the reference box to the measurement surface.

3.13 background noise: The sound pressure level at each microphone position with the source inoperative.

1) At present at the stage of draft.

4 Acoustic environment

4.1 General

The test environments that are suitable for measurements in accordance with this part of ISO 1680 include the following:

- a) a room which provides a free field over a reflecting plane;
- b) a flat outdoor area that meets the requirements of 4.2 and annex A;
- c) a room in which the contributions of the reverberant field to the sound pressures on the measurement surface are small compared with those of the direct field of the source.

Conditions described under c) above are met in very large rooms as well as in smaller rooms with sufficient sound-absorptive materials on their walls and ceilings.

4.2 Criteria for adequacy of the test environment

Annex A describes a procedure for determining whether or not a test environment is adequate for measurements in accordance with this part of ISO 1680. Test environments which are suitable for engineering measurements permit the sound power level to be determined with an uncertainty that does not exceed the values given in table 1.

Ideally, the test environments are free from reflecting objects other than a reflecting plane so that the source radiates into a free field over a reflecting plane. Annex A describes procedures for determining the magnitude of the environmental correction (if any) to account for departures of the test environment from the ideal condition.

To comply with this part of ISO 1680, the environmental correction K shall not exceed 2 dB.

If it is necessary to make measurements in spaces which do not meet the criteria of annex A, standard deviations of the test results may be greater than those given in table 1. In those cases, ISO 1680/2 shall be used. (See clause 0.)

4.3 Criterion for background noise

At each microphone position, the sound pressure level of the background noise shall be at least 6 dB, and preferably more than 10 dB, below the sound pressure level to be measured in each frequency band within the frequency range of interest.

Background noise less than 6 dB below the sound pressure levels to be measured is too high for the purposes of this part of ISO 1680. Under such circumstances, the survey method of ISO 1680/2 shall be used. (See clause 0.)

4.4 Wind

The wind velocity existing at the test site or caused by the machine under test shall be less than 6 m/s. A windscreen should be used for wind velocities above 1 m/s to ensure that the level of the background noise (caused by the cumulative effect of the wind and other background noise sources) is at least 6 dB, and preferably more than 10 dB, below the level with the source operating. The appropriate instructions provided by the microphone manufacturer shall be followed.

5 Instrumentation

5.1 General

The instrumentation shall be designed to measure the mean-square value of the A-weighted sound pressure level and the octave or one-third octave band levels, averaged over time and over the measurement surface. Surface averaging is usually carried out by measuring the time-averaged sound pressure levels with a prescribed time constant for a fixed number of microphone positions (7.2) and computing the average value in accordance with 8.2.

The instrumentation used can perform the required time-averaging in one of two different ways:

- a) By continuous averaging of the squared signal using RC-smoothing with a time constant τ_A . Such continuous averaging provides only an approximation of the true time-average, and it places restrictions on the "settling" and observation times (see 7.3.3).

NOTE — An example of an instrument using such averaging is a sound level meter fulfilling at least the requirements for a type 1 instrument in accordance with IEC Publication 651 with the time weighting "S".

- b) By integrating the squared signal over a fixed time-interval τ_D . This integration may be performed by either digital or analogue means.

Examples of suitable instrumentation systems are given in ISO 3744.

5.2 The microphone and its associated cable

A condenser microphone, or the equivalent in accuracy, stability and frequency response, shall be used. The microphone shall have a flat frequency response, over the frequency range of interest, for the angle of incidence specified by the manufacturer.

NOTE — This requirement is met by a microphone of a standardized sound level meter fulfilling at least the requirements for a type 1 instrument in accordance with IEC Publication 651 and calibrated for free-field measurements.

The microphone and its associated cable shall be chosen so that their sensitivity does not change over the temperature range encountered in the measurement. If the microphone is moved, care shall be exercised to avoid noise of acoustical origin (for example, noise from wind, gears, mechanical moving parts) or electrical noise (for example, noise from flexing cables or sliding contacts) that could interfere with the measurements.

5.3 Frequency response of the instrumentation system

The frequency response of the instrumentation system for the angle of incidence specified by the manufacturer shall be flat over the frequency range of interest within the tolerances given for a type 1 instrument in IEC Publication 651.

5.4 Weighting network and frequency analyser

An A-weighting network complying with the tolerance requirements of IEC Publication 651 and, if required, an octave band or one-third octave band filter set fulfilling the requirements of IEC Publication 225 shall be used. The centre frequencies of the frequency bands shall correspond to those of ISO 266.

5.5 Calibration

Before and after each series of measurements, an acoustical calibrator with an accuracy $\pm 0,5$ dB shall be applied to the microphone to check the calibration of the entire measuring system at one or more frequencies over the frequency range of interest. The calibrator shall be checked annually to verify that its acoustical output has not changed. In addition, an acoustical and an electrical calibration of the instrumentation system over the entire frequency range of interest shall be carried out at intervals of not more than 2 years.

6 Installation and operation of the machine

6.1 Machine mounting

If practicable, the machine should be mounted in the same way as it would be for normal usage. Care should be taken to minimize the transmission and the radiation of structure-borne noise from all mounting elements including the foundation. Usually, this minimizing can be achieved by resilient mounting for smaller machines. Larger machines can usually only be tested under rigid mounting conditions.

6.1.1 Resilient mounting

The natural frequency of the support system and the machine under test shall be lower than a quarter of the frequency corresponding to the lowest rotational speed of the machine.

The effective mass of the resilient support shall not be greater than 1/10 of that of the machine under test.

6.1.2 Rigid mounting

The machines shall be rigidly mounted to a surface with dimensions adequate for the machine type (for example by foot or flange fixed in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications). The machine shall not be subject to additional mounting stresses from incorrect shimming.

The mass of the support shall be at least twice that of the machine under test.

6.2 Operation of machine during test

The machine shall operate at no load, at rated voltage(s) and speed(s), and with the corresponding excitation(s) (see IEC Publication 34-1).

For a.c. machines, the sinusoidality of the supply voltage and the degree of unbalance of the supply voltage system shall comply with the same limits that are specified in IEC Publication 34-1.

Synchronous machines shall be run with the excitation current which permits the rated voltage at no load.

For machines not suitable for no-load operation, e.g. machines with the behaviour of series-wound motors, the operating conditions shall be agreed upon and stated in the test report.

A method for estimating the difference in the level of the noise from a machine between no-load operating conditions and rated load or any other specified load is given in annex C.

6.3 Auxiliary equipment and coupled machines

All auxiliary equipment (loading machines, gears, transformers, external cooling systems) and coupled machines which are necessary for the operation of the machine under test, but which do not form an integral part of the machine, shall not significantly affect the noise measurement (see 8.1). If they do, they should be shielded acoustically or located outside the test environment.

7 Sound pressure levels on the measurement surface

7.1 Reference box and measurement surfaces

In order to facilitate the positioning of the microphone positions, a hypothetical reference box is defined (see 3.11). When defining the dimensions of this reference box, elements protruding from the machine which are unlikely to be major radiators of sound energy may be disregarded.

The microphone positions lie on the measurement surface (see 3.10).

For rotating electrical machines, regardless of their size, the measurement surface shape is a rectangular parallelepiped (see figures 2 to 4) the sides of which are parallel to the sides of the reference box and spaced out at a distance d (measurement distance) from the reference box.

The measurement distance, d , shall be at least 0,25 m. Distances larger than 1 m may be excluded by the environmental requirements given in this part of ISO 1680 (see 4.2, 4.3 and annex A). The preferred measurement distance is 1 m.

The area S of the measurement surface is given by the equation

$$S = 4 (ab + bc + ca)$$

where, in accordance with figures 2, 3 or 4,

$$a = 0,5 l_1 + d;$$

$$b = 0,5 l_2 + d;$$

$$c = l_3 + d;$$

l_1 , l_2 and l_3 are the dimensions of the reference box;

d is the measurement distance, normally 1 m.