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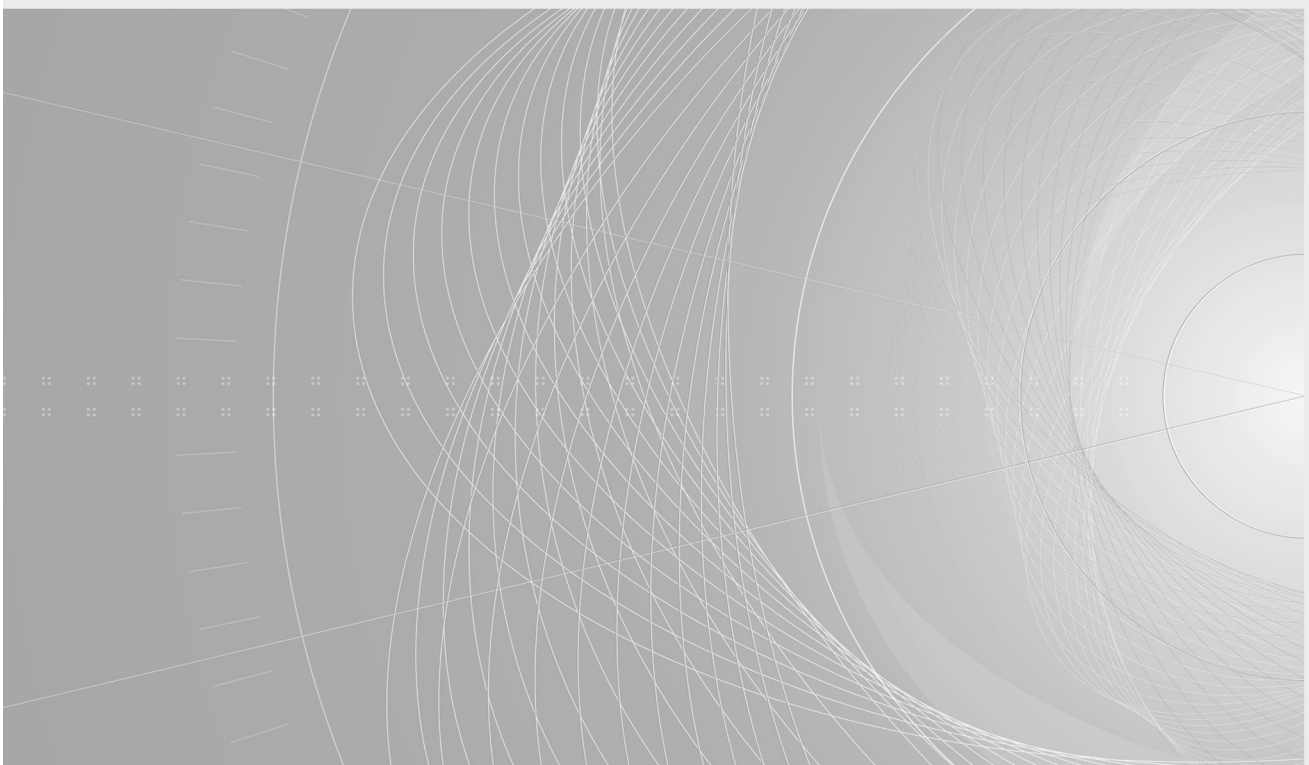


**Rotating electrical machines –
Part 27-2: On-line partial discharge measurements on the stator winding
insulation**

**Machines électriques tournantes –
Partie 27-2: Mesurages en fonctionnement des décharges partielles effectués
sur le système d'isolation**

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ROTATING ELECTRICAL MACHINES –

**Part 27-2: On-line partial discharge measurements
on the stator winding insulation**

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Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/publications.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60034 series, published under the general title *Rotating electrical machines*, can be found on the IEC website.

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INTRODUCTION

Partial Discharge (PD) on-line measurement of rotating electrical machines has gained widespread acceptance as it could reveal the presence of localized weak points of the stator insulation system and also various arcing and sparking phenomena. Nevertheless, it has emerged from several studies that not only are there many different methods of measurement in existence, but also the criteria and methods of analysing and finally assessing the measured data are often very different and not really comparable. Consequently, there is a need to have an International Standard (IS) to give defined guidelines to the users of on-line PD measurements to assess the condition of their insulation systems.

On-line PD measurements are recorded with the rotating electrical machine experiencing all of the operating stresses; thermal, electrical, environmental and mechanical. Due to the realistic stress impact on the winding during measurement and due to the fact that the measurement is performed during all kinds of normal operation like base load and peak load, PD on-line testing could identify changes of the winding insulation system at a premature stage and enables real-time condition assessment as part of predictive maintenance strategies.

PD trend evaluation and comparisons with machines of similar design and similar insulation system measured under similar conditions, using the same measuring equipment, are recommended to ensure reliable assessment of the condition of the stator winding insulation. The trending information provides a good measure for early indication of a change in insulation condition. This gives time for planning further standstill examination in terms of visual inspection and off-line testing during next inspection outage.

This document does not deal with on-line PD measurements on converter driven electrical machines because different measuring techniques are needed to distinguish between noise from the converter and PD from the winding.

Limitations: PD on-line tests on stator windings produce comparative, rather than absolute measurements. This creates a fundamental limitation for the interpretation of PD data. Therefore, acceptance criteria with simple limits for new or rewound stator windings cannot be established as the following reasons demonstrate:

- There are many types of PD sensors as well as recording and analysing instruments. Generally, they are incompatible and will produce different results for the same PD activity.
- Even with the same measuring system, the high frequency partial discharge pulses will interact with the winding capacitance and inductance on their way from point of origin to the measuring point, e.g. at the winding terminals. Thus, PD measurements taken at machines with different winding design and rating produce different PD results, even though the actual type of PD source is the same.
- Different types of winding defects produce different PD magnitudes and have different impact on insulation destruction. There is no strong correlation between high PD and high risk of insulation failure.
- PD activity may occur close or far from the PD sensor. In general, if the PD source is inside the winding coils far away from the PD sensor, it will produce a smaller response at the PD sensor at the terminals compared to a PD source at the phase connections nearby due to pulse attenuation.

Users should also be aware that there is no evidence that the time to failure of the stator winding insulation can be estimated using any PD quantity, alone or even in combination. In order to more comprehensively describe the condition of the stator insulation, PD measurements are required to be supplemented by other electrical tests. Also, determining the root cause of an insulation deterioration process using PD pattern recognition, especially if more than one process is occurring, is still somewhat subjective, although the digital analysing technology is evolving rapidly.

Noise and disturbance from electrical environment have a great impact to on-line PD measurement. Cross-coupling of PD and noise between different phases can make objective interpretation of the test results difficult. Therefore, different analogue and digital noise suppression techniques are used to improve PD measuring sensitivity and PD analysing tools.

Users of PD measurement should be aware that, due to the principles of the method, not all insulation-related problems in stator windings can be detected by measuring on-line PD activity, e.g. insulation failures involving continuous leakage currents due to conductive paths between different electrical potential of the insulation system or fine main insulation cracks with too small PD activity compared to normal delamination PD or pulse-less discharge phenomena.

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ROTATING ELECTRICAL MACHINES –

Part 27-2: On-line partial discharge measurements on the stator winding insulation

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60034-27 deals with on-line PD measurements and provides a common basis with standardized procedures if possible for:

- measuring techniques and instruments;
- the arrangement of the installation;
- normalization and sensitivity assessment;
- measuring procedures;
- noise reduction;
- the documentation of results;
- the interpretation of results;

with respect to partial discharge on-line measurements on the stator winding insulation of non-converter driven rotating electrical machines with rated voltage of 3 kV and up. This document covers PD measuring systems and methods detecting electrical PD signals. The same measuring devices and procedures can also be used to detect electrical sparking and arcing phenomena.

2 Normative references

[IEC 60034-27-2:2023](#)

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 60034-27-1:2017, *Rotating electrical machines – Part 27-1: Off-line partial discharge measurements on the winding insulation*

IEC 60034-27-3, *Rotating electrical machines – Part 27-3: Dielectric dissipation factor measurement on stator winding insulation of rotating electrical machines*

IEC 60060-1, *High-voltage test techniques – Part 1: General definitions and test requirements*

IEC 60068-2-6, *Environmental testing – Part 2-6: Tests – Test Fc: Vibration (sinusoidal)*

IEC 60068-2-27, *Environmental testing – Part 2-27: Tests – Test Ea and guidance: Shock*

IEC 60112, *Method for the determination of the proof and the comparative tracking indices of solid insulating materials*

IEC 60270:2000, *High-voltage test techniques – Partial discharge measurements*

IEC 62271-1, *High-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 1: Common specifications for alternating current switchgear and controlgear*

IEC TS 62478, *High voltage test techniques – Measurement of partial discharges by electromagnetic and acoustic methods*

ISO 8528-9: *Reciprocating internal combustion engine driven alternating current generating sets – Part 9: Measurement and evaluation of mechanical vibrations*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document the terms and definitions given in IEC 60270 apply, together with the following.

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>

3.1

partial discharge

PD

localized electrical discharge that only partially bridges the insulation between conductors and which can or cannot occur adjacent to a conductor

3.2

on-line measurement

measurement taken with the rotating electrical machine in operation

3.3

off-line measurement

measurement taken with the rotating electrical machine at standstill, the machine being disconnected from the power system

Note 1 to entry: The necessary test voltage is applied to the winding from a separate voltage source.

3.4

conductive slot coating

conductive paint or tape layer in intimate contact with the groundwall insulation in the slot portion of the coil side, often called 'semiconductive' coating

Note 1 to entry: This coating together with adequate slot design provides electrical contact to the stator core, without shorting the core laminations.

3.5

stress control coating

paint or tape on the surface of the groundwall insulation that extends beyond the conductive slot portion coating in high-voltage stator bars and coils

Note 1 to entry: The stress control coating reduces the electric field stress along the winding overhang to below a critical value that would initiate PD on the surface. The stress control coating overlaps the conductive slot portion coating to provide electrical contact between them.

3.6

corona discharge

visible partial discharge adjacent to the surface of a bare conductor or the surface of an insulation of a conductor

3.7**slot discharges**

discharges that occur between the outer surface of the slot portion of a coil or bar and the earthed core laminations due to high electrical field strength

3.8**vibration sparking**

interrupted surface currents between the outer surface of the slot portion of a bar and the earthed core laminations due to axially induced voltages on the conductive slot coating combined with bar vibrations

3.9**internal discharges**

discharges that occur within the mainwall insulation

3.10**surface discharges**

discharges that occur on the surface of the insulation or on the surface of winding components in the winding overhang or the active part of the machine winding

3.11**pulse magnitude distribution**

number of pulses within a series of equally-spaced windows of pulse magnitude during a predefined measuring time

3.12**pulse phase distribution**

number of pulses within a series of equally-spaced windows of phase during a predefined measuring time

3.13**phase resolved partial discharge pattern****PRPD**

PD distribution map of PD magnitude and number of PD pulses versus AC cycle phase position, for visualization of the PD behaviour during a predefined measuring time

3.14**PD sensor**

general type of transducer, which can be used to detect PD signals from the machine winding

Note 1 to entry: A PD sensor typically consists of a high voltage coupling capacitor of low inductance design and a low voltage coupling device in series.

3.15**coupling device**

usually an active or passive four-terminal network that converts the input currents to output voltage signals

Note 1 to entry: These signals are transmitted to the measuring device by a transmission system. The frequency response of the coupling device is normally chosen at least so as to efficiently prevent the test voltage frequency and its harmonics from reaching the measuring device.

3.16**resistance temperature detector****RTD**

temperature detector inserted into the stator winding, usually between the top and bottom bar or between embedded coil sides in a given slot