

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

**Järnvägsanläggningar –  
Fasta installationer –  
Elsäkerhet, jordning och returnströmkrets –  
Del 2: Åtgärder för att motverka inverkan från läckströmmar orsakade av  
likströmsbanor**

*Railway applications –*

*Fixed installations –*

*Electrical safety, earthing and the return circuit –*

*Part 2: Provisions against the effects of stray currents caused by DC traction systems*

Som svensk standard gäller europastandarden EN 50122-2:2022. Den svenska standarden innehåller den officiella engelska språkversionen av EN 50122-2:2022.

**Nationellt förord**

Tidigare fastställd svensk standard SS-EN 50122-2, utg 2:2011, gäller ej fr o m 2025-07-25.

---

ICS 29.120.50; 29.280.00

Denna standard är fastställd av SEK Svensk Elstandard,  
som också kan lämna upplysningar om **sakinnehållet** i standarden.  
Postadress: Box 1284, 164 29 KISTA  
Telefon: 08 - 444 14 00.  
E-post: sek@elstandard.se. Internet: [www.elstandard.se](http://www.elstandard.se)

---

## *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 standardiseringssarbetet 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).

Standardiseringssarbetet 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 standardiseringssverksamhet 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](http://www.elstandard.se)

September 2022

ICS 29.120.50; 29.280

Supersedes EN 50122-2:2010

English Version

Railway applications - Fixed installations - Electrical safety, earthing and the return circuit - Part 2: Provisions against the effects of stray currents caused by DC traction systems

Applications ferroviaires - Installations fixes - Sécurité électrique, mise à la terre et circuit de retour - Partie 2:  
Mesures de protection contre les effets des courants vagabonds issus de la traction électrique à courant continu

Bahnanwendungen - Ortsfeste Anlagen - Elektrische Sicherheit, Erdung und Rückleitung - Teil 2:  
Schutzmaßnahmen gegen Streustromwirkungen durch Gleichstrombahnen

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2022-07-25. 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, Türkiye 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

## Contents

	Page
European foreword .....	4
1 Scope .....	5
2 Normative references .....	5
3 Terms and definitions .....	6
4 Identification of hazards and risks .....	6
5 Criteria for stray current assessment and acceptance .....	7
5.1 General .....	7
5.2 Criteria for the protection of the tracks .....	7
5.3 Criteria for systems with steel reinforced concrete or metallic structures .....	8
5.4 Specific investigations and measures .....	9
6 Design provisions .....	9
6.1 General .....	9
6.2 Return circuit .....	9
6.2.1 General .....	9
6.2.2 Resistance of running rails .....	9
6.2.3 Track system .....	10
6.2.4 Return conductors .....	10
6.2.5 Return cables .....	10
6.2.6 Electrical separation between the return circuit and system parts with earth-electrode effect .....	10
6.2.7 Exceptions for systems with return conductor rails .....	11
6.2.8 Rail-to-rail and track-to-track cross bonds .....	11
6.3 Non-traction related electrical equipment .....	11
6.4 Tracks of other traction systems .....	11
6.5 Return busbar in the substation .....	11
6.6 Level crossings .....	11
6.7 Common power supply for tram and trolleybus .....	11
6.8 Changeover from the mainline to depot and workshop areas .....	12
7 Provisions for structures affected by stray currents .....	12
7.1 General .....	12
7.2 Conductive civil structures .....	12
7.2.1 Basic procedure .....	12
7.2.2 Longitudinal interconnection .....	12
7.2.3 Sectionalized reinforcement .....	13
7.2.4 External conductive parts .....	13
7.2.5 External cables, pipework and power supplies .....	13
7.3 Adjacent pipes or cables .....	13
7.4 Voltage limiting devices .....	14
8 Protective provisions applied to metallic structures .....	14
9 Depots and workshops .....	14
10 Tests and measurements .....	15
10.1 Principles .....	15
10.2 Supervision of the rail insulation .....	15
10.2.1 Repetitive monitoring .....	15
10.2.2 Continuous monitoring of the rail potential .....	15
Annex A (informative) Measurement of track characteristics .....	17
A.1 Rail resistance .....	17

A.2	Conductance per length between running rails and steel reinforced structures .....	18
A.3	Conductance per length for track sections without civil structure .....	19
A.4	Local conductance per length for track sections without civil structure .....	20
A.5	Insulated rail joints.....	22
A.6	Insulating joints between steel reinforced structures .....	23
Annex B (informative)	Stray current assessment – Rail insulation assessment using rail potential .....	25
B.1	Repetitive measurements of the rail potential to monitor the conductance .....	25
B.2	Example for a continuous monitoring of the rail potential .....	25
Annex C (informative)	Estimation of stray current and impact on metallic structures.....	27
C.1	Estimation of the stray currents passing from the running rails to the earth .....	27
C.2	Estimation of the longitudinal voltage in steel reinforced structures .....	28
Annex D (informative)	Laboratory testing of materials for the insulation of rails .....	30
D.1	General.....	30
D.2	Test procedure .....	30
D.2.1	General.....	30
D.2.2	Initial test .....	30
D.2.3	Heat Aging.....	30
D.2.4	Influence of winter weather and rain .....	30
D.2.5	Evaluation.....	30
D.3	Acceptance criterion of the tests .....	30
Annex E (informative)	Fastening systems.....	31
Bibliography	.....	32

## **Figures**

Figure A.1 — Measurement of the rail resistance for a rail section of length $d$ .....	17
Figure A.2 — Measuring arrangement for the conductance per length $G'_{RS}$ between rails and steel reinforced structure .....	18
Figure A.3 — Determination of the conductance per length $G'_{RE}$ for track sections without civil structures .....	19
Figure A.4 — Measuring arrangement for the local conductance per length .....	21
Figure A.5 — Test of insulated rail joints.....	22
Figure A.6 — Test of insulating joints in steel reinforced structures .....	23
Figure B.1 — Scheme of continuous monitoring of the rail potential .....	26

## **European foreword**

This document (EN 50122-2:2022) has been prepared by CLC/SC 9XC "Electric supply and earthing systems for public transport equipment and ancillary apparatus (Fixed installations)".

The following dates are fixed:

- latest date by which this document has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2023-07-25
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with this document have to be withdrawn (dow) 2025-07-25

This document supersedes EN 50122-2:2010 and all of its amendments and corrigenda (if any).

EN 50122-2:2022 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to EN 50122-2:2010:

- harmonization with EN 50122-1:2022;
- improvement of measurement specification in Annex A;
- new Annex D "Laboratory testing of materials for the insulation of rails".

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.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users' national committee. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CENELEC website.

## 1 Scope

This document specifies requirements for protective provisions against the effects of stray currents, which result from the operation of DC electric traction power supply systems.

As several decades' experience has not shown evident corrosion effects from AC electric traction power supply systems, this document only deals with stray currents flowing from a DC electric traction power supply system.

This document applies to all metallic fixed installations which form part of the traction system, and also to any other metallic components located in any position in the earth, which can carry stray currents resulting from the operation of the railway system.

This document applies to all new DC lines and to all major revisions to existing DC lines. The principles can also be applied to existing electrified transportation systems where it is necessary to consider the effects of stray currents.

This document does not specify working rules for maintenance but provides design requirements to allow maintenance.

The range of application includes:

- a) railways,
- b) guided mass transport systems such as:
  - 1) tramways,
  - 2) elevated and underground railways,
  - 3) mountain railways,
  - 4) magnetically levitated systems, which use a contact line system, and
  - 5) trolleybus systems,
- c) material transportation systems.

This document does not apply to

- a) electric traction power supply systems in underground mines,
- b) cranes, transportable platforms and similar transportation equipment on rails, temporary structures (e.g. exhibition structures) in so far as these are not supplied directly from the contact line system and are not endangered by the electric traction power supply system,
- c) suspended cable cars,
- d) funicular railways.

## 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.

EN 50122-1:2022, *Railway applications - Fixed installations - Electrical safety, earthing and the return circuit - Part 1: Protective provisions against electric shock*

EN 50122-3:2022, *Railway applications - Fixed installations - Electrical safety, earthing and the return circuit - Part 3: Mutual Interaction of AC and DC traction systems*

EN 50163, *Railway applications - Supply voltages of traction systems*