IEC TS 60079-32-1

Edition 1.1 2017-03

CONSOLIDATED VERSION

Explosive atmospheres –
Part 32-1: Electrostatic hazards, guidance

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

ICS 29.260.20

ISBN 978-2-8322-4121-9

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REDLINE VERSION

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IEC TS 60079-32-1:2013-08+AMD1:2017-03 CSV(en)

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FOREWORD

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

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- the required support cannot be obtained for the publication of an International Standard, despite repeated efforts, or
- the subject is still under technical development or where, for any other reason, there is the future but no immediate possibility of an agreement on an International Standard.

Technical specifications are subject to review within three years of publication to decide whether they can be transformed into International Standards.

IEC/TS 60079-32-1, which is a technical specification, has been prepared by IEC Technical Committee 31: Equipment for explosive atmospheres, and IEC Technical Committee 101: Electrostatics.

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

A list of all parts of the IEC 60079 series, under the general title *Explosive atmospheres,* can be found on the IEC website.

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,
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- amended.

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

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

INTRODUCTION

This IEC Technical Specification is based on CENELEC TR 50404:2003, *Code of practice for the avoidance of hazards due to static electricity* and a number of other documents:

- from the UK: BS 5958, Parts 1 & 2:1991, *Control of undesirable static electricity*,
- from Germany: TRBS 2153:2009, *Preventing risks of ignition due to electrostatic charges,*
- from Shell International Petroleum: *Static electricity – Technical and safety aspects,*
- from the US: NFPA 77, *Recommended Practice on Static Electricity (2007),*
- from Japan: JNIOSH TR42, *Recommendations for Requirements for Avoiding Electrostatic Hazards in Industry (2007),*
- from ASTM, EUROPIA, IEC, International chamber of shipping, ISO etc.

It gives the best available accepted state of the art guidance for the avoidance of hazards due to static electricity.

This document is mainly written for designers and users of processes and equipment, manufacturers and test houses. It can also be used by suppliers of equipment (e.g. machines) and flooring or apparel when no product family or dedicated product standard exists or where the existing standard does not deal with electrostatic hazards.

A second part, IEC 60079-32-2, *Electrostatic Hazards, Tests,* is under development.

EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

Part 32-1: Electrostatic hazards, guidance

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60079 gives guidance about the equipment, product and process properties necessary to avoid ignition and electrostatic shock hazards arising from static electricity as well as the operational requirements needed to ensure safe use of the equipment, product or process. It can be used in a risk assessment of electrostatic hazards or for the preparation of product family or dedicated product standards for electrical or non-electrical machines or equipment.

The hazards associated with static electricity in industrial processes and environments that most commonly give problems are considered. These processes include the handling of solids, liquids, powders, gases, sprays and explosives. In each case, the source and nature of the electrostatic hazard are identified and specific recommendations are given for dealing with them.

The purpose of this document is to provide standard recommendations for the control of static electricity, such as earthing of conductors, reduction of charging and restriction of chargeable areas of insulators. In some cases static electricity plays an integral part of a process, e.g. electrostatic coating, but often it is an unwelcome side effect and it is with the latter that this guidance is concerned. If the standard recommendations given in this document are fulfilled it can be expected that the risk of hazardous electrostatic discharges in an explosive atmosphere is at an acceptably low level.

If the requirements of this document cannot be fulfilled, alternative approaches can be applied under the condition that at least the same level of safety is achieved.

Basic information about the generation of undesirable static electricity in solids, liquids, gases, explosives, and also on people, together with descriptions of how the charges generated cause ignitions or electrostatic shocks, is given in the annexes and in IEC/TR 61340-1.

This Technical Specification is not applicable to the hazards of static electricity relating to lightning or to damage to electronic components.

This Technical Specification is not intended to supersede standards that cover specific products and industrial situations.

2 Normative references

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

IEC 60079-0:2011, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 0: Equipment – General requirements*

IEC 60079-10-1, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 10-1: Classification of areas – Explosive gas atmospheres*

IEC 60079-10-2, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 10-2: Classification of areas – Combustible dust atmospheres*

IEC 60079-14, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 14: Electrical installations design, selection and erection*

IEC 60079-20-1, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 20-1: Material characteristics for gas and vapour classification – Test methods and data*

IEC 60079-32-2[1]:2015, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 32-2: Electrostatic hazards – Tests*

IEC 60093, *Methods of test for volume resistivity and surface resistivity of solid electrical insulating materials*

IEC 60167, *Methods of test for the determination of the insulation resistance of solid insulating materials*

IEC 61340-2-3, *Electrostatics – Part 2-3: Methods of test for determining the resistance and resistivity of solid planar materials used to avoid electrostatic charge accumulation*

IEC 61340-4-1, *Electrostatics – Part 4-1: Standard test methods for specific applications – Electrical resistance of floor coverings and installed floors*

IEC 61340-4-3, *Electrostatics – Part 4-3: Standard test methods for specific applications – Footwear*

IEC 61340-4-4:2012, *Electrostatics – Part 4-4: Standard test methods for specific applications – Electrostatic classification of flexible intermediate bulk containers (FIBC)*

ISO 284, *Conveyor belts – Electrical conductivity – Specification and test method*

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ISO 21178, *Light conveyor belts – Determination of electrical resistances*

ISO 21179, *Light conveyor belts – Determination of the electrostatic field generated by a running light conveyor belt*

ISO 21183-1, *Light conveyor belts – Part 1: Principal characteristics and applications*

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[1] To be published.

ASTM D257, *Standard Test Methods for DC Resistance or Conductance of Insulating Materials*

ASTM D2624-07a, *Standard Test Methods for Electrical Conductivity of Aviation and Distillate Fuels*

ASTM D4308-95, *Standard Test Method for Electrical Conductivity of Liquid Hydrocarbons by Precision Meter*

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NFPA 77, *Recommended practice on static electricity*

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