

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear –  
Part 4-3: Contactors and motor-starters – Semiconductor controllers and  
semiconductor contactors for non-motor loads

[IEC 60947-4-3:2020](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/6a13f65d-008f-4e33-8f41-65e8887bdc55/iec-60947-4-3-2020)

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INTERNATIONAL  
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## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	7
INTRODUCTION.....	9
1 Scope.....	10
2 Normative references .....	11
3 Terms, definitions, symbols and abbreviated terms.....	11
3.1 General.....	11
3.2 Alphabetical index of terms .....	12
3.3 Terms and definitions concerning the types of semiconductor controllers and semiconductor contactors (see Figure 1).....	12
3.4 Terms and definitions concerning characteristics of semiconductor controllers and semiconductor contactors .....	13
3.5 Terms and definitions concerning safety aspects .....	16
3.6 Symbols and abbreviated terms .....	16
4 Classification.....	17
5 Characteristics of semiconductor controllers and semiconductor contactors .....	17
5.1 Summary of characteristics .....	17
5.2 Type of equipment .....	17
5.2.1 Kind of equipment.....	17
5.2.2 Number of poles .....	18
5.2.3 Kind of current .....	18
5.2.4 Interrupting medium (air, vacuum, etc.).....	18
5.2.5 Operating conditions of the equipment.....	18
5.3 Rated and limiting values for main circuits.....	20
5.3.1 Rated voltages.....	20
5.3.2 Currents.....	20
5.3.3 Rated frequency .....	20
5.3.4 Duty cycle values and symbols .....	20
5.3.5 Normal load and overload characteristics.....	21
5.3.6 Rated conditional short-circuit current.....	21
5.3.7 Controller power losses .....	22
5.4 Utilization category .....	22
5.4.1 General.....	22
5.4.2 Assignment of ratings based on the results of tests .....	23
5.5 Control circuits.....	23
5.6 Auxiliary circuits.....	23
5.7 Vacant .....	24
5.8 Coordination with short-circuit protective devices (SCPD).....	24
6 Product information .....	24
6.1 Nature of information .....	24
6.2 Marking.....	25
6.3 Instructions for installation, operation, maintenance, decommissioning and dismantling .....	26
6.4 Environmental information .....	26
7 Normal service, mounting and transport conditions.....	26
7.1 Normal service conditions .....	26
7.1.1 Ambient air temperature .....	26
7.1.2 Altitude .....	27

7.1.3	Atmospheric conditions .....	27
7.1.4	Shock and vibrations .....	27
7.2	Conditions during transport and storage .....	27
7.3	Mounting .....	27
7.4	Electrical system disturbances and influences .....	27
8	Constructional and performance requirements .....	28
8.1	Constructional requirements .....	28
8.1.1	General .....	28
8.1.2	Materials .....	28
8.1.3	Current-carrying parts and their connections .....	29
8.1.4	Clearances and creepage distances .....	29
8.1.5	Actuator .....	29
8.1.6	Indication of the contact position .....	29
8.1.7	Additional requirements for equipment suitable for isolation .....	29
8.1.8	Terminals .....	29
8.1.9	Additional requirements for equipment provided with a neutral pole .....	30
8.1.10	Provisions for protective earthing .....	30
8.1.11	Enclosures for equipment .....	30
8.1.12	Degrees of protection of enclosed equipment .....	30
8.1.13	Conduit pull-out, torque and bending with metallic conduits .....	30
8.1.14	Limited energy source .....	30
8.1.15	Stored charge energy circuit .....	32
8.1.16	Fault and abnormal conditions .....	32
8.1.17	Short-circuit and overload protection of ports .....	33
8.2	Performance requirements .....	33
8.2.1	Operating conditions .....	33
8.2.2	Temperature-rise .....	34
8.2.3	Dielectric properties .....	35
8.2.4	Normal load and overload performance requirements .....	36
8.2.5	Coordination with short-circuit protective devices .....	41
8.3	EMC requirements .....	41
8.3.1	General .....	41
8.3.2	Immunity .....	41
8.3.3	Emission .....	43
9	Tests .....	43
9.1	Kinds of tests .....	43
9.1.1	General .....	43
9.1.2	Type tests .....	43
9.1.3	Routine tests .....	44
9.1.4	Sampling tests .....	44
9.1.5	Special tests .....	44
9.2	Compliance with constructional requirements .....	45
9.2.1	General .....	45
9.2.2	Electrical performance of screwless-type clamping units .....	45
9.2.3	Ageing test for screwless-type clamping units .....	45
9.2.4	Limited energy source test .....	45
9.2.5	Breakdown of components .....	46
9.2.6	Wire flexing test .....	47
9.3	Compliance with performance requirements .....	47

9.3.1	Test sequences .....	47
9.3.2	General test conditions .....	48
9.3.3	Performance under no load, normal load and overload conditions .....	48
9.3.4	Performance under short-circuit conditions .....	56
9.4	EMC tests .....	59
9.4.1	General.....	59
9.4.2	EMC immunity tests .....	60
9.4.3	EMC emission tests .....	61
9.5	Routine and sampling tests .....	63
9.5.1	General.....	63
9.5.2	Operation and operating limits .....	63
9.5.3	Dielectric tests .....	63
Annex A	(normative) Marking and identification of terminals .....	65
A.1	General.....	65
A.2	Marking and identification of terminals of semiconductor controllers and semiconductor contactors .....	65
A.2.1	Marking and identification of terminals of main circuits.....	65
A.2.2	Marking and identification of terminals of control circuits.....	65
Annex B	(informative) Typical service conditions for semiconductor controllers and semiconductor contactors .....	66
B.1	Control of resistive heating elements .....	66
B.2	Switching of electric discharge lamp controls .....	66
B.3	Switching of incandescent lamps .....	66
B.4	Switching of transformers.....	67
B.5	Switching of capacitor banks.....	67
Annex C	Vacant.....	68
Annex D	Vacant.....	69
Annex E	Vacant .....	70
Annex F	(informative) Operating capability.....	71
Annex G	Vacant.....	74
Annex H	Vacant.....	75
Annex I	(normative) Modified test circuit for short-circuit testing of semiconductor contactors and semiconductor controllers .....	76
Annex J	(informative) Vacant .....	78
Annex K	(normative) Examples of overvoltage category reduction .....	79
K.1	General.....	79
K.2	Insulation to the surroundings .....	79
K.2.1	Circuits connected directly to the supply mains .....	79
K.2.2	Insulation between circuits.....	80
Annex L	(normative) Additional requirements and tests for equipment with protective separation.....	84
L.1	General.....	84
L.2	Terms and definitions.....	84
L.3	Requirements .....	84
L.3.1	Test method for implementing protective impedance.....	84
L.3.2	Touch current measurement .....	85
Bibliography	.....	87

Figure 1 – Semiconductor control devices .....	13
Figure 2 – Methods of connecting .....	19
Figure F.1 – Thermal stability test profile .....	71
Figure F.2 – Overload withstand test profile .....	72
Figure F.3 – Blocking and commutating capability test profile .....	73
Figure I.1 – Modified circuit for short-circuit testing of semiconductor devices .....	76
Figure I.2 – Timeline for the short-circuit test of 9.3.4.1.6 .....	77
Figure K.1 – Basic insulation evaluation for circuits connected directly to the origin of the installation mains supply .....	79
Figure K.2 – Basic insulation evaluation for circuits connected directly to the mains supply .....	80
Figure K.3 – Basic insulation evaluation for equipment not permanently connected to the mains supply .....	80
Figure K.4 – Basic insulation evaluation for insulation between circuits connected directly to the origin of the installation mains supply and that are declared galvanically separated .....	81
Figure K.5 – Basic insulation evaluation for insulation between circuits connected directly to the mains supply and that are declared galvanically separated .....	81
Figure K.6 – Basic insulation evaluation for insulation between circuits not permanently connected directly to the mains supply and that are declared galvanically separated .....	82
Figure K.7 – Basic insulation evaluation for insulation between circuits connected directly to the origin of the installation mains supply and that are declared galvanically separated where internal SPDs are used .....	82
Figure K.8 – Basic insulation evaluation for insulation between circuits connected directly to the mains supply and that are declared galvanically separated where internal SPDs are used .....	83
Figure K.9 – Basic insulation evaluation for insulation between circuits connected directly to the mains supply and that are declared galvanically separated .....	83
Figure L.1 – Protection by means of protective impedance .....	85
Figure L.2 – Measuring instrument .....	86
Table 1 – Utilization categories .....	23
Table 2 – Relative levels of severity .....	23
Table 14 – Limits for limited energy sources without an over-current protective device .....	31
Table 15 – Limits for limited energy sources with an over-current protective device .....	31
Table 16 – Limits for limited energy source with current limiting impedance .....	32
Table 3 – Temperature-rise limits for insulated coils in air and in oil .....	35
Table 4 – Minimum overload current withstand time ( $T_X$ ) in relation to overload current ratio ( $X$ ) .....	37
Table 5 – Minimum requirements for thermal stability test conditions .....	37
Table 6 – Minimum requirements for overload current withstand test conditions .....	38
Table 7 – Making and breaking capacity test – Making and breaking conditions according to utilization categories for the mechanical switching device .....	39
Table 8 – Conventional operational performance – Making and breaking conditions according to utilization categories for the mechanical switching device .....	40
Table 9 – Specific performance criteria when EM disturbances are present .....	42
Table 10 – Thermal stability test specifications .....	52
Table 11 – Blocking and commutating capability test specifications .....	54

Table 12 – Terminal disturbance voltage limits for conducted radio-frequency emission  
(AC mains power port) ..... 62

Table 13 – Radiated emissions test limits ..... 63

Table A.1 – Main circuit terminal markings ..... 65

Table K.1 – Drawing keys ..... 79

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

## LOW-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

**Part 4-3: Contactors and motor-starters –  
Semiconductor controllers and semiconductor  
contactors for non-motor loads**

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International Standard IEC 60947-4-3 has been prepared by subcommittee 121A: Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear, of IEC technical committee 121: Switchgear and controlgear and their assemblies for low-voltage.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2014. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) scope exclusions;
- b) editorial correction of notes and hanging paragraphs;

- c) safety aspects related to:
  - general aspects;
  - limited energy circuits;
  - electronic circuits;
- d) mention of dedicated wiring accessories;
- e) power consumption measurement;
- f) alignment to IEC 60947-1:2020;
- g) alignment with IEC 60947-4-2 when appropriate.

The provisions of the general rules dealt with IEC 60947-1 are applicable to this part of IEC 60947 series where specifically called for. Clauses and subclauses, tables, figures and annexes of the general rules thus applicable are identified by reference to IEC 60947-1:2020.

The text of this document is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
121A/357/FDIS	121A/368/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this document 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.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60947 series, published under the general title *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear*, can be found on the IEC website.

The following differing practices of a less permanent nature exist in the countries indicated below.

## 5.5 USA and Canada

### 8.1.14.1 Canada

Table 14 USA

Table 15 USA

### 9.4.3.2 USA

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

## INTRODUCTION

This document covers low-voltage semiconductor controllers and semiconductor contactors (solid-state contactors) intended for the use with non-motor loads. As semiconductor controllers, they have many capabilities beyond the simple switching on and off of non-motor loads. As semiconductor contactors, they perform the same functions as mechanical contactors, but utilize one or more semiconductor switching devices in their main poles.

The devices may be single-pole or multi-pole (see 3.5.1 of IEC 60947-1:2020). This document refers to complete devices rated as a unit incorporating all necessary heat-sinking material and terminals. It includes devices with all necessary terminals, which are supplied with or without heat-sink in knocked-down form for combination by the users, when the manufacturer gives with the device detailed information about choosing the heat-sink and mounting the device on the heat-sink.

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## LOW-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

### Part 4-3: Contactors and motor-starters – Semiconductor controllers and semiconductor contactors for non-motor loads

#### 1 Scope

This document applies to semiconductor controllers and semiconductor contactors for non-motor load intended to be connected to circuits, the rated voltage of which does not exceed 1 000 V AC.

It covers their use:

- for operations of changing the state of AC electric circuits between the ON-state and the OFF-state;
- with or without bypass switching devices;
- as controller, for reducing the amplitude of the RMS AC voltage.

This document does not apply to:

- electromechanical contactors (see IEC 60947-4-1);
- short-circuit protective device associated with semiconductor controllers and semiconductor contactors (see IEC 60947-4-1 (MPSD), IEC 60947-2 and IEC 60947-3);
- semiconductor motor controller or soft-starter equipment (see IEC 60947-4-2);
- semiconductor converters (see IEC 60146 (all parts));
- solid-state relays (see IEC 62314);
- use of the product within explosive atmospheres (see IEC 60079 (all parts));
- software and firmware requirements (see IEC TR 63201);
- cyber security aspects (see IEC TS 63208).

Contactors and control-circuit devices used in semiconductor controllers and contactors are considered compliant with the requirements of their relevant product standard. Where mechanical switching devices are used, they are considered meeting the requirements of their own IEC product standard and the additional requirements of this document.

The object of this document is to state as follows:

- the characteristics of semiconductor controllers and semiconductor contactors;
- the conditions with which semiconductor controllers and semiconductor contactors comply with reference to:
  - a) their operation and behaviour in normal and abnormal operating conditions including overcurrent operating conditions;
  - b) their dielectric properties;
  - c) the degrees of protection provided by their enclosures, where applicable;
  - d) their construction including safety measures against electric shock, fire hazard and mechanical hazard;
- the tests intended for confirming that these conditions have been met, and the methods to be adopted for these tests;
- the information to be given with the equipment or in the manufacturer's literature.

## 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 60445, *Basic and safety principles for man-machine interface, marking and identification – Identification of equipment terminals, conductor terminations and conductors*

IEC 60715, *Dimensions of low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Standardized mounting on rails for mechanical support of switchgear, controlgear and accessories*

IEC 60730-1, *Automatic electrical controls – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 60947-1:2020, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 1: General rules*

IEC 60947-4-1, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 4-1: Contactors and motor-starters – Electromechanical contactors and motor-starters*

IEC 61000-3-2, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 3-2: Limits – Limits for harmonic current emissions (equipment input current  $\leq 16$  A per phase)*

IEC 61000-3-3, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 3-3: Limits – Limitation of voltage changes, voltage fluctuations and flicker in public low-voltage supply systems, for equipment with rated current  $\leq 16$  A per phase and not subject to conditional connection*

IEC 61000-3-11, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 3-11: Limits – Limitation of voltage changes, voltage fluctuations and flicker in public low-voltage supply systems – Equipment with rated current  $\leq 75$  A and subject to conditional connection*

IEC 61000-3-12, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 3-12: Limits – Limits for harmonic currents produced by equipment connected to public low-voltage systems with input current  $> 16$  A and  $\leq 75$  A per phase*

IEC 61000-4-5, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-5: Testing and measurement techniques – Surge immunity test*

IEC 61140:2016, *Protection against electric shock – Common aspects for installation and equipment*

CISPR 11:2015, *Industrial, scientific and medical equipment – Radio-frequency disturbance characteristics – Limits and methods of measurement*

CISPR 11:2015/AMD1:2016

ISO 2859-1:1999, *Sampling procedures for inspection by attributes – Part 1: Sampling schemes indexed by acceptance quality limit (AQL) for lot-by-lot inspection*  
ISO 2859-1:1999/AMD1:2011

## 3 Terms, definitions, symbols and abbreviated terms

### 3.1 General

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in Clause 3 of IEC 60947-1:2020, as well as the following terms, definitions, symbols and abbreviated terms apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

### 3.2 Alphabetical index of terms

Term		Reference
A	Abnormal operating condition	3.5.1
	Accessible part	3.5.2
B	Bypassed semiconductor controller	3.4.18
C	Current-limit function	3.4.1
F	FULL-ON	3.4.6
G	Galvanic opening	3.4.20
	Galvanic separation	3.4.21
H	Hazardous-live-part	3.5.3
I	Instantaneous switching	3.4.9
L	Limited energy source	3.5.4
	Load control	3.4.2
O	OFF-state	3.4.7
	OFF-state current	3.4.8
	OFF-time	3.4.17
	ON-state	3.4.5
	ON-time	3.4.16
	Operating capability	3.4.11
	Operating cycle	3.4.10
	Overcurrent protective means OCPM	3.4.15
	Overload current profile	3.4.12
P	Protective impedance	3.5.5
R	Ramp-down	3.4.4
	Ramp-up	3.4.3
	Rating index	3.4.13
	Reasonably foreseeable misuse	3.5.6
S	Semiconductor controller	3.3.1
	Semiconductor contactor	3.3.2
	Semiconductor controller power losses	3.4.19
	Single fault condition	3.5.7
T	Trip-free semiconductor controller	3.4.14

### 3.3 Terms and definitions concerning the types of semiconductor controllers and semiconductor contactors (see Figure 1)

#### 3.3.1

##### semiconductor controller

semiconductor switching device that provides a switching function for an AC electrical load and an OFF-state

Note 1 to entry: Because hazardous levels of the OFF-state current (3.4.8) exist in a semiconductor controller, the load terminals are considered as live parts at all times.

Note 2 to entry: In a circuit where the current passes through zero (alternately or otherwise), the effect of "not making" the current following such a zero value is equivalent to breaking the current.

Note 3 to entry: See 3.4.3 of IEC 60947-1:2020 for the definition of semiconductor switching device.

### 3.3.2 semiconductor contactor

<solid-state contactor> semiconductor controller, in which the switching function is limited to FULL-ON

Note 1 to entry: A semiconductor contactor can also contain mechanical switching devices.

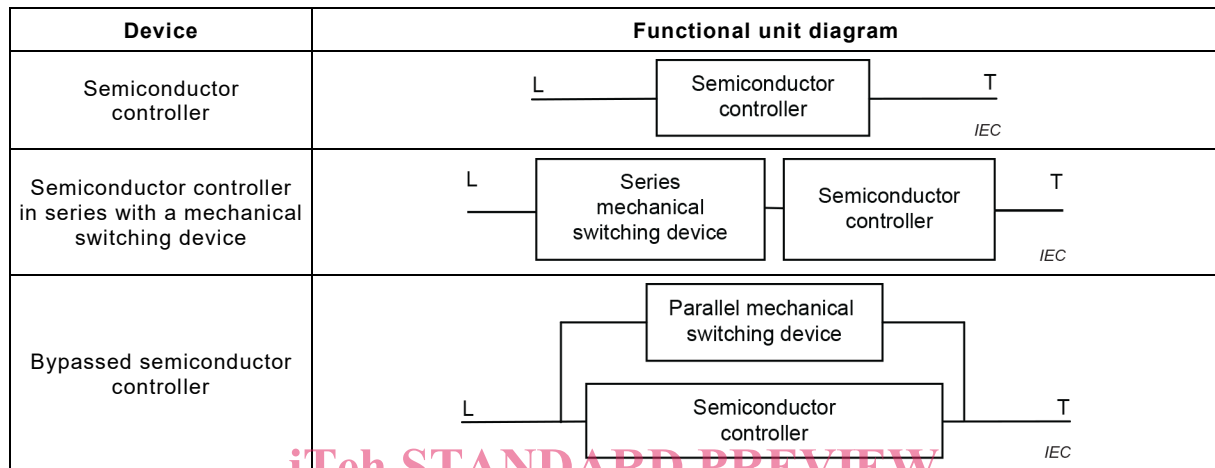


Figure 1 – Semiconductor control devices  
(standards.iteh.ai)

## 3.4 Terms and definitions concerning characteristics of semiconductor controllers and semiconductor contactors IEC 60947-4-3:2020

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### 3.4.1 current-limit function

ability of the semiconductor controller to limit the load current to a specified value

Note 1 to entry: It does not include the ability to limit the instantaneous current under conditions of short circuit.

### 3.4.2 load control

any deliberate operation which causes changes in the effective power available to the load through variation of either

- an imposed operating cycle (i.e. variation of the cyclic duration factor  $F$  and/or the number of operating cycles per hour  $S$ , see 5.3.4
- or
- the load terminal voltage (for example, through phase-angle control)
- or
- a combination of these

Note 1 to entry: Switch-on is a mandatory form of load control that is recognized separately.

Note 2 to entry: Load control can be performed by semiconductor contactor, if an external switching device or control circuit causes the cyclic transition from the OFF-state to the FULL-ON state and back again (i.e. load control by operating cycle).

### 3.4.3 ramp-up

switching (switch-on) function which causes the transition from the OFF-state (or from the open state, in the case of a semiconductor controller in series with a mechanical switching device) to the ON-state (i.e. to the FULL-ON state or to a load control operation) over a defined period of time (the ramp-up time)