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Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance**

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Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance**

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**MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –
Part 1: General requirements for basic safety
and essential performance**

INTERPRETATION SHEET 1

This interpretation sheet has been prepared by SC 62A: Common aspects of electrical equipment used in medical practice

The text of this interpretation sheet is based on the following documents:

ISH	Report on voting
62A/599/ISH	62A/613/RVD

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

Subclause 1.1

This subclause is clarified by the following:

IEC 60601-1 does not apply to medical gas pipeline systems covered by ISO 7396-1, *Medical gas pipeline systems — Part 1: Pipeline systems for compressed medical gases and vacuum*.

NOTE Subclause 6.3 of ISO 7396-1 applies the requirement of IEC 60601-1-8 to certain monitoring and alarm signals.

This clarification will remain valid until a new version of IEC 60601-1 is published.

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MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –

Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance

INTERPRETATION SHEET 2

This interpretation sheet has been prepared by subcommittee 62A: Common aspects of electrical equipment used in medical practice, of IEC technical committee 62: Electrical equipment in medical practice.

The text of this interpretation sheet is based on the following documents:

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62A/634/ISH	62A/640/RVD

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Subclause 11.3

This subclause is clarified by the following:

As stated in the rationale for this subclause, fire ENCLOSURES are intended to be used only where there is a significant likelihood of fire due to the presence of a source of ignition (as described in the subclause) *and* a *significant* source of fuel. Most materials used in the construction of ME EQUIPMENT are not considered to be such a source of fuel unless they are in the presence of an OXYGEN RICH ENVIRONMENT. MANUFACTURERS should determine, through analyses documented in the RISK MANAGEMENT FILE, whether the ME EQUIPMENT contains combustible materials (fuel) in sufficient quantities to support combustion in conjunction with ignition sources (capable of releasing greater than 900 J).

Subclause 13.1.2

This subclause is clarified by the following:

As stated in subclause 4.7, it is the MANUFACTURER'S RISK ANALYSIS that determines which components are subject to failure testing based on the associated RISK. Where the associated RISK of fire exceeds the MANUFACTURER'S criteria for RISK acceptability, the MANUFACTURER'S simulation analysis (such as FMEAs) should be accepted in lieu of physical testing. As also stated in 4.7, component reliability and ratings are to be considered in such failure simulation analyses. Common electronic components that have a history of use without causing equipment fires should not be considered a likely source of ignition.

Where the subclause identifies "emission of flames, molten metal, poisonous or ignitable substance in hazardous quantities;" as a hazardous situation, this refers to emissions from *the ENCLOSURE* not from components themselves. Where it identifies "exceeding the allowable values for 'other components and materials' identified in Table 22 times 1,5 minus 12,5 °C", this applies only where doing so would result in an unacceptable RISK (as identified in the MANUFACTURER'S RISK ANALYSIS according to 4.7). Typically, this would be cases where

ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE would not be maintained or where greater than 900 J of energy would be released in the presence of flammable materials that could sustain combustion.

The first exemption to fault analysis or testing identified in subclause 13.1.2 (“The construction or the supply circuit limits the power dissipation in SINGLE FAULT CONDITION to less than 15 W or the energy dissipation to less than 900 J.”) is intended to apply where the component design itself (“The construction”) or fusing (or other current limiting devices) in the supply circuit (“or the supply circuit”) assure the energy released during failures will not exceed the limits. For most common signal level components rated for operation below 5 Watts, the energy released by short-circuiting of outputs will not exceed the 900 J limit.

This clarification will remain valid until a new version of IEC 60601-1 is published.

**MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –
Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance**

INTERPRETATION SHEET 3

This interpretation sheet has been prepared by subcommittee 62A: Common aspects of electrical equipment used in medical practice, of IEC technical committee 62: Electrical equipment in medical practice.

The text of this interpretation sheet is based on the following documents:

ISH	Report on voting
62A/858/ISH	62A/875/RVD

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

Subclause 13.1.2 fourth dash (Emissions, deformation of ENCLOSURE or exceeding maximum temperature)


This subclause states the following:

The following HAZARDOUS SITUATIONS shall not occur:

-
- temperatures of ME EQUIPMENT parts that are not APPLIED PARTS but are likely to be touched, exceeding the allowable values in Table 23 when measured and adjusted as described in 11.1.3;

This is clarified by the following:

The above requirement is regarded as fulfilled in accordance with Subclause 4.5 for temperatures at the surfaces of the enclosure, if the following conditions are fulfilled:

- The maximum allowed temperature on OPERATOR accessible surfaces in SINGLE FAULT CONDITION is 105 °C; and
- the instructions for use contain a warning that, under some SINGLE FAULT CONDITIONS, the temperature of: (*indicate the surface of concern*) could get hot and there is a possible RISK of a burn if touched, and
- if the RISK ANALYSIS demonstrates a need for a warning symbol on the ENCLOSURE, safety sign ISO 7010-W018 () shall be used on or adjacent to the hot spot on the ENCLOSURE; and
- the RISK ASSESSMENT demonstrates that the temperature attained in the SINGLE FAULT CONDITION is acceptable, and
- the RISK ASSESSMENT demonstrates that applying the alternative RISK CONTROL measures in this Interpretation Sheet results in a RESIDUAL RISK that is comparable to the RESIDUAL RISK resulting from applying the requirement of the standard.

NOTE 1 This Interpretation Sheet is intended to be used with both Edition 3.0 and Edition 3.1 of IEC 60601-1.

NOTE 2 An example of an analysis that demonstrates an adequately low probability of occurrence of HARM is shown below.

Example RISK ASSESSMENT:

The sum failure rate for parts that could increase the surface temperature of parts of the enclosure of XYZ device touchable only by the OPERATOR to values above those of Table 23 calculates to be 60 FIT (1 FIT = 1E-9/h) according to the standard MIL-HDBK-217F where FIT stands for "failure in time". In case of such failures, the device would emit an odour and would no longer function properly. It is estimated, that only in one of 3 cases the device would not be switched off immediately and the hot surface would be resulting in a burn.

The resulting overall probability of such HARM where adequate warning is provided in the instructions for use in combination with warning sign ISO 7010 W018 would be: probability = $1/3 * 60 \text{ FIT} = 2 \text{ E-8/h} \approx 0,0002 \text{ per year}$.

In this example, the WXW Company's RISK acceptance criteria require that a HARM of that severity must have a probability of less than 0,0003 per year for the associated RISK to be considered acceptable. Based on that RISK acceptance criterion, the RISK associated with overtemperature of the ENCLOSURE caused by single faults in the circuitry is acceptable.

CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	11
INTRODUCTION.....	14
INTRODUCTION TO THE AMENDMENT	16
1 Scope, object and related standards.....	17
1.1 * Scope	17
1.2 Object	17
1.3 * Collateral standards.....	17
1.4 * Particular standards.....	18
2 * Normative references.....	18
3 * Terminology and definitions	22
4 General requirements.....	42
4.1 * Conditions for application to ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEMS.....	42
4.2 * RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS for ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEMS	43
4.3 * ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE	46
4.4 * EXPECTED SERVICE LIFE	46
4.5 * Equivalent safety for ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEMS Alternative RISK CONTROL measures or test methods for ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEMS	47
4.6 * ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEM parts that contact the PATIENT	47
4.7 * SINGLE FAULT CONDITION for ME EQUIPMENT	47
4.8 * Components of ME EQUIPMENT	48
4.9 * Use of COMPONENTS WITH HIGH-INTEGRITY CHARACTERISTICS in ME EQUIPMENT	49
4.10 * Power supply	50
4.11 Power input.....	50
5 * General requirements for testing ME EQUIPMENT	51
5.1 * TYPE TESTS.....	51
5.2 * Number of samples.....	51
5.3 Ambient temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure.....	51
5.4 Other conditions	51
5.5 Supply voltages, type of current, nature of supply, frequency	52
5.6 Repairs and modifications	52
5.7 * Humidity preconditioning treatment.....	52
5.8 Sequence of tests	53
5.9 * Determination of APPLIED PARTS and ACCESSIBLE PARTS	53
6 * Classification of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS.....	56
6.1 General.....	56
6.2 * Protection against electric shock.....	56
6.3 * Protection against harmful ingress of water or particulate matter	56
6.4 Method(s) of sterilization	56
6.5 Suitability for use in an OXYGEN RICH ENVIRONMENT	56
6.6 * Mode of operation.....	56
7 ME EQUIPMENT identification, marking and documents.....	57
7.1 General.....	57
7.2 Marking on the outside of ME EQUIPMENT or ME EQUIPMENT parts (see also Table C.1).....	58

7.3	Marking on the inside of ME EQUIPMENT or ME EQUIPMENT parts (see also Table C.2)	63
7.4	Marking of controls and instruments (see also Table C.3).....	64
7.5	Safety signs	66
7.6	Symbols	66
7.7	Colours of the insulation of conductors	67
7.8	* Indicator lights and controls	67
7.9	ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS	68
8	* Protection against electrical HAZARDS from ME EQUIPMENT	74
8.1	Fundamental rule of protection against electric shock.....	74
8.2	Requirements related to power sources.....	75
8.3	Classification of APPLIED PARTS	76
8.4	Limitation of voltage, current or energy.....	76
8.5	Separation of parts.....	79
8.6	* Protective earthing, functional earthing and potential equalization of ME EQUIPMENT	89
8.7	LEAKAGE CURRENTS and PATIENT AUXILIARY CURRENTS	92
8.8	Insulation	114
8.9	* CREEPAGE DISTANCES and AIR CLEARANCES.....	120
8.10	Components and wiring	138
8.11	MAINS PARTS, components and layout	140
9	* Protection against MECHANICAL HAZARDS of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS	146
9.1	MECHANICAL HAZARDS of ME EQUIPMENT	146
9.2	* MECHANICAL HAZARDS associated with moving parts.....	146
9.3	* MECHANICAL HAZARD associated with surfaces, corners and edges.....	152
9.4	* Instability HAZARDS	152
9.5	* Expelled parts HAZARD	157
9.6	Acoustic energy (including infra- and ultrasound) and vibration	158
9.7	* Pressure vessels and parts subject to pneumatic and hydraulic pressure.....	159
9.8	* MECHANICAL HAZARDS associated with support systems	162
10	* Protection against unwanted and excessive radiation HAZARDS	168
10.1	X-Radiation	168
10.2	Alpha, beta, gamma, neutron and other particle radiation	169
10.3	Microwave radiation	169
10.4	* Lasers and light emitting diodes (LEDs)	170
10.5	Other visible electromagnetic radiation	170
10.6	Infrared radiation.....	170
10.7	Ultraviolet radiation	170
11	Protection against excessive temperatures and other HAZARDS	170
11.1	* Excessive temperatures in ME EQUIPMENT.....	170
11.2	* Fire prevention.....	175
11.3	* Constructional requirements for fire ENCLOSURES of ME EQUIPMENT	179
11.4	* ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS intended for use with flammable anaesthetics	181
11.5	* ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS intended for use in conjunction with flammable agents	182
11.6	Overflow, spillage, leakage, ingress of water or particulate matter, cleaning, disinfection, sterilization and compatibility with substances used with the ME EQUIPMENT	182

11.7	Biocompatibility of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS	184
11.8	* Interruption of the power supply / SUPPLY MAINS to ME EQUIPMENT	184
12	* Accuracy of controls and instruments and protection against hazardous outputs	184
12.1	Accuracy of controls and instruments	184
12.2	USABILITY of ME EQUIPMENT	184
12.3	ALARM SYSTEMS	185
12.4	Protection against hazardous output.....	185
13	* HAZARDOUS SITUATIONS and fault conditions for ME EQUIPMENT	186
13.1	Specific HAZARDOUS SITUATIONS	186
13.2	SINGLE FAULT CONDITIONS	187
14	* PROGRAMMABLE ELECTRICAL MEDICAL SYSTEMS (PEMS)	192
14.1	* General.....	192
14.2	* Documentation.....	193
14.3	* RISK MANAGEMENT plan	193
14.4	* PEMS DEVELOPMENT LIFE-CYCLE	193
14.5	* Problem resolution	194
14.6	RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS.....	194
14.7	* Requirement specification	195
14.8	* Architecture	195
14.9	* Design and implementation	195
14.10	* VERIFICATION	195
14.11	* PEMS VALIDATION	196
14.12	* Modification	196
14.13	* Connection of PEMS by NETWORK/DATA COUPLING to other equipment PEMS intended to be incorporated into an IT-NETWORK.....	196
15	Construction of ME EQUIPMENT	198
15.1	* Arrangements of controls and indicators of ME EQUIPMENT.....	198
15.2	* Serviceability	198
15.3	Mechanical strength	198
15.4	ME EQUIPMENT components and general assembly.....	202
15.5	* MAINS SUPPLY TRANSFORMERS of ME EQUIPMENT and transformers providing separation in accordance with 8.5	207
16	* ME SYSTEMS	211
16.1	* General requirements for the ME SYSTEMS	211
16.2	* ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS of an ME SYSTEM	212
16.3	* Power supply	213
16.4	ENCLOSURES	213
16.5	* SEPARATION DEVICES	213
16.6	* LEAKAGE CURRENTS.....	214
16.7	* Protection against MECHANICAL HAZARDS	215
16.8	Interruption of the power supply to parts of an ME SYSTEM	215
16.9	ME SYSTEM connections and wiring.....	215
17	* Electromagnetic compatibility of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS	217
Annex A (informative) General guidance and rationale.....		218
Annex B (informative) Sequence of testing		329
Annex C (informative) Guide to marking and labelling requirements for ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS.....		333

Annex D (informative) Symbols on marking (see Clause 7)	336
Annex E (informative) Examples of the connection of the measuring device (MD) for measurement of the PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT and PATIENT AUXILIARY CURRENT (see 8.7).....	345
Annex F (informative) Suitable measuring supply circuits.....	347
Annex G (normative) Protection against HAZARDS of ignition of flammable anaesthetic mixtures.....	350
Annex H (informative) Pems structure, PEMS DEVELOPMENT LIFE-CYCLE and documentation	365
Annex I (informative) ME SYSTEMS aspects.....	378
Annex J (informative) Survey of insulation paths.....	384
Annex K (informative) Simplified PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT diagrams	387
Annex L (normative) Insulated winding wires for use without interleaved insulation.....	390
Annex M (normative) Reduction of pollution degrees	393
Bibliography.....	394
INDEX OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	398
INDEX	400
Figure 1 – Detachable mains connection.....	23
Figure 2 – Example of the defined terminals and conductors.....	25
Figure 3 – Example of a CLASS I ME EQUIPMENT.....	26
Figure 4 – Example of a metal-enclosed CLASS II ME EQUIPMENT	26
Figure 5 – Schematic flow chart for component qualification (see 4.8)	49
Figure 6 – Standard test finger (see 5.9.2.1).....	54
Figure 7 – Test hook (see 5.9.2.2)	55
Figure 8 – Test pin (see 8.4.2 d).....	78
Figure 9 – Application of test voltage to bridged PATIENT CONNECTIONS for DEFIBRILLATION-PROOF APPLIED PARTS (see 8.5.5.1)	85
Figure 10 – Application of test voltage to individual PATIENT CONNECTIONS for DEFIBRILLATION-PROOF APPLIED PARTS (see 8.5.5.1)	87
Figure 11 – Application of test voltage to test the delivered defibrillation energy	89
Figure 12 – Example of a measuring device and its frequency characteristics.....	94
Figure 13 – Measuring circuit for the EARTH LEAKAGE CURRENT of CLASS I ME EQUIPMENT, with or without APPLIED PART	97
Figure 14 – Measuring circuit for the TOUCH CURRENT.....	99
Figure 15 – Measuring circuit for the PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT from the PATIENT CONNECTION to earth.....	101
Figure 16 – Measuring circuit for the PATIENT LEAKAGE current via the PATIENT CONNECTION(s) of an F-TYPE APPLIED PART to earth caused by an external voltage on the PATIENT CONNECTION(s).....	103
Figure 17 – Measuring circuit for the PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT from PATIENT CONNECTION(s) to earth caused by an external voltage on a SIGNAL INPUT/OUTPUT PART	105

Figure 18 – Measuring circuit for the PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT from PATIENT CONNECTION(s) to earth caused by an external voltage on a metal ACCESSIBLE PART that is not PROTECTIVELY EARTHED	107
Figure 19 – Measuring circuit for the PATIENT AUXILIARY CURRENT	108
Figure 20 – Measuring circuit for the total PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT with all PATIENT CONNECTIONS of all APPLIED PARTS of the same type (TYPE B APPLIED PARTS, TYPE BF APPLIED PARTS or TYPE CF APPLIED PARTS) connected together.....	109
Figure 21 – Ball-pressure test apparatus	120
Figure 22 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 1	133
Figure 23 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 2	133
Figure 24 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 3	133
Figure 25 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 4	134
Figure 26 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 5	134
Figure 27 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 6	135
Figure 28 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 7	135
Figure 29 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 8	136
Figure 30 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 9	137
Figure 31 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 10	138
Figure 32 – Ratio between hydraulic test pressure and maximum permissible working pressure	161
Figure 33 – Human body test mass (see 9.8.3.3) Body upper-carriage module	167
Figure 34 – Spark ignition test apparatus.....	176
Figure 35 – Maximum allowable current I as a function of the maximum allowable voltage U measured in a purely resistive circuit in an OXYGEN RICH ENVIRONMENT	177
Figure 36 – Maximum allowable voltage U as a function of the capacitance C measured in a capacitive circuit used in an OXYGEN RICH ENVIRONMENT	177
Figure 37 – Maximum allowable current I as a function of the inductance L measured in an inductive circuit in an OXYGEN RICH ENVIRONMENT.....	178
Figure 38 – Baffle	181
Figure 39 – Area of the bottom of an ENCLOSURE as specified in 11.3 b) 1)	181
Figure A.1 – Identification of ME EQUIPMENT, APPLIED PARTS and PATIENT CONNECTIONS in an ECG monitor	224
Figure A.2 – Example of the insulation of an F-TYPE APPLIED PART with the insulation incorporated in the ME EQUIPMENT	224
Figure A.3 – Identification of ME EQUIPMENT, APPLIED PARTS and PATIENT CONNECTIONS in a PATIENT monitor with invasive pressure monitoring facility	225
Figure A.4 – Identification of ME EQUIPMENT, APPLIED PARTS and PATIENT CONNECTIONS in a multifunction PATIENT monitor with invasive pressure monitoring facilities.....	226
Figure A.5 – Identification of APPLIED PARTS and PATIENT CONNECTIONS in an X-ray me system.....	227
Figure A.6 – Identification of ME EQUIPMENT, APPLIED PARTS and PATIENT CONNECTIONS in a transcutaneous electronic nerve stimulator (TENS) intended to be worn on the patient’s belt and connected to electrodes applied to the PATIENT’S upper arm	228
Figure A.7 – Identification of ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEM, APPLIED PARTS and PATIENT CONNECTIONS in a personal computer with an ECG module	229
Figure A.8 – Pictorial representation of the relationship of HAZARD, sequence of events, HAZARDOUS SITUATION and HARM	232
Figure A.9 – Example of PATIENT ENVIRONMENT.....	237

Figure A.10 – Floating circuit	256
Figure A.11 – Interruption of a power-carrying conductor between ME EQUIPMENT parts in separate ENCLOSURES.....	257
Figure A.12 – Identification of MEANS OF PATIENT PROTECTION and MEANS OF OPERATOR PROTECTION.....	262
Figure A.13 – Allowable protective earth impedance where the fault current is limited	269
Figure A.14 – Probability of ventricular fibrillation	275
Figure A.15 – Example of a measuring circuit for the PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT from a PATIENT CONNECTION to earth for ME EQUIPMENT with multiple PATIENT CONNECTIONS	280
Figure A.16 – Instability test conditions.....	291
Figure A.17 – Example of determining TENSILE SAFETY FACTOR using Table 21	298
Figure A.18 – Example of determining design and test loads	299
Figure A.19 – Example of human body mass distribution	299
Figure A.20 – Relationship of the terms used to describe equipment, ACCESSORIES or equipment parts.....	234
Figure A.21 – Example of ME EQUIPMENT having two different functions on one common APPLIED PART circuit.....	266
Figure A.22 – Maximum allowable temperature for surfaces and APPLIED PARTS at higher altitudes	304
Figure A.23 – Example of the needed MEANS OF OPERATOR PROTECTION between the terminals of an INTERNAL ELECTRICAL POWER SOURCE and a subsequent protective device.....	321
Figure E.1 – TYPE B APPLIED PART	345
Figure E.2 – TYPE BF APPLIED PART	345
Figure E.3 – TYPE CF APPLIED PART	346
Figure E.4 – PATIENT AUXILIARY CURRENT	346
Figure E.5 – Loading of the PATIENT CONNECTIONS if specified by the MANUFACTURER	346
Figure F.1 – Measuring supply circuit with one side of the SUPPLY MAINS at approximately earth potential.....	347
Figure F.2 – Measuring supply circuit with SUPPLY MAINS approximately symmetrical to earth potential.....	347
Figure F.3 – Measuring supply circuit for polyphase me equipment specified for connection to a polyphase supply mains	348
Figure F.4 – Measuring supply circuit for single-phase me equipment specified for connection to a polyphase supply mains	348
Figure F.5 – Measuring supply circuit for me equipment having a separate power supply unit or intended to receive its power from another equipment in an me system	349
Figure G.1– Maximum allowable current IZR as a function of the maximum allowable voltage UZR measured in a purely resistive circuit with the most flammable mixture of ether vapour with air	356
Figure G.2 – Maximum allowable voltage UZC as a function of the capacitance Cmax measured in a capacitive circuit with the most flammable mixture of ether vapour with air.....	357
Figure G.3 – Maximum allowable current IZL as a function of the inductance Lmax measured in an inductive circuit with the most flammable mixture of ether vapour with air.....	357
Figure G.4 – Maximum allowable current IZR as a function of the maximum allowable voltage UZR measured in a purely resistive circuit with the most flammable mixture of ether vapour with oxygen.....	361

Figure G.5 – Maximum allowable voltage UZC as a function of the capacitance Cmax measured in a capacitive circuit with the most flammable mixture of ether vapour with oxygen.....	362
Figure G.6 – Maximum allowable current IZL as a function of the inductance Lmax measured in an inductive circuit with the most flammable mixture of ether vapour with oxygen.....	362
Figure G.7 – Test apparatus	364
Figure H.1 – Examples of PEMS/ PESS structures	366
Figure H.2 – A PEMS DEVELOPMENT LIFE-CYCLE model	367
Figure H.3 – PEMS documentation requirements from Clause 14 and ISO 14971:2000 Not used	371
Figure H.4 – Example of potential parameters required to be specified for NETWORK/DATA COUPLING an IT-NETWORK	377
Figure I.1 – Example of the construction of a MULTIPLE SOCKET-OUTLET (MSO).....	382
Figure I.2 – Examples of application of MULTIPLE SOCKET-OUTLETS (MSO)	383
Figure J.1 – Insulation example 1	384
Figure J.2 – Insulation example 2	384
Figure J.3 – Insulation example 3	384
Figure J.4 – Insulation example 4	385
Figure J.5 – Insulation example 5	385
Figure J.6 – Insulation example 6	386
Figure J.7 – Insulation example 7	386
Figure K.1 – ME EQUIPMENT with an ENCLOSURE made of insulating material.....	387
Figure K.2 – ME EQUIPMENT with an F-TYPE APPLIED PART.....	387
Figure K.3 – ME EQUIPMENT with an APPLIED PART and a SIGNAL INPUT/OUTPUT PART	388
Figure K.4 – Me equipment with a PATIENT CONNECTION of a TYPE B APPLIED PART that is not PROTECTIVELY EARTHED.....	388
Figure K.5 – Me equipment with a PATIENT CONNECTION of a TYPE BF APPLIED PART that is not PROTECTIVELY EARTHED	389
Table 1 – Units outside the SI units system that may be used on ME EQUIPMENT	65
Table 2 – Colours of indicator lights and their meaning for ME EQUIPMENT	68
Table 3 – * Allowable values of PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENTS and PATIENT AUXILIARY CURRENTS under NORMAL CONDITION and SINGLE FAULT CONDITION.....	95
Table 4 – * Allowable values of PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENTS under the special test conditions identified in 8.7.4.7	96
Table 5 – Legends of symbols for Figure 9 to Figure 11, Figure 13 to Figure 20, Figure A.15, Annexes E and F	110
Table 6 – Test voltages for solid insulation forming a MEANS OF PROTECTION	117
Table 7 – Test voltages for MEANS OF OPERATOR PROTECTION.....	118
Table 8 – Multiplication factors for AIR CLEARANCES for altitudes up to 5 000 m.....	121
Table 9 – Material group classification	121
Table 10 – MAINS TRANSIENT VOLTAGE.....	123
Table 11 – Minimum CREEPAGE DISTANCES and AIR CLEARANCES between parts of opposite polarity of the MAINS PART Not used.....	124
Table 12 – Minimum CREEPAGE DISTANCES and AIR CLEARANCES providing MEANS OF PATIENT PROTECTION	125

Table 13 – Minimum AIR CLEARANCES providing MEANS OF OPERATOR PROTECTION from the MAINS PART	126
Table 14 – Additional AIR CLEARANCES for insulation in MAINS PARTS with PEAK WORKING VOLTAGES exceeding the peak value of the NOMINAL MAINS VOLTAGE ^a	127
Table 15 – Minimum AIR CLEARANCES for MEANS OF OPERATOR PROTECTION in SECONDARY CIRCUITS.....	128
Table 16 – Minimum CREEPAGE DISTANCES providing MEANS OF OPERATOR PROTECTION ^a	129
Table 17 – NOMINAL cross-sectional area of conductors of a POWER SUPPLY CORD	142
Table 18 – Testing of cord anchorages	143
Table 19 – MECHANICAL HAZARDS covered by this clause	146
Table 20 – Acceptable gaps ^a	148
Table 21 – Determination of TENSILE SAFETY FACTOR	163
Table 22 – Allowable maximum temperatures of parts.....	171
Table 23 – Allowable maximum temperatures for ME EQUIPMENT parts that are likely to be touched.....	171
Table 24 – Allowable maximum temperatures for skin contact with ME EQUIPMENT APPLIED PARTS	172
Table 25 – Acceptable perforation of the bottom of an ENCLOSURE	180
Table 26 – * Temperature limits of motor windings.....	190
Table 27 – Maximum motor winding steady-state temperature	192
Table 28 – Mechanical strength test applicability	199
Table 29 – Drop height	200
Table 30 – Test torques for rotating controls.....	206
Table 31 – Maximum allowable temperatures of transformer windings under overload and short-circuit conditions at 25 °C (± 5 °C) ambient temperature	208
Table 32 – Test current for transformers	209
Table 33 – Test conditions for overtravel end stop test	151
Table A.1 – Values of AIR CLEARANCE and CREEPAGE DISTANCE derived from Table 7 of IEC 61010-1:2001 and Table 12	283
Table A.2 – CREEPAGE DISTANCES to avoid failure due to tracking from IEC 60664-1	284
Table A.3 – Instability test conditions.....	291
Table A.4 – Allowable time exposure for level of acceleration	294
Table A.5 – Guidance on surface temperatures for ME EQUIPMENT that creates low temperatures (cools) for therapeutic purposes or as part of its operation	303
Table C.1– Marking on the outside of ME EQUIPMENT, ME SYSTEMS or their parts	333
Table C.2 – Marking on the inside of ME EQUIPMENT, ME SYSTEMS or their parts	334
Table C.3 – Marking of controls and instruments.....	334
Table C.4 – ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS, general.....	334
Table C.5 – ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS, instructions for use.....	335
Table D.1 – General symbols.....	337
Table D.2 – Safety signs.....	342
Table D.3 – General codes	344
Table G.1 – Gas-tightness of cord inlets	359
Table H.1 – NETWORK/DATA COUPLING classification Not used	375
Table I.1 – Some examples of ME SYSTEMS for illustration	380

Table L.1– Mandrel diameter	391
Table L.2 – Oven temperature	391
Table M.1 – Reduction of the pollution degree of internal environment through the use of additional protection	393

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –**Part 1: General requirements for basic safety
and essential performance**

FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as “IEC Publication(s)”). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
- 2) The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC provides no marking procedure to indicate its approval and cannot be rendered responsible for any equipment declared to be in conformity with an IEC Publication.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This consolidated version of IEC 60601-1 consists of the third edition (2005) [documents 62A/505A/FDIS and 62A/512/RVD], its amendment 1 (2012) [documents 62A/805/FDIS and 62A/820/RVD] and its corrigenda of December 2006 and 2007. It bears the edition number 3.1.

In this Redline version, a vertical line in the margin shows where the technical content is modified by amendment 1. Additions are in red text, deletions are in strikethrough red text. A separate Final version with all changes accepted is available in this publication.

International Standard IEC 60601-1 has been prepared by subcommittee 62A: Common aspects of electrical equipment used in medical practice, of IEC technical committee 62: Electrical equipment in medical practice.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 1988, its Amendment 1 (1991) and Amendment 2 (1995), **the second edition of IEC 60601-1-1 published in 2000 and the first edition of IEC 60601-1-4 published in 1996 and its Amendment 1 (1999)**. This edition constitutes a technical revision. This edition has been significantly restructured. Requirements in the electrical section have been further aligned with those for information technology equipment covered by IEC 60950-1 and a requirement for including a RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS has been added. For an expanded description of this revision, see Annex A.3.

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

In this standard the following print types are used:

- Requirements and definitions: in roman type.
- *Test specifications: in italic type.*
- Informative material appearing outside of tables, such as notes, examples and references: in smaller type. Normative text of tables is also in a smaller type.
- TERMS USED THROUGHOUT THIS STANDARD THAT HAVE BEEN DEFINED IN CLAUSE 3 AND ALSO GIVEN IN THE INDEX: IN SMALL CAPITALS.

In referring to the structure of this standard, the term

- “clause” means one of the seventeen numbered divisions within the table of contents, inclusive of all subdivisions (e.g. Clause 7 includes subclauses 7.1, 7.2, etc.);
- “subclause” means a numbered subdivision of a clause (e.g. 7.1, 7.2 and 7.2.1 are all subclauses of Clause 7).

References to clauses within this standard are preceded by the term “Clause” followed by the clause number. References to subclauses within this standard are by number only.

In this standard, the conjunctive “or” is used as an “inclusive or” so a statement is true if any combination of the conditions is true.

The verbal forms used in this standard conform to usage described in Annex G of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2. For the purposes of this standard, the auxiliary verb:

- “shall” means that compliance with a requirement or a test is mandatory for compliance with this standard;
- “should” means that compliance with a requirement or a test is recommended but is not mandatory for compliance with this standard;
- “may” is used to describe a permissible way to achieve compliance with a requirement or test.

An asterisk (*) as the first character of a title or at the beginning of a paragraph or table title indicates that there is guidance or rationale related to that item in Annex A.

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendment 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.

NOTE The attention of National Committees is drawn to the fact that equipment manufacturers and testing organizations may need a transitional period following publication of a new, amended or revised IEC or ISO publication in which to make products in accordance with the new requirements and to equip themselves for conducting new or revised tests. It is the recommendation of the committee that the content of this publication be adopted for mandatory implementation nationally not earlier than 3 years from the date of publication.

The content of the corrigendum of November 2012 have been included in this copy.

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

INTRODUCTION

In 1976, IEC subcommittee 62A published the first edition of IEC/TR 60513, *Basic aspects of the safety philosophy for electrical equipment used in medical practice*. The first edition of IEC/TR 60513 provided the basis for developing:

- the first edition of IEC 60601-1 (the parent safety standard for MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT);
- the IEC 60601-1-xx series of collateral standards for MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT;
- the IEC 60601-2-xx series of particular standards for particular types of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT; and
- the IEC 60601-3-xx series of performance standards for particular types of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT.

Aware of the need and the urgency for a standard covering electrical equipment used in medical practice, the majority of National Committees voted in 1977 in favour of the first edition of IEC 60601-1, based on a draft that at the time represented a first approach to the problem. The extent of the scope, the complexity of the equipment concerned, and the specific nature of some of the protective measures and the corresponding tests for verifying them, required years of effort in order to prepare this first standard, which can now be said to have served as a universal reference since its publication.

However, the frequent application of the first edition revealed room for improvement. These improvements were all the more desirable in view of the considerable success that this standard has enjoyed since its publication.

The careful work of revision subsequently undertaken and continued over a number of years resulted in the publication of the second edition in 1988. This edition incorporated all the improvements that could be reasonably expected up to that time. Further developments remained under constant study. The second edition was amended in 1991 and then again in 1995.

The original IEC approach was to prepare separate BASIC SAFETY and performance standards for MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT. This was a natural extension of the historical approach taken at the national and international level with other electrical equipment standards (e.g. those for domestic equipment), where BASIC SAFETY is regulated through mandatory standards but other performance specifications are regulated by market pressure. In this context, it has been said that, “The ability of an electric kettle to boil water is not critical to its safe use!”

It is now recognized that this is not the situation with many items of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT, and RESPONSIBLE ORGANIZATIONS have to depend on standards to ensure ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE as well as BASIC SAFETY. Such areas include the accuracy with which the equipment controls the delivery of energy or therapeutic substances to the PATIENT, or processes and displays physiological data that will affect PATIENT management.

This recognition means that separating BASIC SAFETY and performance is somewhat inappropriate in addressing the HAZARDS that result from inadequate design of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT. Many particular standards in the IEC 60601-2-xx series address a range of ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE requirements that cannot be directly evaluated by the RESPONSIBLE ORGANIZATION without applying such standards. (However, the current IEC 60601 series includes fewer requirements for ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE than for BASIC SAFETY).

In anticipation of a third edition of IEC 60601-1, IEC subcommittee 62A prepared a second edition of IEC/TR 60513 [12]¹⁾ in 1994. It was intended that the second edition of IEC/TR 60513 would provide guidance for developing this edition of IEC 60601-1, and for the further development of the IEC 60601-1-xx and IEC 60601-2-xx series.

In order to achieve consistency in international standards, address present expectations in the health care community and align with developments in IEC 60601-2-xx, the second edition of IEC/TR 60513 includes two major new principles:

- the first change is that the concept of “SAFETY” has been broadened from the BASIC SAFETY considerations in the first and second editions of IEC 60601-1 to include ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE matters, (e.g. the accuracy of physiological monitoring equipment). Application of this principle leads to the change of the title of this publication from “Medical electrical equipment, Part 1: General requirements for safety” in the second edition, to “Medical electrical equipment, Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance”;
- the second change is that, in specifying minimum safety requirements, provision is made for assessing the adequacy of the design PROCESS when this is the only practical method of assessing the safety of certain technologies such as programmable electronic systems. Application of this principle is one of the factors leading to introduction of a general requirement to carry out a RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS. In parallel with the development of the third edition of IEC 60601-1, a joint project with ISO/TC 210 resulted in the publication of a general standard for RISK MANAGEMENT of medical devices. Compliance with this edition of IEC 60601-1 requires that the MANUFACTURER have in place a RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS complying with **parts of** ISO 14971 (see 4.2).

This standard contains requirements concerning BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE that are generally applicable to MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT. For certain types of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT, these requirements are either supplemented or modified by the special requirements of a collateral or particular standard. Where particular standards exist, this standard should not be used alone.

Amendment 1 to this standard is intended to address:

- **issues identified by National Committees and other interested parties since the publication of IEC 60601-1:2005;**
- **the way in which RISK MANAGEMENT has been introduced into IEC 60601-1:2005; and**
- **the way the concept of ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE is used in IEC 60601-1:2005.**

1) Figures in square brackets refer to the Bibliography.

INTRODUCTION TO THE AMENDMENT

The third edition of IEC 60601-1 was published in 2005. At the time of publication, there were 94 National Committee comments on the 2nd CDV and the FDIS that were deferred to a future amendment/revision. Each of their deferred comments was captured in an Issue Sheet by the SC 62A secretariat. By the time of the Auckland meeting in April 2008, the Subcommittees had developed two Interpretation Sheets and the SC 62A secretariat has received an additional 15 issues from National Committees and other interested parties.

At the Auckland meeting, IEC/TC 62 approved a project to develop the 1st amendment to IEC 60601-1:2005 based on the issues outstanding at the time. The TC approved developing the 1st amendment with a view to addressing outstanding issues, including but not limited to:

- those listed in 62A/593/DC and 62A/602/INF;
- the way in which risk management has been introduced into IEC 60601-1:2005; and
- the way the concept of essential performance is used in IEC 60601-1:2005.

Since the Auckland meeting, the secretariat has received 73 additional issues from National Committees or other interested parties for a total of 182 Issues Sheets. This amendment is intended to address those issues.

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –

Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance

1 Scope, object and related standards

1.1 * Scope

This International Standard applies to the BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS, hereafter referred to as ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS.

If a clause or subclause is specifically intended to be applicable to ME EQUIPMENT only, or to ME SYSTEMS only, the title and content of that clause or subclause will say so. If that is not the case, the clause or subclause applies both to ME EQUIPMENT and to ME SYSTEMS, as relevant.

HAZARDS inherent in the intended physiological function of ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEMS within the scope of this standard are not covered by specific requirements in this standard except in 7.2.13 and 8.4.1.

NOTE 1 See also 4.2.

~~This standard can also be applied to equipment used for compensation or alleviation of disease, injury or disability.~~

~~In vitro diagnostic equipment that does not fall within the definition of ME EQUIPMENT is covered by the IEC 61010 series²⁾. This standard does not apply to the implantable parts of active implantable medical devices covered by ISO 14708-1³⁾.~~

The IEC 60601 series does not apply to:

- in vitro diagnostic equipment that does not fall within the definition of ME EQUIPMENT, which is covered by the IEC 61010 series [61];
- implantable parts of active implantable medical devices covered by the ISO 14708 series [69]; or
- medical gas pipeline systems covered by ISO 7396-1 [68].

NOTE 2 ISO 7396-1 applies the requirement of IEC 60601-1-8 to certain monitoring and ALARM SIGNALS.

1.2 Object

The object of this standard is to specify general requirements and to serve as the basis for particular standards.

1.3 * Collateral standards

In the IEC 60601 series, collateral standards specify general requirements for BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE applicable to:

- a subgroup of ME EQUIPMENT (e.g. radiological equipment);
- a specific characteristic of all ME EQUIPMENT not fully addressed in this standard.

Applicable collateral standards become normative at the date of their publication and shall apply together with this standard.

²⁾ ~~IEC 61010 (all parts), Safety requirements for electrical equipment for measurement, control, and laboratory use~~

³⁾ ~~ISO 14708-1, Implants for surgery – Active implantable medical devices – Part 1: General requirements for safety, marking and for information to be provided by the manufacturer~~

NOTE 1 When evaluating compliance with IEC 60601-1, it is permissible to independently assess compliance with the collateral standards.

NOTE 2 When declaring compliance with IEC 60601-1, the declarer should specifically list the collateral standards that have been applied. This allows the reader of the declaration to understand which collateral standards were part of the evaluation.

NOTE 3 Collateral standards in the IEC 60601 family are numbered IEC 60601-1-xx. Members of The IEC maintains a ~~register~~ catalogue of valid International Standards. Users of this standard should consult this ~~register~~ catalogue at "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" to determine which collateral standards have been published.

If a collateral standard applies to ME EQUIPMENT for which a particular standard exists, then the particular standard takes priority over the collateral standard.

1.4 * Particular standards

In the IEC 60601 series, particular standards may modify, replace or delete requirements contained in this standard as appropriate for the particular ME EQUIPMENT under consideration, and may add other BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE requirements.

NOTE ~~Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of valid International Standards. Users of this standard should consult these registers to determine which particular standards have been published.~~ Particular standards in the IEC 60601 family that are developed by IEC committees are numbered IEC 60601-2-xx. In addition, particular standards developed by joint projects between ISO and IEC can be numbered either IEC 80601-2-xx or ISO 80601-2-xx depending on which committee administered the project. IEC and ISO maintain catalogues of valid International Standards. Users of this standard should consult these catalogues at "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" and "<http://www.iso.org/iso/store.htm>" to determine which particular standards have been published.

A requirement of a particular standard takes priority over this standard.

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.

ATTENTION: Additional collateral standards of the IEC 60601 series, which are issued subsequent to publication of this standard, become normative at the date of their publication and shall be considered as being included among the normative references below. See 1.3.

NOTE Informative references are listed in the Bibliography on page 396.

IEC 60065:2001, *Audio, video and similar electronic apparatus – Safety requirements* ⁴⁾
 Amendment 1:2005
 Amendment 2:2010

IEC 60068-2-2:1974 2007, *Environmental testing – Part 2-2: Tests – Test B: Dry heat*
 Amendment 1 (1993)
 Amendment 2 (1994)

IEC 60079-0, *Electrical apparatus for explosive gas atmospheres – Part 0: General requirements*

IEC 60079-2, *Electrical apparatus for explosive gas atmospheres – Part 2: Pressurized enclosures “p”*

IEC 60079-5, *Electrical apparatus for explosive gas atmospheres – Part 5: Powder filling “q”*

IEC 60079-6, *Electrical apparatus for explosive gas atmospheres – Part 6: Oil-immersion “o”*

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

⁴⁾ There exists a consolidated edition 7.2 including IEC 60065:2001 and its Amendment 1 (2005) and Amendment 2 (2010).

IEC 60085, *Electrical insulation – Thermal classification*

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

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

IEC 60127-1, *Miniature fuses – Part 1: Definitions for miniature fuses and general requirements for miniature fuse-links*

IEC 60227-1:~~1993~~ 2007, *Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V – Part 1: General requirements*⁵⁾

~~Amendment 1 (1995)~~

~~Amendment 2 (1998)~~

IEC 60245-1:2003, *Rubber insulated cables – Rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V – Part 1: General requirements*⁶⁾

~~Amendment 1:2007~~

IEC 60252-1, *AC motor capacitors – Part 1: General – Performance, testing and rating – Safety requirements – Guide for installation and operation*

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

IEC 60335-1:~~2004~~ 2010, *Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 60364-4-41, *Electrical installations of buildings – Part 4-41: Protection for safety – Protection against electric shock*

IEC 60384-14:2005, *Fixed capacitors for use in electronic equipment – Part 14: Sectional specification: Fixed capacitors for electromagnetic interference suppression and connection to the supply mains*

~~IEC 60417-DB:2002, Graphical symbols for use on equipment~~⁷⁾

IEC 60417, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment*. Available from: <<http://www.graphical-symbols.info/equipment>>

IEC 60445, *Basic and safety principles for man-machine interface, marking and identification – Identification of equipment terminals and of terminations of certain designated conductors, including general rules for an alphanumeric system*

IEC 60447, *Basic and safety principles for man-machine interface, marking and identification – Actuating principles*

IEC 60529:1989, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)*⁸⁾
Amendment 1 (1999)

IEC 60601-1-2, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1-2: General requirements for safety – Collateral standard: Electromagnetic compatibility – Requirements and tests*

⁵⁾ ~~There exists a consolidated edition 2.2 including IEC 60227-1:1993 and its Amendment 1 (1995) and Amendment 2 (1998).~~

⁶⁾ There exists a consolidated edition 4.1 including IEC 60245-1:2003 and its Amendment 1 (2007).

⁷⁾ ~~"DB" refers to the joint ISO-IEC on-line database.~~

⁸⁾ There exists a consolidated version 2.1, including IEC 60529:1989 and its Amendment 1 (1999).

IEC 60601-1-3, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1-3: General requirements for **basic safety and essential performance***. Collateral standard: ~~General requirements for Radiation protection in diagnostic X-ray equipment~~

IEC 60601-1-6, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1-6: General requirements for safety – Collateral standard: Usability*

IEC 60601-1-8, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1-8: General requirements for safety – Collateral standard: General requirements, tests and guidance for alarm systems in medical electrical equipment and medical electrical systems*

IEC 60664-1:~~1992~~ 2007, *Insulation coordination for equipment within low-voltage systems – Part 1: Principles, requirements and tests* ⁹⁾
~~Amendment 1 (2000)~~
~~Amendment 2 (2002)~~

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

IEC 60730-1:~~1999~~ 2010, *Automatic electrical controls for household and similar use – Part 1: General requirements* ¹⁰⁾
~~Amendment 1 (2003)~~

IEC 60825-1:~~1993~~ 2007, *Safety of laser products – Part 1: Equipment classification **and requirements and user's guide*** ¹¹⁾
~~Amendment 1 (1997)~~
~~Amendment 2 (2001)~~

IEC 60851-3:~~1996~~ 2009, *Winding wires – Test methods – Part 3: Mechanical properties* ¹²⁾
~~Amendment 1 (1997)~~
~~Amendment 2 (2003)~~

IEC 60851-5:~~1996~~ 2008, *Winding wires – Test methods – Part 5: Electrical properties* ¹³⁾
~~Amendment 1 (1997)~~
~~Amendment 2 (2004)~~

IEC 60851-6:1996, *Winding wires – Test methods – Part 6: Thermal properties*
 Amendment 1 (1997)

~~IEC 60878:2003, *Graphical symbols for electrical equipment in medical practice*~~

IEC 60884-1, *Plugs and socket-outlets for household and similar purposes - Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 60950-1:2001, *Information technology equipment – Safety – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 61058-1:2000, *Switches for appliances – Part 1: General requirements* ¹⁴⁾
 Amendment 1:2001
~~Amendment 2:2007~~

~~9) There exists a consolidated edition 1.2 including IEC 60664-1:1992 and its Amendment 1 (2000) and Amendment 2 (2002).~~

~~10) There exists a consolidated edition 3.1, including IEC 60730-1:1999 and its Amendment 1 (2003)~~

~~11) There exists a consolidated edition 1.2, including IEC 60825-1:1993 and its Amendment 1 (1997) and Amendment 2 (2001).~~

~~12) There exists a consolidated edition 2.1, including IEC 60851-3:1996 and its Amendment 1 (1997).~~

~~13) There exists a consolidated edition 3.2, including IEC 60851-5:1996 and its Amendment 1 (1997) and Amendment 2 (2004).~~

14) There exists a consolidated edition ~~3.4~~ 3.2, including IEC 61058-1:2000 and its Amendment 1 (2001) and Amendment 2 (2007)

~~IEC 61558-1:1997, Safety of power transformers, power supply units and similar – Part 1: General requirements and tests ¹⁵⁾
Amendment 1 (1998)~~

IEC 61558-2-1, Safety transformers, power supply units and similar – Part 2: Particular requirements for separating transformers for general use

IEC 61672-1, Electroacoustics – Sound level meters – Part 1: Specifications

IEC 61672-2, Electroacoustics – Sound level meters – Part 2: Pattern evaluation tests

IEC 61965, Mechanical safety of cathode ray tubes

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

IEC 62304:2006, Medical device software – Software lifecycle processes

~~ISO 31 (all parts), Quantities and units~~

ISO 780, Packaging – Pictorial marking for handling of goods

~~ISO 1000, SI units and recommendations for the use of their multiples and of certain other units~~

ISO 1853, Conducting and dissipative rubbers, vulcanized or thermoplastic – Measurement of resistivity

ISO 2878, Rubber, vulcanized – Antistatic and conductive products – Determination of electrical resistance

ISO 2882 ¹⁶⁾, Rubber, vulcanized – Antistatic and conductive products for hospital use – Electrical resistance limits

ISO 3746, Acoustics – Determination of sound power levels of noise sources using sound pressure – Survey method using an enveloping measurement surface over a reflecting plane

ISO 3864-1:2002, Graphical symbols – Safety colours and safety signs – Part 1: Design principles for safety signs in workplaces and public areas

ISO 5349-1, Mechanical vibration – Measurement and evaluation of human exposure to hand-transmitted vibration – Part 1: General requirements

ISO 7000-DB:2004 ¹⁷⁾, Graphical symbols for use on equipment – Collection of symbols

ISO 7010:2003 2011, Graphical symbols – Safety colours and safety signs – Registered safety signs ~~used in workplaces and public areas~~

ISO 9614-1, Acoustics – Determination of sound power levels of noise sources using sound intensity – Measurement at discrete points

ISO 10993 (all parts), Biological evaluation of medical devices

~~ISO 11134, Sterilization of health care products – Requirements for validation and routine control – Industrial moist heat sterilization~~

~~ISO 11135, Medical devices – Validation and routine control of ethylene oxide sterilization~~

¹⁵⁾ There exists a consolidated edition 1.1, including IEC 61558-1:1997 and its Amendment 1 (1998).

¹⁶⁾ ISO 2882 was withdrawn on 1 February 2005 and no replacement standard has been identified.

¹⁷⁾ "DB" refers to the joint ISO-IEC on-line database.

ISO 11135-1:2007, *Sterilization of health care products – Ethylene oxide – Part 1: Requirements for development, validation and routine control of a sterilization process for medical devices*

~~ISO 11137, *Sterilization of health care products – Requirements for validation and routine control – Radiation sterilization*~~

ISO 11137-1:2006, *Sterilization of health care products – Radiation – Part 1: Requirements for development, validation and routine control of a sterilization process for medical devices*

~~ISO 13852, *Safety of machinery – Safety distances to prevent danger zones being reached by the upper limbs*~~

ISO 13857:2008, *Safety of machinery – Safety distances to prevent hazard zones being reached by the upper and lower limbs*

ISO 14971:2000 2007, *Medical devices – Application of risk management to medical devices*

~~ISO 15223, *Medical devices – Symbols to be used with medical device labels, labelling and information to be supplied*~~

ISO 15223-1:2012, *Medical devices – Symbols to be used with medical device labels, labelling and information to be supplied – Part 1: General requirements*

ISO 17665-1:2006, *Sterilization of health care products – Moist heat – Part 1: Requirements for the development, validation and routine control of a sterilization process for medical devices*

ISO 23529, *Rubber – General procedures for preparing and conditioning test pieces for physical test methods*

ISO 80000-1:2009, *Quantities and units – Part 1: General*

FINAL VERSION



**Medical electrical equipment –
Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance**

Publication IEC 60601-1 (Third edition – 2005) I-SH 01

**MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –
Part 1: General requirements for basic safety
and essential performance**

INTERPRETATION SHEET 1

This interpretation sheet has been prepared by SC 62A: Common aspects of electrical equipment used in medical practice

The text of this interpretation sheet is based on the following documents:

ISH	Report on voting
62A/599/ISH	62A/613/RVD

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

Subclause 1.1

This subclause is clarified by the following:

IEC 60601-1 does not apply to medical gas pipeline systems covered by ISO 7396-1, *Medical gas pipeline systems — Part 1: Pipeline systems for compressed medical gases and vacuum*.

NOTE Subclause 6.3 of ISO 7396-1 applies the requirement of IEC 60601-1-8 to certain monitoring and alarm signals.

This clarification will remain valid until a new version of IEC 60601-1 is published.

Publication IEC 60601-1 (Third edition – 2005) I-SH 02

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –

Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance

INTERPRETATION SHEET 2

This interpretation sheet has been prepared by subcommittee 62A: Common aspects of electrical equipment used in medical practice, of IEC technical committee 62: Electrical equipment in medical practice.

The text of this interpretation sheet is based on the following documents:

ISH	Report on voting
62A/634/ISH	62A/640/RVD

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

Subclause 11.3

This subclause is clarified by the following:

As stated in the rationale for this subclause, fire ENCLOSURES are intended to be used only where there is a significant likelihood of fire due to the presence of a source of ignition (as described in the subclause) *and* a *significant* source of fuel. Most materials used in the construction of ME EQUIPMENT are not considered to be such a source of fuel unless they are in the presence of an OXYGEN RICH ENVIRONMENT. MANUFACTURERS should determine, through analyses documented in the RISK MANAGEMENT FILE, whether the ME EQUIPMENT contains combustible materials (fuel) in sufficient quantities to support combustion in conjunction with ignition sources (capable of releasing greater than 900 J).

Subclause 13.1.2

This subclause is clarified by the following:

As stated in subclause 4.7, it is the MANUFACTURER'S RISK ANALYSIS that determines which components are subject to failure testing based on the associated RISK. Where the associated RISK of fire exceeds the MANUFACTURER'S criteria for RISK acceptability, the MANUFACTURER'S simulation analysis (such as FMEAs) should be accepted in lieu of physical testing. As also stated in 4.7, component reliability and ratings are to be considered in such failure simulation analyses. Common electronic components that have a history of use without causing equipment fires should not be considered a likely source of ignition.

Where the subclause identifies "emission of flames, molten metal, poisonous or ignitable substance in hazardous quantities;" as a hazardous situation, this refers to emissions from *the ENCLOSURE* not from components themselves. Where it identifies "exceeding the allowable values for 'other components and materials' identified in Table 22 times 1,5 minus 12,5 °C", this applies only where doing so would result in an unacceptable RISK (as identified in the MANUFACTURER'S RISK ANALYSIS according to 4.7). Typically, this would be cases where

ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE would not be maintained or where greater than 900 J of energy would be released in the presence of flammable materials that could sustain combustion.

The first exemption to fault analysis or testing identified in subclause 13.1.2 (“The construction or the supply circuit limits the power dissipation in SINGLE FAULT CONDITION to less than 15 W or the energy dissipation to less than 900 J.”) is intended to apply where the component design itself (“The construction”) or fusing (or other current limiting devices) in the supply circuit (“or the supply circuit”) assure the energy released during failures will not exceed the limits. For most common signal level components rated for operation below 5 Watts, the energy released by short-circuiting of outputs will not exceed the 900 J limit.

This clarification will remain valid until a new version of IEC 60601-1 is published.

**MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –
Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance**

INTERPRETATION SHEET 3

This interpretation sheet has been prepared by subcommittee 62A: Common aspects of electrical equipment used in medical practice, of IEC technical committee 62: Electrical equipment in medical practice.

The text of this interpretation sheet is based on the following documents:

ISH	Report on voting
62A/858/ISH	62A/875/RVD

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

Subclause 13.1.2 fourth dash (Emissions, deformation of ENCLOSURE or exceeding maximum temperature)


This subclause states the following:

The following HAZARDOUS SITUATIONS shall not occur:

-
- temperatures of ME EQUIPMENT parts that are not APPLIED PARTS but are likely to be touched, exceeding the allowable values in Table 23 when measured and adjusted as described in 11.1.3;

This is clarified by the following:

The above requirement is regarded as fulfilled in accordance with Subclause 4.5 for temperatures at the surfaces of the enclosure, if the following conditions are fulfilled:

- The maximum allowed temperature on OPERATOR accessible surfaces in SINGLE FAULT CONDITION is 105 °C; and
- the instructions for use contain a warning that, under some SINGLE FAULT CONDITIONS, the temperature of: (*indicate the surface of concern*) could get hot and there is a possible RISK of a burn if touched, and
- if the RISK ANALYSIS demonstrates a need for a warning symbol on the ENCLOSURE, safety sign ISO 7010-W018 () shall be used on or adjacent to the hot spot on the ENCLOSURE; and
- the RISK ASSESSMENT demonstrates that the temperature attained in the SINGLE FAULT CONDITION is acceptable, and
- the RISK ASSESSMENT demonstrates that applying the alternative RISK CONTROL measures in this Interpretation Sheet results in a RESIDUAL RISK that is comparable to the RESIDUAL RISK resulting from applying the requirement of the standard.

NOTE 1 This Interpretation Sheet is intended to be used with both Edition 3.0 and Edition 3.1 of IEC 60601-1.

NOTE 2 An example of an analysis that demonstrates an adequately low probability of occurrence of HARM is shown below.

Example RISK ASSESSMENT:

The sum failure rate for parts that could increase the surface temperature of parts of the enclosure of XYZ device touchable only by the OPERATOR to values above those of Table 23 calculates to be 60 FIT (1 FIT = 1E-9/h) according to the standard MIL-HDBK-217F where FIT stands for "failure in time". In case of such failures, the device would emit an odour and would no longer function properly. It is estimated, that only in one of 3 cases the device would not be switched off immediately and the hot surface would be resulting in a burn.

The resulting overall probability of such HARM where adequate warning is provided in the instructions for use in combination with warning sign ISO 7010 W018 would be: probability = $1/3 * 60 \text{ FIT} = 2 \text{ E-8/h} \approx 0,0002$ per year.

In this example, the WXW Company's RISK acceptance criteria require that a HARM of that severity must have a probability of less than 0,0003 per year for the associated RISK to be considered acceptable. Based on that RISK acceptance criterion, the RISK associated with overtemperature of the ENCLOSURE caused by single faults in the circuitry is acceptable.

CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	11
INTRODUCTION.....	14
INTRODUCTION TO THE AMENDMENT	16
1 Scope, object and related standards.....	17
1.1 * Scope	17
1.2 Object	17
1.3 * Collateral standards.....	17
1.4 * Particular standards.....	18
2 * Normative references.....	18
3 * Terminology and definitions	21
4 General requirements.....	40
4.1 * Conditions for application to ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEMS.....	40
4.2 * RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS for ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEMS	41
4.3 * ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE	43
4.4 * EXPECTED SERVICE LIFE	44
4.5 * Alternative RISK CONTROL measures or test methods for ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEMS	44
4.6 * ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEM parts that contact the PATIENT	44
4.7 * SINGLE FAULT CONDITION for ME EQUIPMENT	44
4.8 * Components of ME EQUIPMENT	45
4.9 * Use of COMPONENTS WITH HIGH-INTEGRITY CHARACTERISTICS in ME EQUIPMENT.....	46
4.10 * Power supply	46
4.11 Power input.....	47
5 * General requirements for testing ME EQUIPMENT	48
5.1 * TYPE TESTS.....	48
5.2 * Number of samples.....	48
5.3 Ambient temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure.....	48
5.4 Other conditions	48
5.5 Supply voltages, type of current, nature of supply, frequency	48
5.6 Repairs and modifications	49
5.7 * Humidity preconditioning treatment.....	49
5.8 Sequence of tests	50
5.9 * Determination of APPLIED PARTS and ACCESSIBLE PARTS	50
6 * Classification of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS.....	53
6.1 General.....	53
6.2 * Protection against electric shock.....	53
6.3 * Protection against harmful ingress of water or particulate matter	53
6.4 Method(s) of sterilization	53
6.5 Suitability for use in an OXYGEN RICH ENVIRONMENT	53
6.6 * Mode of operation.....	53
7 ME EQUIPMENT identification, marking and documents.....	54
7.1 General.....	54
7.2 Marking on the outside of ME EQUIPMENT or ME EQUIPMENT parts (see also Table C.1).....	55

7.3	Marking on the inside of ME EQUIPMENT or ME EQUIPMENT parts (see also Table C.2)	59
7.4	Marking of controls and instruments (see also Table C.3).....	61
7.5	Safety signs	62
7.6	Symbols	63
7.7	Colours of the insulation of conductors	63
7.8	* Indicator lights and controls	64
7.9	ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS	64
8	* Protection against electrical HAZARDS from ME EQUIPMENT	70
8.1	Fundamental rule of protection against electric shock.....	70
8.2	Requirements related to power sources.....	71
8.3	Classification of APPLIED PARTS	71
8.4	Limitation of voltage, current or energy.....	72
8.5	Separation of parts.....	74
8.6	* Protective earthing, functional earthing and potential equalization of ME EQUIPMENT	83
8.7	LEAKAGE CURRENTS and PATIENT AUXILIARY CURRENTS	86
8.8	Insulation	102
8.9	* CREEPAGE DISTANCES and AIR CLEARANCES.....	108
8.10	Components and wiring	122
8.11	MAINS PARTS, components and layout	124
9	* Protection against MECHANICAL HAZARDS of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS	130
9.1	MECHANICAL HAZARDS of ME EQUIPMENT	130
9.2	* MECHANICAL HAZARDS associated with moving parts.....	130
9.3	* MECHANICAL HAZARD associated with surfaces, corners and edges.....	136
9.4	* Instability HAZARDS	136
9.5	* Expelled parts HAZARD	141
9.6	Acoustic energy (including infra- and ultrasound) and vibration	141
9.7	* Pressure vessels and parts subject to pneumatic and hydraulic pressure.....	142
9.8	* MECHANICAL HAZARDS associated with support systems	145
10	* Protection against unwanted and excessive radiation HAZARDS	151
10.1	X-Radiation	151
10.2	Alpha, beta, gamma, neutron and other particle radiation	152
10.3	Microwave radiation	152
10.4	* Lasers.....	153
10.5	Other visible electromagnetic radiation	153
10.6	Infrared radiation.....	153
10.7	Ultraviolet radiation	153
11	Protection against excessive temperatures and other HAZARDS	153
11.1	* Excessive temperatures in ME EQUIPMENT.....	153
11.2	* Fire prevention.....	157
11.3	* Constructional requirements for fire ENCLOSURES of ME EQUIPMENT	163
11.4	* ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS intended for use with flammable anaesthetics	165
11.5	* ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS intended for use in conjunction with flammable agents	165
11.6	Overflow, spillage, leakage, ingress of water or particulate matter, cleaning, disinfection, sterilization and compatibility with substances used with the ME EQUIPMENT	165

11.7	Biocompatibility of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS	167
11.8	* Interruption of the power supply / SUPPLY MAINS to ME EQUIPMENT	167
12	* Accuracy of controls and instruments and protection against hazardous outputs	167
12.1	Accuracy of controls and instruments	167
12.2	USABILITY of ME EQUIPMENT	167
12.3	ALARM SYSTEMS	167
12.4	Protection against hazardous output.....	168
13	* HAZARDOUS SITUATIONS and fault conditions for ME EQUIPMENT	169
13.1	Specific HAZARDOUS SITUATIONS	169
13.2	SINGLE FAULT CONDITIONS	170
14	* PROGRAMMABLE ELECTRICAL MEDICAL SYSTEMS (PEMS)	175
14.1	* General.....	175
14.2	* Documentation.....	176
14.3	* RISK MANAGEMENT plan	176
14.4	* PEMS DEVELOPMENT LIFE-CYCLE	176
14.5	* Problem resolution.....	177
14.6	RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS.....	177
14.7	* Requirement specification.....	177
14.8	* Architecture	178
14.9	* Design and implementation.....	178
14.10	* VERIFICATION	178
14.11	* PEMS VALIDATION	179
14.12	* Modification	179
14.13	* PEMS intended to be incorporated into an IT-NETWORK	179
15	Construction of ME EQUIPMENT	180
15.1	* Arrangements of controls and indicators of ME EQUIPMENT.....	180
15.2	* Serviceability	180
15.3	Mechanical strength	180
15.4	ME EQUIPMENT components and general assembly.....	184
15.5	* MAINS SUPPLY TRANSFORMERS of ME EQUIPMENT and transformers providing separation in accordance with 8.5	189
16	* ME SYSTEMS	193
16.1	* General requirements for the ME SYSTEMS	193
16.2	* ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS of an ME SYSTEM	194
16.3	* Power supply	195
16.4	ENCLOSURES	195
16.5	* SEPARATION DEVICES.....	195
16.6	* LEAKAGE CURRENTS.....	195
16.7	* Protection against MECHANICAL HAZARDS.....	196
16.8	Interruption of the power supply to parts of an ME SYSTEM	197
16.9	ME SYSTEM connections and wiring.....	197
17	* Electromagnetic compatibility of ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS	199
Annex A (informative) General guidance and rationale.....		200
Annex B (informative) Sequence of testing.....		309
Annex C (informative) Guide to marking and labelling requirements for ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS.....		313
Annex D (informative) Symbols on marking (see Clause 7)		316

Annex E (informative) Examples of the connection of the measuring device (MD) for measurement of the PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT and PATIENT AUXILIARY CURRENT (see 8.7)	325
Annex F (informative) Suitable measuring supply circuits.....	328
Annex G (normative) Protection against HAZARDS of ignition of flammable anaesthetic mixtures.....	331
Annex H (informative) PEMS structure, PEMS DEVELOPMENT LIFE-CYCLE and documentation	346
Annex I (informative) ME SYSTEMS aspects.....	354
Annex J (informative) Survey of insulation paths	360
Annex K (informative) Simplified PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT diagrams	363
Annex L (normative) Insulated winding wires for use without interleaved insulation.....	366
Annex M (normative) Reduction of pollution degrees	369
Bibliography.....	370
INDEX OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	374
INDEX	376
Figure 1 – Detachable mains connection.....	22
Figure 2 – Example of the defined terminals and conductors.....	23
Figure 3 – Example of a CLASS I ME EQUIPMENT.....	24
Figure 4 – Example of a metal-enclosed CLASS II ME EQUIPMENT	24
Figure 5 – Schematic flow chart for component qualification (see 4.8)	46
Figure 6 – Standard test finger (see 5.9.2.1).....	51
Figure 7 – Test hook (see 5.9.2.2)	52
Figure 8 – Test pin (see 8.4.2 d).....	73
Figure 9 – Application of test voltage to bridged PATIENT CONNECTIONS for DEFIBRILLATION-PROOF APPLIED PARTS (see 8.5.5.1)	80
Figure 10 – Application of test voltage to individual PATIENT CONNECTIONS for DEFIBRILLATION-PROOF APPLIED PARTS (see 8.5.5.1)	81
Figure 11 – Application of test voltage to test the delivered defibrillation energy	83
Figure 12 – Example of a measuring device and its frequency characteristics.....	87
Figure 13 – Measuring circuit for EARTH LEAKAGE CURRENT of CLASS I ME EQUIPMENT, with or without APPLIED PART	90
Figure 14 – Measuring circuit for TOUCH CURRENT.....	91
Figure 15 – Measuring circuit for PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT from the PATIENT CONNECTION to earth.....	92
Figure 16 – Measuring circuit for PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT via the PATIENT CONNECTION(S) of an F-TYPE APPLIED PART to earth caused by an external voltage on the PATIENT CONNECTION(S)	93
Figure 17 – Measuring circuit for PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT from PATIENT CONNECTION(S) to earth caused by an external voltage on a SIGNAL INPUT/OUTPUT PART	94
Figure 18 – Measuring circuit for PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT from PATIENT CONNECTION(S) to earth caused by an external voltage on a metal ACCESSIBLE PART that is not PROTECTIVELY EARTHED	95

Figure 19 – Measuring circuit for PATIENT AUXILIARY CURRENT	96
Figure 20 – Measuring circuit for total PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT with all PATIENT CONNECTIONS of all APPLIED PARTS of the same type (TYPE B APPLIED PARTS, TYPE BF APPLIED PARTS or TYPE CF APPLIED PARTS) connected together.....	97
Figure 21 – Ball-pressure test apparatus	108
Figure 22 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 1	120
Figure 23 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 2	120
Figure 24 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 3	120
Figure 25 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 4	120
Figure 26 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 5	121
Figure 27 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 6	121
Figure 28 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 7	121
Figure 29 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 8	121
Figure 30 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 9	122
Figure 31 – CREEPAGE DISTANCE and AIR CLEARANCE – Example 10	122
Figure 32 – Ratio between HYDRAULIC TEST PRESSURE and MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE WORKING PRESSURE	144
Figure 33 – Body upper-carriage module	150
Figure 34 – Spark ignition test apparatus.....	159
Figure 35 – Maximum allowable current I as a function of the maximum allowable voltage U measured in a purely resistive circuit in an OXYGEN RICH ENVIRONMENT	160
Figure 36 – Maximum allowable voltage U as a function of the capacitance C measured in a capacitive circuit used in an OXYGEN RICH ENVIRONMENT	160
Figure 37 – Maximum allowable current I as a function of the inductance L measured in an inductive circuit in an OXYGEN RICH ENVIRONMENT	161
Figure 38 – Baffle	164
Figure 39 – Area of the bottom of an ENCLOSURE as specified in 11.3 b) 1)	164
Figure A.1 – Identification of ME EQUIPMENT, APPLIED PARTS and PATIENT CONNECTIONS in an ECG monitor	206
Figure A.2 – Example of the insulation of an F-TYPE APPLIED PART with the insulation incorporated in the ME EQUIPMENT	206
Figure A.3 – Identification of ME EQUIPMENT, APPLIED PARTS and PATIENT CONNECTIONS in a PATIENT monitor with invasive pressure monitoring facility	207
Figure A.4 – Identification of ME EQUIPMENT, APPLIED PARTS and PATIENT CONNECTIONS in a multifunction PATIENT monitor with invasive pressure monitoring facilities.....	208
Figure A.5 – Identification of APPLIED PARTS and PATIENT CONNECTIONS in an X-ray ME SYSTEM	209
Figure A.6 – Identification of ME EQUIPMENT, APPLIED PARTS and PATIENT CONNECTIONS in a transcutaneous electronic nerve stimulator (TENS) intended to be worn on the PATIENT'S belt and connected to electrodes applied to the PATIENT'S upper arm.....	210
Figure A.7 – Identification of ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEM, APPLIED PARTS and PATIENT CONNECTIONS in a personal computer with an ECG module	211
Figure A.8 – Pictorial representation of the relationship of HAZARD, sequence of events, HAZARDOUS SITUATION and HARM	214
Figure A.9 – Example of PATIENT ENVIRONMENT.....	219
Figure A.10 – Floating circuit	237
Figure A.11 – Interruption of a power-carrying conductor between ME EQUIPMENT parts in separate ENCLOSURES.....	239

Figure A.12 – Identification of MEANS OF PATIENT PROTECTION and MEANS OF OPERATOR PROTECTION.....	242
Figure A.13 – Allowable protective earth impedance where the fault current is limited	249
Figure A.14 – Probability of ventricular fibrillation	255
Figure A.15 – Example of a measuring circuit for the PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENT from a PATIENT CONNECTION to earth for ME EQUIPMENT with multiple PATIENT CONNECTIONS	260
Figure A.16 – Instability test conditions.....	271
Figure A.17 – Example of determining TENSILE SAFETY FACTOR using Table 21	278
Figure A.18 – Example of determining design and test loads	278
Figure A.19 – Example of human body mass distribution	279
Figure A.20 – Relationship of the terms used to describe equipment, ACCESSORIES or equipment parts.....	216
Figure A.21 – Example of ME EQUIPMENT having two different functions on one common APPLIED PART circuit.....	247
Figure A.22 – Maximum allowable temperature for surfaces and APPLIED PARTS at higher altitudes	283
Figure A.23 – Example of the needed MEANS OF OPERATOR PROTECTION between the terminals of an INTERNAL ELECTRICAL POWER SOURCE and a subsequent protective device.....	301
Figure E.1 – TYPE B APPLIED PART.....	325
Figure E.2 – TYPE BF APPLIED PART	325
Figure E.3 – TYPE CF APPLIED PART	326
Figure E.4 – PATIENT AUXILIARY CURRENT	326
Figure E.5 – Loading of the PATIENT CONNECTIONS if specified by the MANUFACTURER	327
Figure F.1 – Measuring supply circuit with one side of the SUPPLY MAINS at approximately earth potential.....	328
Figure F.2 – Measuring supply circuit with SUPPLY MAINS approximately symmetrical to earth potential.....	328
Figure F.3 – Measuring supply circuit for polyphase ME EQUIPMENT specified for connection to a polyphase SUPPLY MAINS.....	329
Figure F.4 – Measuring supply circuit for single-phase ME EQUIPMENT specified for connection to a polyphase SUPPLY MAINS.....	329
Figure F.5 – Measuring supply circuit for ME EQUIPMENT having a separate power supply unit or intended to receive its power from another equipment in an ME SYSTEM.....	330
Figure G.1 – Maximum allowable current I_{ZR} as a function of the maximum allowable voltage U_{ZR} measured in a purely resistive circuit with the most flammable mixture of ether vapour with air	337
Figure G.2 – Maximum allowable voltage U_{ZC} as a function of the capacitance C_{max} measured in a capacitive circuit with the most flammable mixture of ether vapour with air.....	338
Figure G.3 – Maximum allowable current I_{ZL} as a function of the inductance L_{max} measured in an inductive circuit with the most flammable mixture of ether vapour with air.....	338
Figure G.4 – Maximum allowable current I_{ZR} as a function of the maximum allowable voltage U_{ZR} measured in a purely resistive circuit with the most flammable mixture of ether vapour with oxygen.....	342
Figure G.5 – Maximum allowable voltage U_{ZC} as a function of the capacitance C_{max} measured in a capacitive circuit with the most flammable mixture of ether vapour with oxygen.....	343

Figure G.6 – Maximum allowable current IZL as a function of the inductance Lmax measured in an inductive circuit with the most flammable mixture of ether vapour with oxygen.....	344
Figure G.7 – Test apparatus	345
Figure H.1 – Examples of PEMS/ PESS structures	347
Figure H.2 – A PEMS DEVELOPMENT LIFE-CYCLE model	348
Figure H.3 – Not used.....	349
Figure H.4 – Example of potential parameters required to be specified for an IT-NETWORK.....	353
Figure I.1 – Example of the construction of a multiple socket-outlet (mso)	358
Figure I.2 – Examples of application of MULTIPLE SOCKET-OUTLETS (MSO)	359
Figure J.1 – Insulation example 1	360
Figure J.2 – Insulation example 2	360
Figure J.3 – Insulation example 3	361
Figure J.4 – Insulation example 4	361
Figure J.5 – Insulation example 5	361
Figure J.6 – Insulation example 6	362
Figure J.7 – Insulation example 7	362
Figure K.1 – ME EQUIPMENT with an ENCLOSURE made of insulating material.....	363
Figure K.2 – ME EQUIPMENT with an F-TYPE APPLIED PART.....	363
Figure K.3 – ME EQUIPMENT with an APPLIED PART and a SIGNAL INPUT/OUTPUT PART	364
Figure K.4 – ME EQUIPMENT with a PATIENT CONNECTION of a TYPE B APPLIED PART that is not PROTECTIVELY EARTHED.....	364
Figure K.5 – ME EQUIPMENT with a PATIENT CONNECTION of a TYPE BF APPLIED PART that is not PROTECTIVELY EARTHED	365
Table 1 – Units outside the SI units system that may be used on ME EQUIPMENT	62
Table 2 – Colours of indicator lights and their meaning for ME EQUIPMENT	64
Table 3 – * Allowable values of PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENTS and PATIENT AUXILIARY CURRENTS under NORMAL CONDITION and SINGLE FAULT CONDITION.....	88
Table 4 – * Allowable values of PATIENT LEAKAGE CURRENTS under the special test conditions identified in 8.7.4.7	89
Table 5 – Legends of symbols for Figure 9 to Figure 11, Figure 13 to Figure 20, Figure A.15, Annexes E and F	98
Table 6 – Test voltages for solid insulation forming a MEANS OF PROTECTION	105
Table 7 – Test voltages for MEANS OF OPERATOR PROTECTION.....	106
Table 8 – Multiplication factors for AIR CLEARANCES for altitudes up to 5 000 m.....	109
Table 9 – Material group classification	109
Table 10 – MAINS TRANSIENT VOLTAGE.....	111
Table 11 – Not used	112
Table 12 – Minimum CREEPAGE DISTANCES and AIR CLEARANCES providing MEANS OF PATIENT PROTECTION	113
Table 13 – Minimum AIR CLEARANCES providing MEANS OF OPERATOR PROTECTION from the MAINS PART	114
Table 14 – Additional AIR CLEARANCES for insulation in MAINS PARTS with PEAK WORKING VOLTAGES exceeding the peak value of the NOMINAL MAINS VOLTAGE ^a	115

Table 15 – Minimum AIR CLEARANCES for MEANS OF OPERATOR PROTECTION in SECONDARY CIRCUITS.....	116
Table 16 – Minimum CREEPAGE DISTANCES providing MEANS OF OPERATOR PROTECTION ^a	117
Table 17 – NOMINAL cross-sectional area of conductors of a POWER SUPPLY CORD	126
Table 18 – Testing of cord anchorages	127
Table 19 – MECHANICAL HAZARDS covered by this clause	130
Table 20 – Acceptable gaps ^a	132
Table 21 – Determination of TENSILE SAFETY FACTOR	146
Table 22 – Allowable maximum temperatures of parts.....	154
Table 23 – Allowable maximum temperatures for ME EQUIPMENT parts that are likely to be touched.....	154
Table 24 – Allowable maximum temperatures for skin contact with ME EQUIPMENT APPLIED PARTS	155
Table 25 – Acceptable perforation of the bottom of an ENCLOSURE	163
Table 26 – * Temperature limits of motor windings.....	173
Table 27 – Maximum motor winding steady-state temperature	175
Table 28 – Mechanical strength test applicability	181
Table 29 – Drop height	183
Table 30 – Test torques for rotating controls.....	188
Table 31 – Maximum allowable temperatures of transformer windings under overload and short-circuit conditions at 25 °C (± 5 °C) ambient temperature	190
Table 32 – Test current for transformers	191
Table 33 – Test conditions for overtravel end stop test	135
Table A.1 – Values of AIR CLEARANCE and CREEPAGE DISTANCE derived from Table 7 of IEC 61010-1:2001 and Table 12	263
Table A.2 – CREEPAGE DISTANCES to avoid failure due to tracking from IEC 60664-1	264
Table A.3 – Instability test conditions.....	271
Table A.4 – Allowable time exposure for level of acceleration	274
Table A.5 – Guidance on surface temperatures for ME EQUIPMENT that creates low temperatures (cools) for therapeutic purposes or as part of its operation	283
Table C.1– Marking on the outside of ME EQUIPMENT, ME SYSTEMS or their parts	313
Table C.2 – Marking on the inside of ME EQUIPMENT, ME SYSTEMS or their parts	314
Table C.3 – Marking of controls and instruments.....	314
Table C.4 – ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS, general.....	314
Table C.5 – ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS, instructions for use.....	315
Table D.1 – General symbols.....	317
Table D.2 – Safety signs.....	322
Table D.3 – General codes	324
Table H.1 – Not used	352
Table I.1 – Some examples of ME SYSTEMS for illustration	356
Table G.1 – Gas-tightness of cord inlets	340
Table L.1– Mandrel diameter	367
Table L.2 – Oven temperature	367

Table M.1 – Reduction of the pollution degree of internal environment through the use
of additional protection 369

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –**Part 1: General requirements for basic safety
and essential performance**

FOREWORD

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This consolidated version of IEC 60601-1 consists of the third edition (2005) [documents 62A/505A/FDIS and 62A/512/RVD], its amendment 1 (2012) [documents 62A/805/FDIS and 62A/820/RVD], its corrigenda of December 2006 and 2007, the corrigendum of its amendment 1 of July 2014, and the interpretations sheets of April 2008, January 2009 and May 2013. It bears the edition number 3.1.

This Final version does not show where the technical content is modified by amendment 1. A separate Redline version with all changes highlighted is available in this publication.

International Standard IEC 60601-1 has been prepared by subcommittee 62A: Common aspects of electrical equipment used in medical practice, of IEC technical committee 62: Electrical equipment in medical practice.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 1988, its Amendment 1 (1991) and Amendment 2 (1995), the second edition of IEC 60601-1-1 published in 2000 and the first edition of IEC 60601-1-4 published in 1996 and its Amendment 1 (1999). This edition constitutes a technical revision. This edition has been significantly restructured. Requirements in the electrical section have been further aligned with those for information technology equipment covered by IEC 60950-1 and a requirement for including a RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS has been added. For an expanded description of this revision, see Annex A.3.

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

In this standard the following print types are used:

- Requirements and definitions: in roman type.
- *Test specifications: in italic type.*
- Informative material appearing outside of tables, such as notes, examples and references: in smaller type. Normative text of tables is also in a smaller type.
- TERMS USED THROUGHOUT THIS STANDARD THAT HAVE BEEN DEFINED IN CLAUSE 3 AND ALSO GIVEN IN THE INDEX: IN SMALL CAPITALS.

In referring to the structure of this standard, the term

- “clause” means one of the seventeen numbered divisions within the table of contents, inclusive of all subdivisions (e.g. Clause 7 includes subclauses 7.1, 7.2, etc.);
- “subclause” means a numbered subdivision of a clause (e.g. 7.1, 7.2 and 7.2.1 are all subclauses of Clause 7).

References to clauses within this standard are preceded by the term “Clause” followed by the clause number. References to subclauses within this standard are by number only.

In this standard, the conjunctive “or” is used as an “inclusive or” so a statement is true if any combination of the conditions is true.

The verbal forms used in this standard conform to usage described in Annex G of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2. For the purposes of this standard, the auxiliary verb:

- “shall” means that compliance with a requirement or a test is mandatory for compliance with this standard;
- “should” means that compliance with a requirement or a test is recommended but is not mandatory for compliance with this standard;
- “may” is used to describe a permissible way to achieve compliance with a requirement or test.

An asterisk (*) as the first character of a title or at the beginning of a paragraph or table title indicates that there is guidance or rationale related to that item in Annex A.

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendment 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.

NOTE The attention of National Committees is drawn to the fact that equipment manufacturers and testing organizations may need a transitional period following publication of a new, amended or revised IEC or ISO publication in which to make products in accordance with the new requirements and to equip themselves for conducting new or revised tests. It is the recommendation of the committee that the content of this publication be adopted for mandatory implementation nationally not earlier than 3 years from the date of publication.

The content of the corrigendum of November 2012 have been included in this copy.

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

INTRODUCTION

In 1976, IEC subcommittee 62A published the first edition of IEC/TR 60513, *Basic aspects of the safety philosophy for electrical equipment used in medical practice*. The first edition of IEC/TR 60513 provided the basis for developing:

- the first edition of IEC 60601-1 (the parent safety standard for MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT);
- the IEC 60601-1-xx series of collateral standards for MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT;
- the IEC 60601-2-xx series of particular standards for particular types of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT; and
- the IEC 60601-3-xx series of performance standards for particular types of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT.

Aware of the need and the urgency for a standard covering electrical equipment used in medical practice, the majority of National Committees voted in 1977 in favour of the first edition of IEC 60601-1, based on a draft that at the time represented a first approach to the problem. The extent of the scope, the complexity of the equipment concerned, and the specific nature of some of the protective measures and the corresponding tests for verifying them, required years of effort in order to prepare this first standard, which can now be said to have served as a universal reference since its publication.

However, the frequent application of the first edition revealed room for improvement. These improvements were all the more desirable in view of the considerable success that this standard has enjoyed since its publication.

The careful work of revision subsequently undertaken and continued over a number of years resulted in the publication of the second edition in 1988. This edition incorporated all the improvements that could be reasonably expected up to that time. Further developments remained under constant study. The second edition was amended in 1991 and then again in 1995.

The original IEC approach was to prepare separate BASIC SAFETY and performance standards for MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT. This was a natural extension of the historical approach taken at the national and international level with other electrical equipment standards (e.g. those for domestic equipment), where BASIC SAFETY is regulated through mandatory standards but other performance specifications are regulated by market pressure. In this context, it has been said that, “The ability of an electric kettle to boil water is not critical to its safe use!”

It is now recognized that this is not the situation with many items of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT, and RESPONSIBLE ORGANIZATIONS have to depend on standards to ensure ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE as well as BASIC SAFETY. Such areas include the accuracy with which the equipment controls the delivery of energy or therapeutic substances to the PATIENT, or processes and displays physiological data that will affect PATIENT management.

This recognition means that separating BASIC SAFETY and performance is somewhat inappropriate in addressing the HAZARDS that result from inadequate design of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT. Many particular standards in the IEC 60601-2-xx series address a range of ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE requirements that cannot be directly evaluated by the RESPONSIBLE ORGANIZATION without applying such standards. (However, the current IEC 60601 series includes fewer requirements for ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE than for BASIC SAFETY).

In anticipation of a third edition of IEC 60601-1, IEC subcommittee 62A prepared a second edition of IEC/TR 60513 [12]¹⁾ in 1994. It was intended that the second edition of IEC/TR 60513 would provide guidance for developing this edition of IEC 60601-1, and for the further development of the IEC 60601-1-xx and IEC 60601-2-xx series.

1) Figures in square brackets refer to the Bibliography.

In order to achieve consistency in international standards, address present expectations in the health care community and align with developments in IEC 60601-2-xx, the second edition of IEC/TR 60513 includes two major new principles:

- the first change is that the concept of “SAFETY” has been broadened from the BASIC SAFETY considerations in the first and second editions of IEC 60601-1 to include ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE matters, (e.g. the accuracy of physiological monitoring equipment). Application of this principle leads to the change of the title of this publication from “Medical electrical equipment, Part 1: General requirements for safety” in the second edition, to “Medical electrical equipment, Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance”;
- the second change is that, in specifying minimum safety requirements, provision is made for assessing the adequacy of the design PROCESS when this is the only practical method of assessing the safety of certain technologies such as programmable electronic systems. Application of this principle is one of the factors leading to introduction of a general requirement to carry out a RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS. In parallel with the development of the third edition of IEC 60601-1, a joint project with ISO/TC 210 resulted in the publication of a general standard for RISK MANAGEMENT of medical devices. Compliance with this edition of IEC 60601-1 requires that the MANUFACTURER have in place a RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS complying with parts of ISO 14971 (see 4.2).

This standard contains requirements concerning BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE that are generally applicable to MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT. For certain types of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT, these requirements are either supplemented or modified by the special requirements of a collateral or particular standard. Where particular standards exist, this standard should not be used alone.

Amendment 1 to this standard is intended to address:

- issues identified by National Committees and other interested parties since the publication of IEC 60601-1:2005;
- the way in which RISK MANAGEMENT has been introduced into IEC 60601-1:2005; and
- the way the concept of ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE is used in IEC 60601-1:2005.

INTRODUCTION TO THE AMENDMENT

The third edition of IEC 60601-1 was published in 2005. At the time of publication, there were 94 National Committee comments on the 2nd CDV and the FDIS that were deferred to a future amendment/revision. Each of their deferred comments was captured in an Issue Sheet by the SC 62A secretariat. By the time of the Auckland meeting in April 2008, the Subcommittees had developed two Interpretation Sheets and the SC 62A secretariat has received an additional 15 issues from National Committees and other interested parties.

At the Auckland meeting, IEC/TC 62 approved a project to develop the 1st amendment to IEC 60601-1:2005 based on the issues outstanding at the time. The TC approved developing the 1st amendment with a view to addressing outstanding issues, including but not limited to:

- those listed in 62A/593/DC and 62A/602/INF;
- the way in which risk management has been introduced into IEC 60601-1:2005; and
- the way the concept of essential performance is used in IEC 60601-1:2005.

Since the Auckland meeting, the secretariat has received 73 additional issues from National Committees or other interested parties for a total of 182 Issue Sheets. This amendment is intended to address those issues.

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT –

Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance

1 Scope, object and related standards

1.1 * Scope

This International Standard applies to the BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE of MEDICAL ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS, hereafter referred to as ME EQUIPMENT and ME SYSTEMS.

If a clause or subclause is specifically intended to be applicable to ME EQUIPMENT only, or to ME SYSTEMS only, the title and content of that clause or subclause will say so. If that is not the case, the clause or subclause applies both to ME EQUIPMENT and to ME SYSTEMS, as relevant.

HAZARDS inherent in the intended physiological function of ME EQUIPMENT or ME SYSTEMS within the scope of this standard are not covered by specific requirements in this standard except in 7.2.13 and 8.4.1.

NOTE 1 See also 4.2.

The IEC 60601 series does not apply to:

- in vitro diagnostic equipment that does not fall within the definition of ME EQUIPMENT, which is covered by the IEC 61010 series [61];
- implantable parts of active implantable medical devices covered by the ISO 14708 series [69]; or
- medical gas pipeline systems covered by ISO 7396-1 [68].

NOTE 2 ISO 7396-1 applies the requirement of IEC 60601-1-8 to certain monitoring and ALARM SIGNALS.

1.2 Object

The object of this standard is to specify general requirements and to serve as the basis for particular standards.

1.3 * Collateral standards

In the IEC 60601 series, collateral standards specify general requirements for BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE applicable to:

- a subgroup of ME EQUIPMENT (e.g. radiological equipment);
- a specific characteristic of all ME EQUIPMENT not fully addressed in this standard.

Applicable collateral standards become normative at the date of their publication and shall apply together with this standard.

NOTE 1 When evaluating compliance with IEC 60601-1, it is permissible to independently assess compliance with the collateral standards.

NOTE 2 When declaring compliance with IEC 60601-1, the declarer should specifically list the collateral standards that have been applied. This allows the reader of the declaration to understand which collateral standards were part of the evaluation.

NOTE 3 Collateral standards in the IEC 60601 family are numbered IEC 60601-1-xx. The IEC maintains a catalogue of valid International Standards. Users of this standard should consult this catalogue at "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" to determine which collateral standards have been published.

If a collateral standard applies to ME EQUIPMENT for which a particular standard exists, then the particular standard takes priority over the collateral standard.

1.4 * Particular standards

In the IEC 60601 series, particular standards may modify, replace or delete requirements contained in this standard as appropriate for the particular ME EQUIPMENT under consideration, and may add other BASIC SAFETY and ESSENTIAL PERFORMANCE requirements.

NOTE Particular standards in the IEC 60601 family that are developed by IEC committees are numbered IEC 60601-2-xx. In addition, particular standards developed by joint projects between ISO and IEC can be numbered either IEC 80601-2-xx or ISO 80601-2-xx depending on which committee administered the project. IEC and ISO maintain catalogues of valid International Standards. Users of this standard should consult these catalogues at "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" and "<http://www.iso.org/iso/store.htm>" to determine which particular standards have been published.

A requirement of a particular standard takes priority over this standard.

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.

ATTENTION: Additional collateral standards of the IEC 60601 series, which are issued subsequent to publication of this standard, become normative at the date of their publication and shall be considered as being included among the normative references below. See 1.3.

NOTE Informative references are listed in the Bibliography on page 396.

IEC 60065:2001, *Audio, video and similar electronic apparatus – Safety requirements*²⁾

Amendment 1:2005

Amendment 2:2010

IEC 60068-2-2:2007, *Environmental testing – Part 2-2: Tests – Test B: Dry heat*

IEC 60079-0, *Electrical apparatus for explosive gas atmospheres – Part 0: General requirements*

IEC 60079-2, *Electrical apparatus for explosive gas atmospheres – Part 2: Pressurized enclosures “p”*

IEC 60079-5, *Electrical apparatus for explosive gas atmospheres – Part 5: Powder filling “q”*

IEC 60079-6, *Electrical apparatus for explosive gas atmospheres – Part 6: Oil-immersion “o”*

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

IEC 60085, *Electrical insulation – Thermal classification*

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

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

IEC 60127-1, *Miniature fuses – Part 1: Definitions for miniature fuses and general requirements for miniature fuse-links*

IEC 60227-1:2007, *Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V – Part 1: General requirements*

²⁾ There exists a consolidated edition 7.2 including IEC 60065:2001 and its Amendment 1 (2005) and Amendment 2 (2010).

IEC 60245-1:2003, *Rubber insulated cables – Rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V – Part 1: General requirements*³
Amendment 1:2007

IEC 60252-1, *AC motor capacitors – Part 1: General – Performance, testing and rating – Safety requirements – Guide for installation and operation*

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

IEC 60335-1:2010, *Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 60364-4-41, *Electrical installations of buildings – Part 4-41: Protection for safety – Protection against electric shock*

IEC 60384-14:2005, *Fixed capacitors for use in electronic equipment – Part 14: Sectional specification: Fixed capacitors for electromagnetic interference suppression and connection to the supply mains*

IEC 60417, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment*. Available from: <<http://www.graphical-symbols.info/equipment>>

IEC 60445, *Basic and safety principles for man-machine interface, marking and identification – Identification of equipment terminals and of terminations of certain designated conductors, including general rules for an alphanumeric system*

IEC 60447, *Basic and safety principles for man-machine interface, marking and identification – Actuating principles*

IEC 60529:1989, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)* ⁴⁾
Amendment 1 (1999)

IEC 60601-1-2, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1-2: General requirements for safety – Collateral standard: Electromagnetic compatibility – Requirements and tests*

IEC 60601-1-3, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1-3: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance. Collateral standard: Radiation protection in diagnostic X-ray equipment*

IEC 60601-1-6, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1-6: General requirements for safety – Collateral standard: Usability*

IEC 60601-1-8, *Medical electrical equipment – Part 1-8: General requirements for safety – Collateral standard: General requirements, tests and guidance for alarm systems in medical electrical equipment and medical electrical systems*

IEC 60664-1:2007, *Insulation coordination for equipment within low-voltage systems – Part 1: Principles, requirements and tests*

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

IEC 60730-1:2010, *Automatic electrical controls for household and similar use – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 60825-1:2007, *Safety of laser products – Part 1: Equipment classification and requirements*

3) There exists a consolidated edition 4.1 including IEC 60245-1:2003 and its Amendment 1 (2007).

4) There exists a consolidated version 2.1, including IEC 60529:1989 and its Amendment 1 (1999).

- IEC 60851-3:2009, *Winding wires – Test methods – Part 3: Mechanical properties*
- IEC 60851-5:2008, *Winding wires – Test methods – Part 5: Electrical properties*
- IEC 60851-6:1996, *Winding wires – Test methods – Part 6: Thermal properties*
Amendment 1 (1997)
- IEC 60884-1, *Plugs and socket-outlets for household and similar purposes - Part 1: General requirements*
- IEC 60950-1:2001, *Information technology equipment – Safety – Part 1: General requirements*
- IEC 61058-1:2000, *Switches for appliances – Part 1: General requirements* ⁵⁾
- Amendment 1:2001
Amendment 2:2007
- IEC 61558-2-1, *Safety transformers, power supply units and similar – Part 2: Particular requirements for separating transformers for general use*
- IEC 61672-1, *Electroacoustics – Sound level meters – Part 1: Specifications*
- IEC 61672-2, *Electroacoustics – Sound level meters – Part 2: Pattern evaluation tests*
- IEC 61965, *Mechanical safety of cathode ray tubes*
- IEC 62133, *Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline or other non-acid electrolytes – Safety requirements for portable sealed secondary cells, and for batteries made from them, for use in portable applications*
- IEC 62304:2006, *Medical device software – Software lifecycle processes*
- ISO 780, *Packaging – Pictorial marking for handling of goods*
- ISO 1853, *Conducting and dissipative rubbers, vulcanized or thermoplastic – Measurement of resistivity*
- ISO 2878, *Rubber, vulcanized – Antistatic and conductive products – Determination of electrical resistance*
- ISO 2882⁶⁾, *Rubber, vulcanized – Antistatic and conductive products for hospital use – Electrical resistance limits*
- ISO 3746, *Acoustics – Determination of sound power levels of noise sources using sound pressure – Survey method using an enveloping measurement surface over a reflecting plane*
- ISO 3864-1:2002, *Graphical symbols – Safety colours and safety signs – Part 1: Design principles for safety signs in workplaces and public areas*
- ISO 5349-1, *Mechanical vibration – Measurement and evaluation of human exposure to hand-transmitted vibration – Part 1: General requirements*
- ISO 7000-DB:2004⁷⁾, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment – Collection of symbols*
- ISO 7010:2011, *Graphical symbols – Safety colours and safety signs – Registered safety signs*

⁵⁾ There exists a consolidated edition 3.2, including IEC 61058-1:2000 and its Amendment 1 (2001) and Amendment 2 (2007)

⁶⁾ ISO 2882 was withdrawn on 1 February 2005 and no replacement standard has been identified.

⁷⁾ "DB" refers to the joint ISO-IEC on-line database.

ISO 9614-1, *Acoustics – Determination of sound power levels of noise sources using sound intensity – Measurement at discrete points*

ISO 10993 (all parts), *Biological evaluation of medical devices*

ISO 11135-1:2007, *Sterilization of health care products – Ethylene oxide – Part 1: Requirements for development, validation and routine control of a sterilization process for medical devices*

ISO 11137-1:2006, *Sterilization of health care products – Radiation – Part 1: Requirements for development, validation and routine control of a sterilization process for medical devices*

ISO 13857:2008, *Safety of machinery – Safety distances to prevent hazard zones being reached by the upper and lower limbs*

ISO 14971:2007, *Medical devices – Application of risk management to medical devices*

ISO 15223-1:2012, *Medical devices – Symbols to be used with medical device labels, labelling and information to be supplied – Part 1: General requirements*

ISO 17665-1:2006, *Sterilization of health care products – Moist heat – Part 1: Requirements for the development, validation and routine control of a sterilization process for medical devices*

ISO 23529, *Rubber – General procedures for preparing and conditioning test pieces for physical test methods*

ISO 80000-1:2009, *Quantities and units – Part 1: General*