

© Copyright SEK Svensk Elstandard. Reproduction in any form without permission is prohibited.

Solceller – Solcellsmoduler – Provning av tålighet mot ojämnt fördelad snölast

*Photovoltaic (PV) modules –
Non-uniform snow load testing*

Som svensk standard gäller europastandarden EN IEC 62938:2020. Den svenska standarden innehåller den officiella engelska språkversionen av EN IEC 62938:2020.

Nationellt förord

Europastandarden EN IEC 62938:2020

består av:

- **europastandardens ikraftsättningsdokument**, utarbetat inom CENELEC
- **IEC 62938, First edition, 2020 - Photovoltaic (PV) modules - Non-uniform snow load testing**
utarbetad inom International Electrotechnical Commission, IEC.

Standarden ska användas tillsammans med SS-EN 61215-2.

ICS 27.160.00

Standarder underlättar utvecklingen och höjer elsäkerheten

Det finns många fördelar med att ha gemensamma tekniska regler för bl a mätning, säkerhet och provning och för utförande, skötsel och dokumentation av elprodukter och elanläggningar.

Genom att utforma sådana standarder blir säkerhetsfordringar tydliga och utvecklingskostnaderna rimliga samtidigt som marknadens acceptans för produkten eller tjänsten ökar.

Många standarder inom elområdet beskriver tekniska lösningar och metoder som åstadkommer den elsäkerhet som föreskrivs av svenska myndigheter och av EU.

SEK är Sveriges röst i standardiseringsarbetet inom elområdet

SEK Svensk Elstandard svarar för standardiseringen inom elområdet i Sverige och samordnar svensk medverkan i internationell och europeisk standardisering. SEK är en ideell organisation med frivilligt deltagande från svenska myndigheter, företag och organisationer som vill medverka till och påverka utformningen av tekniska regler inom elektrotekniken.

SEK samordnar svenska intressenters medverkan i SEKs tekniska kommittéer och stödjer svenska experters medverkan i internationella och europeiska projekt.

Stora delar av arbetet sker internationellt

Utformningen av standarder sker i allt väsentligt i internationellt och europeiskt samarbete. SEK är svensk nationalkommitté av International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) och Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique (CENELEC).

Standardiseringsarbetet inom SEK är organiserat i referensgrupper bestående av ett antal tekniska kommittéer som speglar hur arbetet inom IEC och CENELEC är organiserat.

Arbetet i de tekniska kommittéerna är öppet för alla svenska organisationer, företag, institutioner, myndigheter och statliga verk. Den årliga avgiften för deltagandet och intäkter från försäljning finansierar SEKs standardiseringsverksamhet och medlemsavgift till IEC och CENELEC.

Var med och påverka!

Den som deltar i SEKs tekniska kommittéarbete har möjlighet att påverka framtida standarder och får tidig tillgång till information och dokumentation om utvecklingen inom sitt teknikområde. Arbetet och kontakterna med kollegor, kunder och konkurrenter kan gynnsamt påverka enskilda företags affärsutveckling och bidrar till deltagarnas egen kompetensutveckling.

Du som vill dra nytta av dessa möjligheter är välkommen att kontakta SEKs kansli för mer information.

SEK Svensk Elstandard

Box 1284
164 29 Kista
Tel 08-444 14 00
www.elstandard.se

EUROPEAN STANDARD
NORME EUROPÉENNE
EUROPÄISCHE NORM

EN IEC 62938

July 2020

ICS 27.160

English Version

Photovoltaic (PV) modules - Non-uniform snow load testing
(IEC 62938:2020)

Modules photovoltaïques (PV) - Essais de charges de neige
non uniformes
(IEC 62938:2020)

Ungleichmäßige Schneelastprüfung von
Photovoltaikmodulen
(IEC 62938:2020)

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2020-06-18. CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CENELEC members are the national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.



European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

© 2020 CENELEC All rights of exploitation in any form and by any means reserved worldwide for CENELEC Members.

Ref. No. EN IEC 62938:2020 E

European foreword

The text of document 82/1670/FDIS, future edition 1 of IEC 62938, prepared by IEC/TC 82 "Solar photovoltaic energy systems" was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN IEC 62938:2020.

The following dates are fixed:

- latest date by which the document has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2021-03-18
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the document have to be withdrawn (dow) 2023-06-18

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CENELEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

Endorsement notice

The text of the International Standard IEC 62938:2020 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

Annex ZA
(normative)

**Normative references to international publications
with their corresponding European publications**

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

NOTE 1 Where an International Publication has been modified by common modifications, indicated by (mod), the relevant EN/HD applies.

NOTE 2 Up-to-date information on the latest versions of the European Standards listed in this annex is available here: www.cenelec.eu.

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>EN/HD</u>	<u>Year</u>
IEC/TS 60904-13	2018	Photovoltaic devices - Part 13: Electroluminescence of photovoltaic modules	-	-
IEC 61215-1	2016	Terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) modules - Design qualification and type approval - Part 1: Test requirements	EN 61215-1	2016
IEC 61215-2	2016	Terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) modules - Design qualification and type approval - Part 2: Test procedures	EN 61215-2	2017
			EN 61215-2:2017/AC	2017-07
IEC/TS 61836	-	Solar photovoltaic energy systems - Terms, definitions and symbols	-	-
IEC/TS 62915	-	Photovoltaic (PV) modules - Type approval, design and safety qualification - Retesting	-	-

CONTENTS

FOREWORD	3
1 Scope	5
2 Normative references	5
3 Terms and definitions	6
4 Sampling	6
5 Prerequisites	7
6 Testing	7
6.1 General.....	7
6.2 Projections of the test results.....	7
6.3 Test plan.....	7
7 Test procedures	9
7.1 Visual inspection.....	9
7.2 Maximum power determination.....	9
7.3 Insulation test	9
7.4 Wet leakage current test	9
7.5 Humidity-freeze test.....	9
7.6 Electroluminescence imaging.....	9
7.7 Non-uniform snow load test.....	9
7.7.1 Purpose.....	9
7.7.2 Load specification.....	9
7.7.3 Apparatus	11
7.7.4 Procedure.....	13
8 Fail criteria	15
9 Verification of the test results	15
10 Statistical analysis.....	15
10.1 General.....	15
10.2 5 % fractile value with Student's distribution	16
10.3 Safety factor	16
10.4 Example.....	16
10.5 Quantiles of the t distribution (Student's distribution)	16
11 Test report.....	17
12 Modifications	18
Annex A (informative) Use of determined values	19
A.1 Estimated snow loads and use of the determined resistance.....	19
A.2 Calculate the bearable loads for different angles.....	19
Bibliography.....	20
Figure 1 – Test plan for inhomogeneous snow load test.....	8
Figure 2 – Distribution of load on the test specimen at inclination	10
Figure 3 – Simplified cross-sectional view of module width along bottom frame	12
Figure 4 – Test procedure for the snow load test	14
Figure 5 – Different deflection graphs under static load	14
Table 1 – Applicable load in relation to angle of pitch of roof	10
Table 2 – Quantiles of the t distribution (Student's distribution).....	17

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) MODULES – NON-UNIFORM SNOW LOAD TESTING

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 itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 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.

International Standard IEC 62938 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
82/1670/FDIS	82/1705/RVD

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

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

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

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

PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) MODULES – NON-UNIFORM SNOW LOAD TESTING

1 Scope

This document provides a method for determining how well a framed PV module performs mechanically under the influence of inclined non-uniform snow loads. This document is applicable for framed modules with frames protruding beyond the front glass surface on the lower edge after intended installation and as such creates an additional barrier to snow sliding down from modules. For modules with other frame constructions, such as backrails formed in frames, on the side edges, on the top edge and on the lower edge not creating an additional snow slide barrier, this document is not applicable.

The test method determines the mechanical non-uniform-load limit of a framed PV module.

The loads specified in this document apply exclusively to natural snow load distributions. Any expected artificial accumulations (e.g. from snow removal or redistribution) are considered separately.

Methods to eliminate or counteract the occurrence of inhomogeneous snow accumulation, such as a steep installation angle (more than 60°), are not included in this document. This document assumes a relationship between ground snow-cover and module snow-cover which may not be applicable in locations where the snow does not completely melt between snow falls. This document does not consider the effect of snow cover on power generation.

While the test method includes a wait time between load steps, the document does not provide a complete assessment of the fatigue behaviour of the materials of the module, such as front glass.

Because typical field failures of PV modules caused by snow load show glass breakage and frame bending, the test method aims at reproducing the load under which such failures occur.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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.

IEC TS 60904-13 :2018, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 13: Electroluminescence of photovoltaic modules*

IEC 61215-1:2016, *Terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) modules – Design qualification and type approval – Part 1: Test requirements*

IEC 61215-2:2016, *Terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) modules – Design qualification and type approval – Part 2: Test procedures*

IEC TS 61836, *Solar photovoltaic energy systems – Terms, definitions and symbols*

IEC TS 62915, *Photovoltaic (PV) modules – Type approval, design and safety qualification – Retesting*