### SVENSK STANDARD SS-EN 60990



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# Ström vid direktkontakt och ström i skyddsjordsledare – Mätmetoder

Methods of measurement of touch current and protective conductor current

Som svensk standard gäller europastandarden EN 60990:1999. Den svenska standarden innehåller den officiella engelska språkversionen av EN 60990:1999.

#### Nationellt förord

Europastandarden EN 60990:1999\*)

består av:

- europastandardens ikraftsättningsdokument, utarbetat inom CENELEC
- IEC 60990, Second edition, 1999 Methods of measurement of touch current and protective conductor current

utarbetad inom International Electrotechnical Commission, IEC.

ICS 17.220.00; 35.020.00

<sup>\*)</sup> EN 60990:1999 ikraftsattes 2000-02-25 som SS-EN 60990 genom offentliggörande, d v s utan utgivning av något svenskt dokument.

#### Standarder underlättar utvecklingen och höjer elsäkerheten

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SEK Svensk Elstandard

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

## EUROPEAN STANDARD NORME EUROPÉENNE EUROPÄISCHE NORM

EN 60990

October 1999

ICS 17.220; 35.020

English version

# Methods of measurement of touch current and protective conductor current (IEC 60990:1999)

Méthodes de mesure du courant de contact et du courant dans le conducteur de protection (CEI 60990:1999) Verfahren zur Messung von Berührungsstrom und Schutzleiterstrom (IEC 60990:1999)

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 1999-10-01. 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 Central Secretariat 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 Central Secretariat has the same status as the official versions.

CENELEC members are the national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

## **CENELEC**

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

Central Secretariat: rue de Stassart 35, B - 1050 Brussels

Ref. No. EN 60990:1999 E

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#### **Foreword**

The text of document 74/518/FDIS, future edition 2 of IEC 60990, prepared by IEC TC 74, Safety and energy efficiency of IT equipment, was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and was approved by CENELEC as EN 60990 on 1999-10-01.

The following dates were fixed:

 latest date by which the EN has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement

(dop) 2000-07-01

 latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the EN have to be withdrawn

(dow) 2002-10-01

Annexes designated "normative" are part of the body of the standard.

Annexes designated "informative" are given for information only.

In this standard, annexes A, B, C, L and ZA are normative and annexes D, E, F, G, H, J, K and M are informative.

Annex ZA has been added by CENELEC.

#### **Endorsement notice**

The text of the International Standard IEC 60990:1999 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

In the official version, for annex M, Bibliography, the following notes have to be added for the standards indicated:

IEC 60065 NOTE: Harmonized as EN 60065:1998 (modified).

IEC 60335-1 NOTE: Harmonized as EN 60335-1:1988 (modified), which is superseded by EN 60335-1:1994 (modified).

IEC 60364-3 NOTE: Harmonized as HD 384.3 S2:1995 (modified).

IEC 60601-1 NOTE: Harmonized as EN 60601-1:1990 (not modified).

IEC 60950 NOTE: Harmonized as EN 60950:1992 (modified).

IEC 61010-1 NOTE: Harmonized, together with its amendment A1:1992, as EN 61010-1:1993 (modified).

#### Annex ZA (normative)

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

This European Standard incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this European Standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies (including amendments).

NOTE: When an international publication has been modified by common modifications, indicated by (mod), the relevant EN/HD applies.

Publication	Year	<u>Title</u>	EN/HD	Year
IEC 60050-195	1998	International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) Chapter 195: Earthing and protection against electric shock	- -	-
IEC 60050-604	1987	Chapter 604: Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity - Operation	-	-
IEC 60309-1	1997	Plugs, socket-outlets and couplers for industrial purposes Part 1: General requirements	EN 60309-1 <sup>1)</sup>	1997
IEC 60364-4-41 (mod)	1992	Electrical installations of buildings Part 4: Protection for safety Chapter 41: Protection against electric shock	HD 384.4.41 S2	1996
IEC 60364-7-70	71984	Part 7: Requirements for special installations or locations Section 707: Earthing requirements for the installations of data processing equipment	-	-
IEC 60479-1	1994	Effects of current on human beings and livestock Part 1: General aspects	-	- 
IEC 60536	1976	Classification of electrical and electronic equipment with regard to protection against electric shock	HD 366 S1	1977
IEC 60536-2	1992	Part 2: Guidelines to requirements for protection against electric shock	-	-

<sup>1)</sup> EN 60309-1 is superseded by EN 60309-1:1999, which is based on IEC 60309-1:1999.

Page 4 EN 60990:1999

Publication	Year	<u>Title</u>	EN/HD	Year
ISO/IEC Guide 51	1990	Guidelines for the inclusion of safety aspects in standards	-	-
IEC Guide 104	1997	The preparation of safety publications and the use of basic safety publications and group safety publications	-	-

## **CONTENTS**

				Page		
IN	ΓROD	UCTION	V	11		
Cla	use					
1	Scop	e		17		
2	Normative references			19		
3	Defir	nitions				
4	Test	site		21		
	4.1	4.1 Test site environment				
	4.2	Test tr	ansformer	23		
	4.3	Earthed neutral conductor				
5	Meas	suring e	quipmentquipment	25		
	5.1	Select	ion of measuring network	25		
		5.1.1	Perception and reaction (a.c.)	29		
		5.1.2	Let-go (a.c.)	29		
		5.1.3	Electric burn (a.c.)	29		
		5.1.4	Ripple-free d.c.	29		
	5.2	Test e	lectrodes	29		
		5.2.1	Construction	29		
		5.2.2	Connection	29		
	5.3	Configuration				
	5.4	Power connections during test				
		5.4.1	General	31		
		5.4.2	Equipment for use only on TN or TT star power distribution systems	41		
		5.4.3	Equipment for use on IT power distribution systems including unearthed			
			delta systems			
		5.4.4	Equipment for use on single-phase centre-earthed power supply systems			
			or on centre-earthed delta power supply systems			
	5.5		y voltage and frequency			
		5.5.1	Supply voltage			
_		5.5.2	Supply frequency			
6	Test procedure					
			al			
		6.1.1	Control switches, equipment and supply conditions			
		6.1.2	Use of measuring networks			
	6.2		al and fault conditions of equipment			
		6.2.1	Normal operation of equipment			
_		6.2.2	Equipment and supply fault conditions			
7			f results			
	7.1	•				
0	7.2					
8			nt of protective conductor current			
	8.1	General				
	8.2		le equipment			
	8.3	ivieasu	ıring method	49		

			Page
Annex A (nor	mative)	Equipment	51
Annex B (nor	mative)	Use of a conductive plane	53
Annex C (nor	mative)	Incidentally connected parts	55
Annex D (info	ormative)	Choice of current limits	57
Annex E (info	rmative)	Networks for use in measurement of touch current	63
Annex F (info	rmative)	Measuring network limitations and construction	67
Annex G (info	ormative)	Construction and application of touch current measuring instruments	71
Annex H (info	ormative)	Grippable part	
Annex J (info		AC power distribution systems (see 5.4)	
Annex K (info		Routine and periodic touch current tests, and tests after repair or modification of mains operated equipment	
Annex L (nor	mativa)	Performance and calibration	
Annex L (nor	•	Bibliography	
Annex W (IIII	Jillialive)	Bibliography	109
Figure 1 –	Example	of earthed neutral, direct supply	23
Figure 2 –		of earthed neutral, with transformer for isolation	
Figure 3 –	•	g network, unweighted touch current	
Figure 4 –		g network, touch current weighted for perception or reaction	
Figure 5 –		g network, touch current weighted for let-go	
Figure 6 –		iguration: single-phase equipment on star TN or TT system	
Figure 7 –		iguration: single-phase equipment on centre-earthed TN	
•		tem	33
Figure 8 –	Test confi on star TN	iguration: single-phase equipment connected line-to-line  N or TT system	33
Figure 9 –		iguration: single-phase equipment connected line-to-neutral system	35
Figure 10 –		iguration: single-phase equipment connected line-to-line	
9		system	35
Figure 11 –	Test confi	iguration: three-phase equipment on star TN or TT system	37
Figure 12 –	Test confi	iguration: three-phase equipment on star IT system	37
Figure 13 –	Test confi	guration: unearthed delta system	39
Figure 14 –	Test confi	iguration: three-phase equipment on centre-earthed delta system	39
Figure A.1 –	Equipmen	ıt	51
Figure B.1 –	Equipmen	ıt platform	53
Figure F.1 –	Frequency	y factor for electric burn	67
Figure F.2 –	Frequency	y factor for perception or reaction	69
Figure F.3 –	Frequency	y factor for let-go	69
Figure H.1 –	Grippable	part test device	81
Figure J.1 –	Examples	of TN-S power system	87
Figure J.2 –	Example	of TN-C-S power system	89
Figure J.3 –	Example	of TN-C power system	89
Figure J.4 –	Example	of single-phase, 3-wire TN-C power system	91
Figure K.5 –	Example	of 3-line and neutral TT power system	91
		of 3-line TT power system	
Figure J.7 –	Example	of 3-line (and neutral) IT power system	95
Figure J.8 –	Example of	of 3-line IT power system	95

		Page
Table L.1 –	Calculated input impedance and transfer impedance for unweighted touch current measuring network (figure 3)	99
Γable L.2 –	Calculated input impedance and transfer impedance for perception or reaction touch current measuring network (figure 4)	.101
Table L.3 –	Calculated input impedance and transfer impedance for let-go current measuring network (figure 5)	.101
Γable L.4 –	Output voltage to input voltage ratios for unweighted touch current measuring network (figure 3)	.105
Γable L.5 –	Output voltage to input voltage ratios for perception or reaction measuring network (figure 4)	.105
Table L.6 –	Output voltage to input voltage ratios for let-go measuring network (figure 5)	.107

#### INTRODUCTION

This International Standard was developed as a response to concerns arising from the advent of electronic switching techniques being broadly applied to power systems and within EQUIPMENT\*, giving rise to high-frequency harmonic voltages and currents.

This standard is intended for the guidance of EQUIPMENT committees in preparing or amending the test specifications in their standards for measurement of leakage current. However the term "leakage current" is not used for reasons explained below.

This standard was prepared under the safety pilot function assigned to TC 74, as follows:

Methods of measuring leakage current

This includes, for various types of EQUIPMENT, all aspects of what is referred to as "leakage current", including methods of measurement of current with regard to physiological effects and for installation purposes, under normal conditions and under certain fault conditions.

The methods of measurement of leakage current described herein result from the review of IEC 60479-1 and other publications, including descriptions of earlier methods of measurement.

The following conclusions were derived from a review of the effects of leakage current:

- the primary concern for safety involves possible flow of harmful current through the human body (this current is not necessarily equal to the current flowing through a protective conductor);
- the effect of electric current on a human body is found to be somewhat more complex than
  was assumed during the development of earlier standards in that there are several body
  responses which should be considered. The most significant responses for setting limits for
  continuous waveforms are
  - perception,
  - · reaction,
  - · let-go, and
  - ELECTRIC BURN.

Each of these four body responses has a unique threshold level. There are also significant differences in the manner in which some of these thresholds vary with frequency.

Two types of current have been identified as needing separate measuring methods: TOUCH CURRENT and PROTECTIVE CONDUCTOR CURRENT.

TOUCH CURRENT only exists when a human body or a body model is a current pathway.

It was also noted that the term "leakage current" has already been applied to several different concerns: TOUCH CURRENT, PROTECTIVE CONDUCTOR CURRENT, insulation properties, etc. Therefore, in this standard, the term "leakage current" is not used.

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<sup>\*</sup> Terms in small capitals are defined in clause 3.

#### Measurement of TOUCH CURRENT

In the past, EQUIPMENT standards have used two traditional techniques for measurement of leakage current. Either the actual current in the protective conductor was measured, or a simple resistor-capacitor network (representing a simple body model) was used, the leakage current being defined as the current through the resistor.

This standard provides measuring methods for the four body responses to the electric current noted above, using a more representative body model.

This body model was chosen for most common cases of electric shock in the general sense. With respect to the path of current flow and conditions of contact, a body model approximating full hand-to-hand or hand-to-foot contact in normal conditions is used. For small areas of contact (e.g. one finger contact), a different model may be appropriate.

Of the four responses, perception, reaction and let-go are related to the peak value of TOUCH CURRENT and vary with frequency. Traditionally, concerns for electric shock have dealt with sinusoidal waveforms, for which r.m.s. measurements are most convenient. Peak measurements are more appropriate for non-sinusoidal waveforms where significant values of TOUCH CURRENT are expected, but are equally suitable for sinusoidal waveforms. The networks specified for the measurement of perception, reaction and let-go currents are frequency-responsive and are so weighted that single limit power-frequency values can be specified and referenced.

ELECTRIC BURNS, however, are related to the r.m.s. value of TOUCH CURRENT, and are relatively independent of frequency. For EQUIPMENT where ELECTRIC BURNS may be of concern (see 7.2), two separate measurements are required, one in peak value for electric shock and a second in r.m.s. value for ELECTRIC BURNS.

EQUIPMENT committees should decide which physiological effects are acceptable and which are not, and then decide on limit values of current. Committees for certain types of EQUIPMENT may adopt simplified procedures based upon this standard. A discussion of limit values, based upon earlier work by various IEC EQUIPMENT committees, is provided in annex D.

#### Measurement of PROTECTIVE CONDUCTOR CURRENT

In certain cases, measurement of the PROTECTIVE CONDUCTOR CURRENT of EQUIPMENT under normal operating conditions is required. Such cases include:

- selection of a residual current protection device,
- compliance with 471.3.3 of IEC 60364-7-707.

The PROTECTIVE CONDUCTOR CURRENT is measured by inserting an ammeter of negligible impedance in series with the EQUIPMENT protective earthing conductor.

A bibliography of related documents is given in annex M.

This second edition has been prepared on the basis of comments provided by users of the first edition.

Principal changes include the following:

- provision of an earthing alternative for testing, in order to accommodate some test situations;
- provision of a more detailed description of the design and calibration of the measurement network, thus allowing deletion of component tolerances from the network diagrams;
- a minor inaccuracy in one measurement method has been corrected by the inclusion of an additional calculation;
- the discussion of the physiological effects has been clarified.

# METHODS OF MEASUREMENT OF TOUCH CURRENT AND PROTECTIVE CONDUCTOR CURRENT

#### 1 Scope

This International Standard defines measurement methods for

- d.c. or a.c. of sinusoidal or non-sinusoidal waveform, which could flow through the human body, and
- current flowing through a protective conductor.

The measuring methods recommended for TOUCH CURRENT are based upon the possible effects of current flowing through a human body. In this standard, measurements of current through networks representing the impedance of the human body are referred to as measurements of TOUCH CURRENT. These networks are not necessarily valid for the bodies of animals.

The specification or implication of specific limit values is not within the scope of this standard. IEC 60479-1 provides information regarding the effects of current passing through the human body from which limit values may be derived.

This standard is applicable to all classes of EQUIPMENT, according to IEC 60536.

The methods of measurement in this standard are not intended to be used for

- TOUCH CURRENTS having less than 1 s duration,
- patient currents as defined in IEC 60601-1.
- a.c. at frequencies below 15 Hz,
- a.c. in combination with d.c. The use of a single network for a composite indication of the effects of combined a.c. and d.c. has not been investigated,
- currents above those chosen for ELECTRIC BURN limits.

This basic safety publication is primarily intended for use by technical committees in the preparation of standards in accordance with the principles laid down in IEC Guide 104 and ISO/IEC Guide 51. It is not intended for use by manufacturers or certification bodies.

One of the responsibilities of a technical committee is, wherever applicable, to make use of basic safety publications in the preparation of its publications. The requirements, test methods or test conditions of this basic safety publication will not apply, unless specifically referred to or included in the relevant publications.

#### 2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

IEC 60050(195): International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Chapter 195: Earthing and protection against electric shock

IEC 60050(604): International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Chapter 604: Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity – Operation

IEC 60309-1:1997, Plugs, socket-outlets and couplers for industrial purposes – Part 1: General requirements

IEC 60364-4-41:1992, Electrical installations of buildings – Part 4: Protection for safety – Chapter 41: Protection against electric shock

IEC 60364-7-707:1984, Electrical installations of buildings – Part 7: Requirements for special installations or locations – Section 707: Earthing requirements for the installation of data processing equipment

IEC 60479-1:1994, Effects of current on human beings and livestock – Part 1: General aspects

IEC 60536:1976, Classification of electrical and electronic equipment with regard to protection against electric shock

IEC 60536-2:1992, Classification of electrical and electronic equipment with regard to protection against electric shock – Part 2: Guidelines to requirements for protection against electric shock

IEC 61140:1997, Protection against electric shock – Common aspects for installation and equipment

ISO/IEC Guide 51:1990, Guideline for the inclusion of safety aspects in standards

IEC Guide 104:1997, Guide to the drafting of safety standards and the role of committees with safety pilot functions and safety group functions