

# TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION



**Basic qualification of DC-link film capacitors for automotive use – General requirements, test conditions and tests**

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## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
INTRODUCTION.....	6
1 Scope.....	7
2 Normative references .....	7
3 Terms, definitions, symbols and abbreviated terms.....	8
3.1 General terms and definitions .....	8
3.2 Terms and definitions related to operating voltages and temperatures .....	9
3.3 Symbols and abbreviated terms .....	10
4 General requirements .....	11
4.1 Deviations from this document.....	11
4.2 Service life and qualification tests .....	11
4.3 Standard tolerances.....	12
4.4 Standard values.....	12
4.5 Thermal equilibrium .....	13
4.6 Sampling rates and measured value resolutions .....	13
4.7 Parameter test .....	13
4.8 Physical analysis .....	13
4.9 Restriction on performance .....	14
5 Electrical characterisation.....	14
5.1 General.....	14
5.2 E-01 Capacitance .....	14
5.2.1 Purpose.....	14
5.2.2 Test.....	14
5.3 E-02 insulation resistance between terminals.....	14
5.3.1 Purpose.....	14
5.3.2 Test.....	14
5.4 E-03 ESR.....	14
5.4.1 Purpose.....	14
5.4.2 Test.....	15
5.5 E-04 ESL .....	15
5.5.1 Purpose.....	15
5.5.2 Test.....	15
5.6 E-05 External insulation terminal to case .....	15
5.6.1 Purpose.....	15
5.6.2 Test.....	15
6 Mechanical characterisation .....	16
6.1 M-01 Geometry .....	16
6.1.1 Purpose.....	16
6.1.2 Test.....	16
6.2 M-02 Visual inspection .....	16
6.2.1 Purpose.....	16
6.2.2 Test.....	16
7 Environmental and exposure tests .....	16
7.1 B-01 Thermal shock .....	16
7.1.1 Purpose.....	16
7.1.2 Test.....	16

7.2	B-02 Damp heat, steady state .....	17
7.2.1	Purpose .....	17
7.2.2	Test .....	17
7.3	B-03 High temperature load .....	17
7.3.1	Purpose .....	17
7.3.2	Condition A: high temperature – overload .....	17
7.3.3	Condition B: high temperature – operating life .....	17
7.4	B-04 Vibration .....	18
7.4.1	Purpose .....	18
7.4.2	Test (typical profile) .....	18
7.5	B-05 Charge/ discharge test .....	19
7.5.1	Purpose .....	19
7.5.2	Test .....	19
7.6	B-06 Short-circuit test .....	19
7.6.1	Purpose .....	19
7.6.2	Test .....	20
7.7	Acceptance criteria .....	20
8	Test sequence diagram .....	21
9	Flammability (if required) .....	22
	Annex A (informative) Example data sheet .....	23
	Annex B (normative) Guideline for qualification in case of changes .....	25
	B.1 General .....	25
	B.2 Basic Qualification-Table Application (completion by component manufacturer) .....	25
	B.3 Evaluation Levels are categorized as follows .....	25
	B.3.1 Categories .....	25
	B.3.2 Important notes .....	25
	Annex C (normative) ISO 21498-1, Voltage class B definitions in relation to capacitor specifications .....	34
	C.1 General .....	34
	C.2 Voltage sub-classes and operating status .....	34
	C.3 Working voltage .....	36
	C.4 Overvoltage limit .....	36
	C.5 Relation to capacitor specifications .....	36
	Bibliography .....	38
	Figure 1 – Vibration profile .....	19
	Figure 2 – Test sequence .....	21
	Figure C.1 – Example of a voltage – time profile in relation to voltage limits .....	35
	Table 1 – Example for a design service life .....	11
	Table 2 – Definitions of standard tolerances for set values .....	12
	Table 3 – Definitions of accuracy for measured values .....	12
	Table 4 – Definitions of standard values .....	12
	Table 5 – Parameters of the vibration profile .....	18
	Table C.1 – Voltage sub-classes .....	34
	Table C.2 – Component operating status .....	35
	Table C.3 – Relation of capacitor specification terms to voltage range .....	36
	Table C.4 – Relation between operation and test conditions .....	37

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**BASIC QUALIFICATION OF DC-LINK FILM  
CAPACITORS FOR AUTOMOTIVE USE –  
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS, TEST CONDITIONS AND TESTS**

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The text of this Technical Specification is based on the following documents:

Draft	Report on voting
40/3093/DTS	40/3117/RVDTS

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 Technical Specification 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](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/publications](http://www.iec.ch/publications).

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## INTRODUCTION

This Technical Specification is based on a publication of the "ZVEI/ECPE Film Capacitors Core Group" working group with representatives from vehicle, device and capacitor manufacturers. It is adopted to the electrical specifications valid for electrically propelled vehicles – voltage class B systems, as given in ISO 21498-1.

Because AEC-Q200 is not applicable for the capacitors considered here, this document defines a set of tests to ensure the basic suitability of the capacitor for application as a DC-link capacitor in HV applications or in the intermediate circuit of the 48 V on-board electrical system.

This Technical Specification makes no claim to completeness. Automotive manufacturers and device manufacturers are free to request additional state-of-the-art tests at any time. It is also important to understand that a basic qualification as described in this document cannot replace a comprehensive technology qualification being performed in advance of product development.

As the individual manufacturers can make changes, only the company standards of the respective manufacturers created on the basis of this Technical Specification apply.

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# BASIC QUALIFICATION OF DC-LINK FILM CAPACITORS FOR AUTOMOTIVE USE – GENERAL REQUIREMENTS, TEST CONDITIONS AND TESTS

## 1 Scope

This document provides requirements, test conditions and tests to validate characteristics including the service life of customized DC-link film capacitors for use in motor vehicle components.

Standard DC-link capacitors qualified according to other IEC standards or AEC-Q200 are excluded from the scope of this document.

The requirements, test conditions and tests listed in this document apply to customized film capacitors developed for use in motor vehicle power electronics for the application as a DC-link capacitor in HV applications or in the intermediate circuit of the 48 V on-board electrical system.

These qualification requirements can be expanded or adapted for the application of technologically innovative designs, if necessary. The content and scope of supplements is therefore to be specified and documented in coordination between the responsible parties prior to sourcing.

Power electronics in the motor vehicle need to be tested in accordance with the environmental qualification standards of the vehicle manufacturers.

The tests in this document do not replace the tests specified in the Component Requirement Specifications for complete vehicle components or additional or deviating further requirements, test conditions and tests described therein.

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This document contains no tests to validate the thermal interface between capacitors, power electronics and the cooling system on the component level.

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

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

IEC 60068-2-14, *Environmental testing – Part 2-14: Tests – Test N: Change of temperature*

IEC 60068-2-64, *Environmental testing – Part 2-64: Tests – Test Fh: Vibration, broadband random and guidance*

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

IEC 60384-1:2021, *Fixed capacitors for use in electronic equipment – Part 1: Generic specification*

IEC 60695-11-10, *Fire hazard testing – Part 11-10: Test flames – 50 W horizontal and vertical flame test methods*

IEC 60695-2-12, *Fire hazard testing – Part 2-12: Glowing/hot-wire based test methods – Glow-wire flammability index (GWFI) test method for materials*

IEC 61071:2017, *Capacitors for power electronics*

ISO/IEC 17025, *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories*

ISO 21498-1:2021, *Electrically propelled road vehicles – Electrical specifications and tests for voltage class B systems and components – Part 1: Voltage sub-classes and characteristics*

### 3 Terms, definitions, symbols and abbreviated terms

For the purposes of this document, 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 General terms and definitions

##### 3.1.1

##### **component**

complete device, control unit or mechatronic (with housing)

##### 3.1.2

##### **component element**

single part of a component

Note 1 to entry: In this document, “component element” designates a capacitor as described in the Scope.

##### 3.1.3

##### **system**

functionally linked components, e.g. power train consisting of electric machine, power electronics, control

##### 3.1.4

##### **device under test**

component element to be tested, system or the component to be tested

##### 3.1.5

##### **vehicle pre-conditioning**

vehicle climate control prior to departure using energy from the mains supply

## 3.2 Terms and definitions related to operating voltages and temperatures

### 3.2.1

#### working voltage

 $U_{op}$ 

DC voltage that can occur in an electric system under normal operating conditions according to the customer's specifications, disregarding transients and ripple

Note 1 to entry: The working voltage shall be less than the rated DC voltage.

[SOURCE: ISO 21498-1:2021, 3.16 modified – "AC voltage (rms) or" has been deleted and Note 1 to entry has been added.]

### 3.2.2

#### overvoltage

 $U_{max}$ 

maximum permissible voltage which can be applied to a capacitor for a specified duration at the specified temperature

Note 1 to entry: The maximum permissible voltage specified for a capacitor includes transients, ripple or other disturbances, which can appear within the system under abnormal operating conditions. The duration, number and accumulated duration of overvoltage events need to be agreed between manufacturer and user.

Note 2 to entry: This definition additional to that of the rated DC voltage 3.2.3 is necessary to reflect the customer specifications valid for electrically propelled vehicles (mission profiles), which include normal operation at battery voltage and abnormal operation (overvoltage events), see Annex C for details.

### 3.2.3

#### rated DC voltage

 $U_{RDC}$  $U_{NDC}$ 

<capacitor> maximum operating voltage of either polarity but of a non-reversing type waveform, for which the capacitor has been designed for continuous operation disregarding transients

IEC TS 63337:2024

https://standards.iteh.ai/ Note 1 to entry: The rated DC voltage of the capacitor is aligned with the maximum battery voltage, for which the system is designed. It does not include overvoltage events, like transients. See Annex C for details.

Note 2 to entry: The rated voltage in this specification is different from the general "rated voltage" which is defined in IEC 60384-1 in order to align it to the specification of operating conditions in motor vehicle power electronics.

Note 3 to entry: In IEC 61071 the symbol  $U_{NDC}$  is used, but since the letter "N" normally stands for "nominal" it is replaced in this document by "R".

[SOURCE: IEC 61071:2017, 3.18 modified – "maximum operating peak voltage" has been replaced by "maximum operating voltage", "disregarding transients" has been added at the end of the definition, Note 1, Note 2 and Note 3 to entry have been added.]

### 3.2.4

#### maximum operating temperature

 $T_{max}$ 

<capacitor> highest temperature at which the capacitor can be operated under steady state conditions for a specified duration

Note 1 to entry:  $T_{max}$  is the temperature of the case measured at the hottest point of the case if no self-heating occurs, or the hotspot temperature inside the case under ripple current load condition. The terminations are part of the external surface of the case.

Note 2 to entry: The temperature time profiles shall be agreed between manufacturer and user.

[SOURCE: IEC 61071:2017, 3.34, modified – "highest temperature of the case" has been replaced by "highest temperature", "for a specified duration" has been added, as well as Note 1 and Note 2 to entry.]

### 3.2.5

#### hotspot temperature

the highest temperature present inside the capacitor dielectric

Note 1 to entry: The hot spot temperature cannot be directly measured in operation. Normally the position of a hot spot and the temperature increase by ripple current load is determined by use of simulation tools and verified by measuring the temperature increase at a sample specially prepared with thermal sensors.

[SOURCE: IEC 61071:2017, 3.35, modified – Note 1 to entry has been added.]

### 3.3 Symbols and abbreviated terms

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

$C$	capacitance
$C_0$	initial capacitance on the new part
$C_N$	nominal capacitance
$\Delta C$	measured change in capacitance after exposure
$\Delta T$	rise or change in temperature in general
ESL	equivalent series inductance
ESR	equivalent series resistance
$f$	frequency
HV	high voltage
$I$	current
$R_{iso}$	insulation resistance
RH	relative humidity
$T_{RT}$	room temperature
$T_{amb}$	ambient temperature of a capacitor
$T_{max}$	maximum operating temperature (3.2.4)
$T_{min}$	minimum ambient temperature (lower category temperature, typically -40°C)
$T_{op}$	operating temperature
$\tan \delta$	loss factor
$U_{op}$	operating voltage
$U_{RDC}$	rated DC voltage <capacitor> (3.2.3)
$U_{max}$	overvoltage limit, test voltage for high temperature overvoltage test
$U_t$	test voltage
$(dU/dt_{pulse})$	set value for charge/discharge test
$(dU/dt_{short})$	set value for the short-circuit test
$U_{TC}$	isolation voltage of the terminals (T – Terminal) to the case (C – Case)