

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Thermistors – Directly heated positive temperature coefficient –
Part 1: Generic specification**

**Thermistances – Coefficient de température positif à chauffage direct –
Partie 1: Spécification générique**

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	7
1 Scope.....	9
2 Normative references	9
3 Terms and definitions	10
4 General requirements	19
4.1 Units and symbols.....	19
4.2 Preferred values	20
4.2.1 Climatic categories	20
4.2.2 Spacings	20
4.3 Marking.....	20
4.3.1 General	20
4.3.2 Coding.....	21
5 General provisions for measurements and test method.....	21
5.1 General.....	21
5.2 Standard conditions for testing.....	21
5.2.1 Standard atmospheric conditions for testing	21
5.2.2 Error of measurement.....	21
5.3 Drying and recovery.....	21
5.3.1 Drying.....	21
5.3.2 Recovery	22
5.3.3 Shock test severities.....	22
5.3.4 Vibration severities	22
5.4 Mounting (for surface mount thermistors only)	22
5.4.1 General	22
5.4.2 Printed wiring board and land pattern	23
5.4.3 Wave soldering method	23
5.4.4 Reflow soldering method	23
6 Electrical tests and measurements	24
6.1 Zero-power resistance	24
6.1.1 General	24
6.1.2 Measurement procedures	24
6.1.3 Requirements	25
6.2 Temperature coefficient of resistance	25
6.2.1 General	25
6.2.2 Requirements	25
6.3 Insulation resistance (for insulated types only).....	25
6.3.1 General	25
6.3.2 Test methods.....	25
6.3.3 Applied voltage.....	26
6.3.4 Requirements	26
6.4 Voltage proof (for insulated types only).....	26
6.4.1 General	26
6.4.2 Test methods.....	26
6.4.3 Test voltage.....	26
6.4.4 Requirements	26
6.5 Resistance/temperature characteristic	26

6.5.1	Test methods.....	26
6.5.2	Requirements	27
6.6	Dissipation factor at U_{\max} (δ)	27
6.6.1	General	27
6.6.2	Preconditioning.....	27
6.6.3	Test circuit.....	27
6.6.4	Test methods.....	27
6.6.5	Requirements	28
6.7	Response time by ambient temperature change (t_a)	28
6.7.1	General	28
6.7.2	Preconditioning.....	28
6.7.3	Test procedures.....	28
6.7.4	Measurement procedures	29
6.7.5	Requirements	29
6.8	Response time by power change (t_p)	29
6.8.1	Mounting	29
6.8.2	Test methods.....	29
6.9	Thermal time constant by ambient temperature change (τ_a).....	30
6.10	Thermal time constant by cooling (τ_c).....	30
6.10.1	Mounting	30
6.10.2	Test methods.....	30
6.10.3	Requirements	32
6.11	Tripping current and tripping time.....	32
6.12	Non-tripping current.....	32
6.13	Residual current.....	32
6.14	Surface temperature	33
6.15	Inrush current	34
6.15.1	Measuring circuit	34
6.15.2	Measuring method	34
6.16	Energy by discharge	35
6.16.1	Measuring circuit	35
6.16.2	Measuring method	35
7	Mechanical test and measurements	36
7.1	Visual examination and check of dimensions	36
7.1.1	Visual examination	36
7.1.2	Marking	36
7.1.3	Dimensions (gauging).....	36
7.1.4	Dimensions (detail).....	36
7.2	Robustness of terminations.....	36
7.2.1	General	36
7.2.2	Test U_{a1} – Tensile	36
7.2.3	Test U_b – Bending	37
7.2.4	Test U_c – Torsion	37
7.2.5	Visual examination	37
7.2.6	Final measurements and requirements	37
7.3	Vibration	37
7.4	Shock	38
7.5	Shear (adhesion) test.....	38

7.5.1	Test conditions	38
7.5.2	Test methods	38
7.5.3	Requirements	38
7.6	Substrate bending test	38
7.6.1	Mounting	38
7.6.2	Initial measurements	39
7.6.3	Test procedures	39
7.6.4	Measurements	39
7.6.5	Requirements	39
7.6.6	Final inspection and requirements	39
8	Environmental and climatic tests	39
8.1	Rapid change of temperature	39
8.2	Climatic sequence	39
8.2.1	General	39
8.2.2	Initial measurements	39
8.2.3	Dry heat	40
8.2.4	Damp heat (cyclic), first cycle	40
8.2.5	Cold	40
8.2.6	Low air pressure	40
8.2.7	Damp heat (cyclic), remaining cycles	40
8.2.8	Final measurements	40
8.3	Damp heat, steady state	41
8.4	Endurance	41
8.4.1	Endurance at room temperature (cycling)	41
8.4.2	Endurance at upper category temperature	42
8.4.3	Endurance at maximum operating temperature and maximum voltage	43
8.4.4	Cold environment electrical cycling	44
8.4.5	Thermal runaway	45
9	Test related to component assembly	45
9.1	Solderability	45
9.1.1	General	45
9.1.2	Thermistors with leads	45
9.1.3	Surface mount thermistors	46
9.2	Resistance to soldering heat	46
9.2.1	General	46
9.2.2	Test conditions	46
9.2.3	The period of recovery	47
9.2.4	Requirements for except surface mount thermistors	47
9.2.5	Requirements for surface mount thermistors	47
10	Quality assessment procedures	47
Annex A (informative)	Mounting for electrical measurements	48
A.1	Mounting for thermistors without wire terminations	48
A.2	Mounting for thermistors with wire terminations	48
A.3	Mounting for surface mount thermistors	49
Annex B (informative)	Mounting for temperature measurements	51
Annex Q (normative)	Quality assessment procedures	52
Q.1	General	52
Q.2	Applicability of qualification approval	52

Q.3	Primary stage of manufacture	52
Q.4	Subcontracting.....	52
Q.5	Structurally similar components	52
Q.5.1	General	52
Q.5.2	For electrical tests	53
Q.5.3	For environmental tests	53
Q.5.4	For visual inspection.....	53
Q.5.5	For endurance tests.....	53
Q.6	Qualification approval procedures.....	53
Q.6.1	Eligibility for qualification approval.....	53
Q.6.2	Application for qualification approval	53
Q.6.3	Test procedure for qualification approval	53
Q.6.4	Qualification approval based on the fixed sample size procedure.....	54
Q.6.5	Granting of qualification approval	59
Q.6.6	Maintenance of qualification approval	59
Q.6.7	Quality conformance inspection	60
Q.7	Rework and repair.....	61
Q.7.1	Rework	61
Q.7.2	Repair	61
Q.8	Release for delivery	61
Q.8.1	General	61
Q.8.2	Release for delivery under qualification approval before the completion of group B tests	62
Q.9	Certified test records of released lots.....	62
Q.10	Delayed delivery	62
Q.11	Alternative test methods	62
Q.12	Manufacture outside the geographical limits.....	62
Q.13	Unchecked parameters	62
Annex X (informative)	Cross-references to IEC 60738-1:2009.....	63
Bibliography.....		65
Figure 1	– Typical resistance-temperature characteristic and definitions for PTC thermistors (at zero power)	12
Figure 2	– Typical R-TNF characteristic for PTC thermistors in sensor applications	13
Figure 3	– Typical current/voltage characteristic for PTC thermistors	14
Figure 4	– I_{in} against t at U_{dc}	17
Figure 5	– I_{in} against t at U_{RMS}	17
Figure 6	– Dissipation factor test circuit	28
Figure 7	– Temperature gradient.....	29
Figure 8	– Circuit for measurement of thermal time constant by cooling.....	30
Figure 9	– Circuit for surface temperature measurement.....	33
Figure 10	– Measuring circuit.....	34
Figure 11	– Measuring circuit.....	35
Figure 12	– Circuit for endurance at maximum operating temperature and maximum voltage.....	44
Figure A.1	– Example of a preferred mounting method for thermistors without wire terminations.....	48

Figure A.2 – Example of a preferred mounting method for thermistors with wire terminations	49
Figure A.3 – Example of a preferred mounting method for surface mount thermistors	50
Figure B.1 – Example of a preferred mounting method for temperature measurement on cylindrical heating elements	51
Table 1 – Creepage distances and clearances	20
Table 2 – Test severities of vibration	22
Table 3 – Tensile force	37
Table 4 – Number of cycles per climatic category	40
Table A.1 – Recommended land dimensions	50
Table Q.1 – Fixed sample size test schedule for qualification approval of thermistors for current limitation – Assessment level EZ	56
Table Q.2 – Fixed sample size test schedule for qualification approval of thermistors for use as heating elements – Assessment level EZ	57
Table Q.3 – Fixed sample size test schedule for qualification approval of thermistors for inrush current application – Assessment level EZ	58
Table Q.4 – Fixed sample size test schedule for qualification approval of thermistors for use as temperature sensing elements – Assessment level EZ	59
Table Q.5 – Quality conformance inspection for lot-by-lot inspection	60
Table Q.6 – Quality conformance inspection for periodic testing	61
Table X.1 – Cross-references to the previous edition	63

[IEC 60738-1:2022](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/eda787d7-b08a-4ee4-b22e-2dd01f974295/iec-60738-1-2022)

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**THERMISTORS – DIRECTLY HEATED POSITIVE
TEMPERATURE COEFFICIENT –****Part 1: Generic specification**

FOREWORD

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IEC 60738-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 40: Capacitors and resistors for electronic equipment. It is an International Standard.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2006 and Amendment 1:2009. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) Restructured completely to comply with ISO/IEC Directives; categorization and reorganization of test methods into these categories;
- b) Some wordings, figures and references have been revised.

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

Draft	Report on voting
40/2969/FDIS	40/2977/RVD

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.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60738 series, published under the general title *Thermistors – Directly heated positive temperature coefficient*, can be found on the IEC website.

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.

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THERMISTORS – DIRECTLY HEATED POSITIVE TEMPERATURE COEFFICIENT –

Part 1: Generic specification

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60738 describes terms and methods of test for positive step-function temperature coefficient thermistors, insulated and non-insulated types, typically made from ferro-electric semi-conductor materials.

It establishes standard terms, inspection procedures and methods of test for use in detail specifications for qualification approval and for quality assessment systems for electronic components.

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 60027 (all parts), *Letter symbols to be used in electrical technology*

IEC 60050 (all parts), *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV)* (available at www.electropedia.org)

IEC 60062, *Marking codes for resistors and capacitors*

IEC 60068-1:2013, *Environmental testing – Part 1: General and guidance*

IEC 60068-2-1:2007, *Environmental testing – Part 2-1: Tests – Test A: Cold*

IEC 60068-2-2:2007, *Environmental testing – Part 2-2: Tests – Test B: Dry heat*

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

IEC 60068-2-11, *Environmental testing – Part 2-11: Tests – Test Ka: Salt mist*

IEC 60068-2-13, *Environmental testing – Part 2-13: Tests – Test M: Low air pressure*

IEC 60068-2-14, *Environmental testing – Part 2-14: Tests – Test N: Change of temperature*
Amendment 1 (1986)

IEC 60068-2-20, *Environmental testing – Part 2-20: Tests – Test Ta and Tb: Test methods for solderability and resistance to soldering heat of devices with leads*

IEC 60068-2-21, *Environmental testing – Part 2-21: Tests – Test U: Robustness of terminations and integral mounting devices*

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

IEC 60068-2-30, *Environmental testing – Part 2-30: Tests – Test Db: Damp heat, cyclic (12 h + 12-hour cycle)*

IEC 60068-2-58, *Environmental testing – Part 2-58: Tests – Test Td: Test methods for solderability, resistance to dissolution of metallization and to soldering heat of surface mounting devices (SMD)*

IEC 60068-2-78, *Environmental testing – Part 2-78: Tests – Test Cab: Damp heat, steady state*

IEC 60294, *Measurement of the dimensions of a cylindrical component with axial terminations*

IEC 60617, *Graphical symbols for diagrams* (available at <http://std.iec.ch/iec60617>)

IEC 60717, *Method for determination of the space required by capacitors and resistors with unidirectional terminations*

IEC 61193-2, *Quality assessment systems – Part 2: Selection and use of sampling plans for inspection of electronic components and packages*

IEC 61249-2-7, *Materials for printed boards and other interconnecting structures – Part 2-7: Reinforced base materials clad and unclad – Epoxide woven E-glass laminated sheet of defined flammability (vertical burning test), copper-clad*

IEC 61760-1, *Surface mounting technology – Part 1: Standard method for the specification of surface mounting components (SMDs)*

ISO 80000-1, *Quantities and units – Part 1: General*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document and subordinate specifications, the following terms and definitions apply.

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

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

3.1

type

group of components having similar design features and whose similar manufacturing techniques enable them to be grouped together either for qualification approval or for quality conformance inspection

Note 1 to entry: A type is generally covered by a single detail specification.

Note 2 to entry: Components described in several detail specifications can, in some cases, be considered as belonging to the same type, but they are generally covered by a single detail specification.

3.2

style

variation within a type having specific nominal dimensions and characteristics

3.3 thermistor

thermally sensitive semiconducting resistor which exhibits a significant change in electrical resistance with a change in body temperature

3.4 positive temperature coefficient thermistor

thermistor whose resistance increases with its increasing temperature throughout the useful part of its characteristic

3.5 positive step-function temperature coefficient thermistor PTC

thermistor which shows a step-like increase in its resistance when the increasing temperature reaches a specific value

Note 1 to entry: A PTC thermistor will show secondary effects which are to be considered.

3.6 zero-power resistance

R_T

value of the resistance of a PTC thermistor, at a given temperature, under conditions such that the change in resistance due to the internal generation of heat is negligible with respect to the total error of measurement

Note 1 to entry: Any resistance value of a PTC thermistor is dependent on the value and the mode of the applied voltage (AC or DC) and, when an AC source is used, on the frequency (see 3.8 and 3.9).

3.7 nominal zero-power resistance

R_n

DC resistance value of a thermistor measured at a specified temperature, preferably at 25 °C, with a power dissipation low enough that any further decrease in power will result only in a negligible change in resistance

Note 1 to entry: Zero-power resistance can also be measured using AC if required by the detail specification.

3.8 voltage dependency

secondary effect exhibiting a decreasing resistance with increasing voltage across the thermistor when measured at a constant body temperature

3.9 frequency dependency

secondary effect exhibiting a substantial decrease of the positive temperature coefficient of the thermistor when the frequency increases

3.10 resistance/temperature characteristic

relationship between the zero-power resistance of a thermistor and the temperature of the thermo-sensitive element when measured under specified reference conditions (see Figure 1)

Note 1 to entry: PTC thermistors can have more than one resistance/temperature characteristic specified. The zero-power resistance of the resistance/temperature characteristics can be measured using a pulse voltage (U_{pulse}) higher than 1,5 V, which is specified in the detail specification. The right curve in Figure 1 shows the typical resistance/temperature characteristic when using the pulse voltage (U_{pulse}).

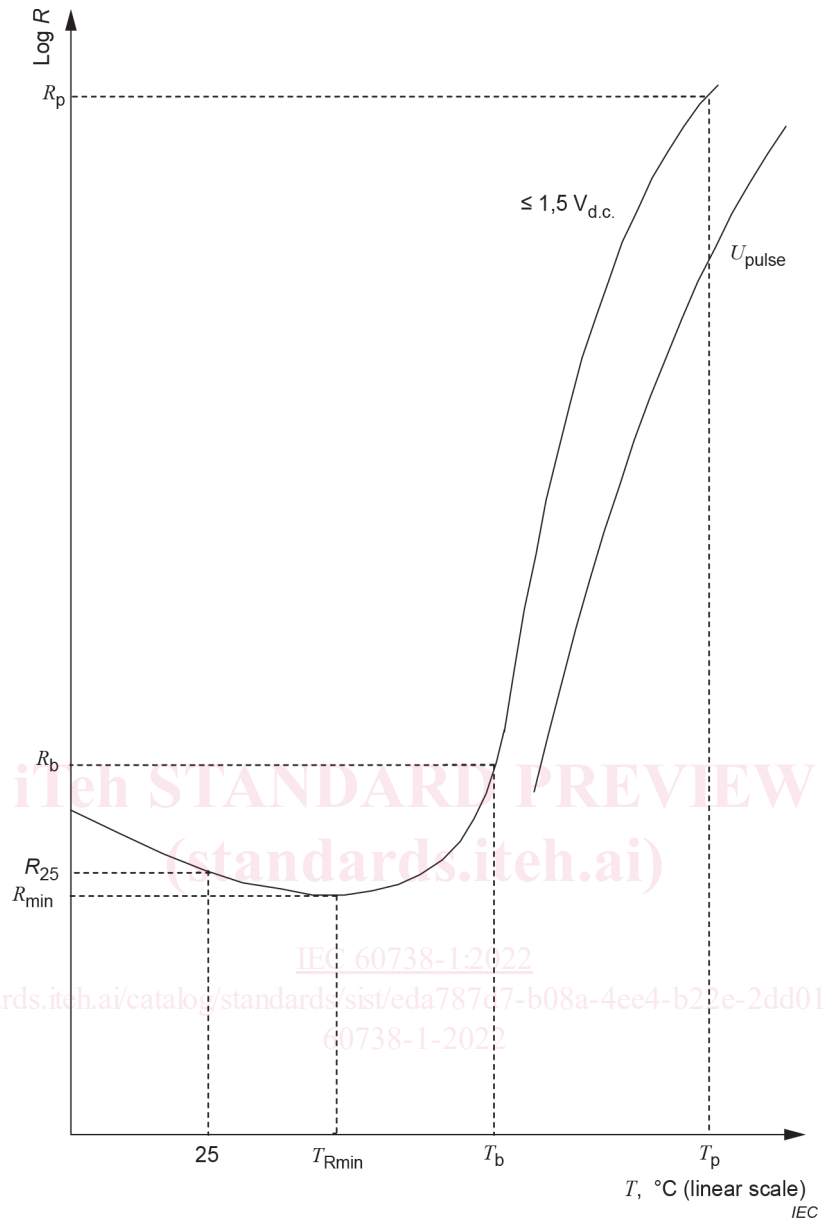
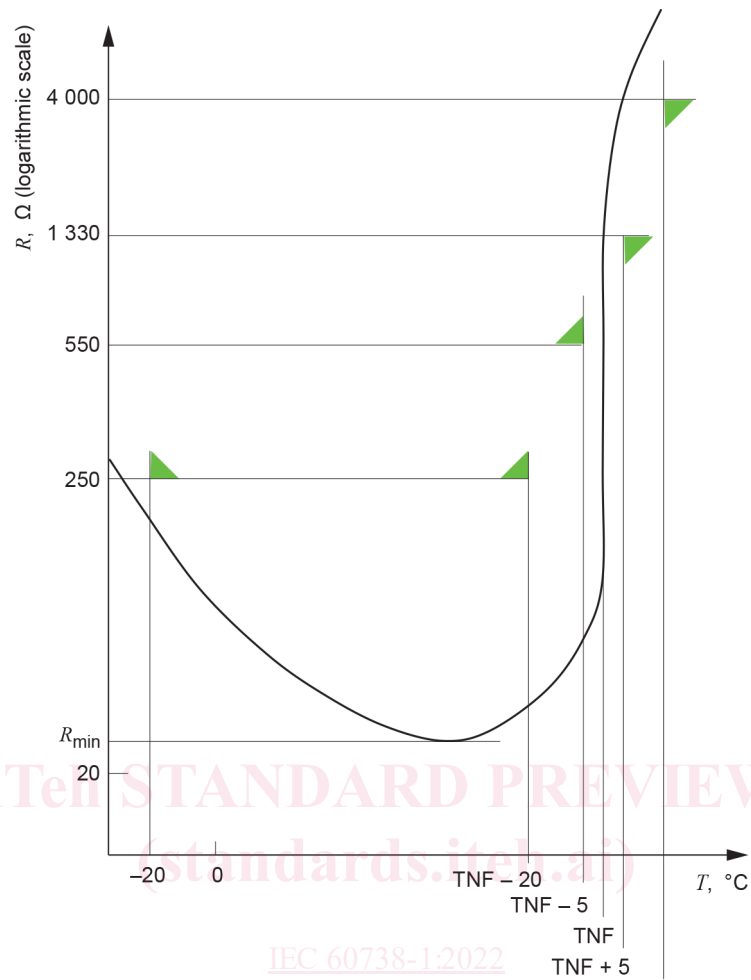


Figure 1 – Typical resistance-temperature characteristic and definitions for PTC thermistors (at zero power)



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Figure 2 – Typical R-TNF characteristic for PTC thermistors in sensor applications

3.11

current/voltage characteristic

relationship in still air at 25°C (unless otherwise stated) between the applied voltage (DC or AC) at the thermistor terminations and the current under steady-state conditions (see Figure 3)