

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

**Coaxial communication cables –
Part 8: Sectional specification for semi-flexible cables with fluoropolymer
dielectric**

IEC 61196-8:2023

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

COAXIAL COMMUNICATION CABLES –**Part 8: Sectional specification for semi-flexible cables
with fluoropolymer dielectric**

FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
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IEC 61196-8 has been prepared by subcommittee 46A: Coaxial cables, of IEC technical committee 46: Cables, wires, waveguides, RF connectors, RF and microwave passive components and accessories. It is an International Standard.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2012. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) Title changed to "Coaxial communication cables – Part 8: Sectional specification for semi-flexible cables with fluoropolymer dielectric";

- b) Subclause 4.3: Other fluoropolymer (such as PFA, etc.) dielectric materials added;
- c) Subclause 4.4: The construction of the outer conductor can consist of two layers or three layers;
- d) Subclause 5.2: Table 1 – "Rated temperature" added;
- e) Subclauses 5.3 5.4 and 5.5: new requirements added;
- f) Clause 7 completely revised;
- g) Annexes A, B and C added.

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

Draft	Report on voting
46A/1618/CDV	46A/1632/RVC

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.

This document is to be read in conjunction with IEC 61196-1:2005.

A list of all parts in the IEC 61196 series, published under the general title *Coaxial communication cables*, can be found on the IEC website.

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/ab042584-95f6-41f6-bb96-4b3b14081848/iec->
The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under webstore.iec.ch in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

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

COAXIAL COMMUNICATION CABLES –

Part 8: Sectional specification for semi-flexible cables with fluoropolymer dielectric

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61196 specifies the materials and cable construction for semi-flexible coaxial communication cables with fluoropolymer dielectric, IEC type designation, identification, marking and labelling, standard rating and characteristics, requirements of finished cables, quality assessment, delivery and storage, etc.

This document applies to semi-flexible coaxial communication cables with fluoropolymer dielectric and tin soaked copper wire braid outer conductor. These cables are intended for use in mobile communication base station antenna systems, terrestrial microwave communication, radar systems and wireless equipment or other signal transmission equipment or units. It is read in conjunction with IEC 61196-1:2005.

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

IEC 60068-2-20:2021, *Environmental testing – Part 2-20: Tests – Tests Ta and Tb: Test methods for solderability and resistance to soldering heat of devices with leads*

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

IEC 60332-1-2, *Tests on electric and optical fibre cables under fire conditions – Part 1-2: Test for vertical flame propagation for a single insulated wire or cable – Procedure for 1 kW pre-mixed flame*

IEC 60332-3-24, *Tests on electric and optical fibre cables under fire conditions – Part 3-24: Test for vertical flame spread of vertically-mounted bunched wires or cables – Category C*

IEC 60811-501, *Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials – Part 501: Mechanical tests – Tests for determining the mechanical properties of insulating and sheathing compounds*

IEC 60966-1:2019, *Radio frequency and coaxial cable assemblies – Part 1: Generic specification – General requirements and test methods*

IEC 61169-4, *Radio-frequency connectors – Part 4: RF coaxial connectors with inner diameter of outer conductor 16 mm (0,63 in) with screw lock – Characteristic impedance 50 Ω (Type 7-16)*

IEC 61196-1:2005, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1: Generic specification – General, definitions and requirements*

IEC 61196-1-1, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-1: Capability approval for coaxial cables*

IEC 61196-1-101, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-101: Electrical test methods – Test for conductor d.c. resistance of cable*

IEC 61196-1-102, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-102: Electrical test methods – Test for insulation resistance of cable dielectric*

IEC 61196-1-103, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-103: Electrical test methods – Test for capacitance of cable*

IEC 61196-1-105, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-105: Electrical test methods – Test for withstand voltage of cable dielectric*

IEC 61196-1-108, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-108: Electrical test methods – Test for characteristic impedance, phase and group delay, electrical length and propagation velocity*

IEC 61196-1-110, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-110: Electrical test methods – Test for continuity*

IEC 61196-1-111, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-111: Electrical test methods – Stability of phase test methods*

IEC 61196-1-112, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-112: Electrical test methods – Test for return loss (uniformity of impedance)*

IEC 61196-1-113, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-113: Electrical test methods – Test for attenuation constant*

IEC 61196-1-116, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-116: Electrical test methods – Test for impedance with time domain reflectometry (TDR)*

IEC 61196-1-119, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-119: Electrical test methods – RF average power rating*

IEC 61196-1-126, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-126: Electrical test methods – Corona extinction voltage*

IEC 61196-1-201:2009, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-201: Environmental test methods – Test for cold bend performance of cable*

IEC 61196-1-215, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-215: Environmental test methods – High temperature cable ageing*

IEC 61196-1-301, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-301: Mechanical test methods – Test for ovality*

IEC 61196-1-302, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-302: Mechanical test methods – Test for eccentricity*

IEC 61196-1-313, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-313: Mechanical test methods – Adhesion of dielectric and sheath*

IEC 61196-1-314:2015, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-314: Mechanical test methods – Test for bending*

IEC 61196-1-316, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-316: Mechanical test methods – Test for maximum pulling force of cable*

IEC 61196-10:2022, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 10: Sectional specification for semi-rigid cables with fluoropolymer dielectric*

IEC 62037-4, *Passive RF and microwave devices, intermodulation level measurement – Part 4: Measurement of passive intermodulation in coaxial cables*

IEC 62153-4-4, *Metallic communication cable test methods – Part 4-4: Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Test method for measuring of the screening attenuation as up to and above 3 GHz, triaxial method*

IEC 62230, *Electric cables – Spark-test method*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 61196-1 and the following 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

pinhole

any hole in the outer shield (tin soaked copper wire braid) with a diameter not less than 0,05 mm

3.2

semi-flexible coaxial communication cable

coaxial line not intended for applications requiring repeated flexure in service

Note 1 to entry: Bending or forming is however permissible to facilitate installation. The typical construction for this type of cable is a solid wire as inner conductor, polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) dielectric and a tin soaked copper wire braid for the outer shield.

4 Materials and cable construction

4.1 Cable construction

The cable construction shall be in accordance with 4.2 to 4.5 and the requirements stated in the relevant detailed specification.

4.2 Inner conductor

The inner conductor shall be a solid silver plated copper wire or solid silver plated copper clad steel wire according to IEC 61196-1:2005, 4.4.1 or any other appropriate material as stated in the relevant detailed specification. The minimum thickness of the silver coating shall be 1 µm.

The nominal diameter shall be stated in the relevant detailed specification.

The tolerance of the diameter shall be stated in the relevant detailed specification.

The inner conductor shall be smooth and continuous.

4.3 Dielectric

The construction of the dielectric shall be one of the materials listed below or a combination of the following:

- solid polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) or perfluoroalkoxy (PFA) dielectric,
- expanded polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) dielectric,
- profiled (extruded) polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) dielectric,
- foamed perfluoroalkoxy (PFA) dielectric,
- or any other fluoropolymer dielectric materials as stated in the relevant detailed specification.

The nominal diameter and thickness shall be stated in the relevant detailed specification.

The tolerance shall be stated in the relevant detailed specification.

4.4 Outer conductor

The construction of the outer conductor should be a smooth and continuous tin soaked copper wire braid. It consists of two layers or three layers:

a) Metal foil layer (when applicable)

Metal foil layer is optional, which can be copper foil or any other metal foils as stated in the relevant detailed specification. Unless otherwise specified in the relevant specification, metal foil is applied longitudinally, with a sufficient overlap as specified in the relevant detailed specification.

b) Braid

The copper wire braid shall be designed in a way to guarantee the mechanical, environmental and electrical requirements of the cable. This is in general achieved by a braid having a coverage of $\geq 95\%$.

c) Tin soaking

The copper wire braid is tin soaked in a way to guarantee the mechanical, environmental and electrical requirements of the cable. It shall also allow a correct tin soaking without an excessive number of pinholes. The surface of the tin soaking shall be without black spots, cracking and an excessive number of pinholes.

The nominal diameter of the outer conductor and the tolerance and the diameter shall be specified in the relevant detailed specification.

4.5 Sheath

The sheath of a cable is optional and shall be in accordance with IEC 61196-1:2005, 4.7 with the following amendments and additions.

- The outer sheath of a cable shall be a thermoplastic material as specified in the relevant detailed specification, including the material type.
- The nominal diameter and minimum thickness and tolerance of sheath shall be as stated in the relevant detailed specification.