

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# IEC 60947-8

Edition 1.1  
2006-11

Edition 1:2003 consolidated with amendment 1:2006

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## Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear –

### Part 8:

### Control units for built-in thermal protection (PTC) for rotating electrical machines

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Commission Electrotechnique Internationale  
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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

## LOW-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

**Part 8: Control units for built-in thermal protection (PTC)  
for rotating electrical machines**

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International Standard IEC 60947-8 has been prepared by subcommittee 17B: Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear, of IEC technical committee 17: Switchgear and controlgear.

This consolidated version of IEC 60947-8 consists of the first edition (2003) [documents 17B/1276/FDIS and 17B/1282/RVD] and its amendment 1 (2006) [documents 17B/1477/FDIS and 17B/1504/RVD].

The technical content is therefore identical to the base edition and its amendment and has been prepared for user convenience.

It bears the edition number 1.1.

A vertical line in the margin shows where the base publication has been modified by amendment 1.

This standard shall be used in conjunction with IEC 60947-1: General rules.

The provisions of the general rules dealt with in IEC 60947-1 are applicable to this standard, 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 (e.g. 1.2.3 of IEC 60947-1, Table 4 of IEC 60947-1 or Annex A of IEC 60947-1, etc.).

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendments will remain unchanged until the maintenance result date indicated on the IEC web site under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

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## INTRODUCTION

Thermal protection systems which are based on the principle of monitoring the temperature of the protected parts constitute a simple and effective means of protecting rotating electrical machines against excessive temperature rises, including those caused by faults in the cooling system, or excessively high ambient temperature, whereas systems of protection based only on monitoring the current absorbed may not ensure this type of protection.

Since the operating temperature and response times of thermal protection systems are fixed in advance, they may not be adjusted in relation to the conditions of use of the machine and they may not be completely effective for all fault conditions or improper use of the machine.

A thermal protection system in accordance with this standard may consist of a characteristic change thermal detector which has an associated control unit to convert a point on the characteristic of the detector to a switching function. A very large number of thermal protection systems are in use and, in all cases, the machine manufacturer will fit the detectors in the machine. The machine manufacturer will either supply the control unit with the machine or specify particulars of the control unit to be used.

It is also customary for the control units to be considered as part of the control system and not necessarily supplied with the machine. For this reason it is considered necessary to have an interchangeable system, where the characteristics of association between the detector and the control unit are specified. This particular system is not considered superior in any way to other systems complying with the requirements of this standard, but in some fields the practice is likely to be that this interchangeable system will be used, as indicated by the designation "Mark A".

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## LOW-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

### Part 8: Control units for built-in thermal protection (PTC) for rotating electrical machines

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60947 specifies rules for control units, which perform the switching functions in response to the thermal detectors incorporated in rotating electrical machines according to IEC 60034-11, and the industrial application.

It specifies rules for that type of system comprising a positive temperature coefficient (PTC) thermistor detector having particular characteristics, and its associated control unit.

The PT100 detectors are covered by IEC 60751, where the resistor values are given according to the temperatures of the detector.

The present rules lay down the characteristics of association of this particular positive temperature coefficient thermistor detector and its associated control unit (designated “Mark A detector” and “Mark A control unit”), when they are used in thermal protection systems.

NOTE It is not possible to specify all the requirements for the operating characteristics of a control unit, as they are dependent on some aspects of the thermal detectors. Some aspects of the requirements of the thermal protector system can only be specified when account is taken of the characteristics of the rotating machine to be protected and the method of installation of the detector within the machine.

For these reasons, for each characteristic it is necessary to specify who is responsible for stating the required values and who is responsible for compliance with the requirement and for carrying out any confirmatory test.

#### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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 60034-11:2004, *Rotating electrical machines – Part 11: Thermal protection*

IEC 60068-2-6:1995, *Environmental testing – Part 2: Tests – Test Fc: Vibration (sinusoidal)*

IEC 60068-2-27:1987, *Environmental testing – Part 2: Tests – Test Ea and guidance: Shock*

IEC 60410:1973, *Sampling plans and procedures for inspection by attributes*

IEC 60417:2002, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment*

IEC 60738-1:1998, *Thermistors – Directly heated positive step-function temperature coefficient – Part 1: Generic specification*



IEC 60751:1983, *Industrial platinum resistance thermometer sensors*  
Amendment 1 (1986)  
Amendment 2 (1995)

IEC 60947-1:2004, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 1: General rules*

IEC 60947-5-1:2003, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 5-1: Control circuit devices and switching elements – Electromechanical control circuit devices*

IEC 61000-4-2:1995, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4: Testing and measurement techniques – Section 2: Electrostatic discharge immunity test* – Basic EMC Publication  
Amendment 1 (1998)  
Amendment 2 (2000)

IEC 61000-4-3:2006, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) - Part 4-3 : Testing and measurement techniques - Radiated, radio-frequency, electromagnetic field immunity test*

IEC 61000-4-4:1995, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4: Testing and measurement techniques – Section 4: Electrical fast transient/burst immunity test* – Basic EMC Publication  
Amendment 1 (2000)  
Amendment 2 (2001)

IEC 61000-4-5:1995, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-5: Testing and measurement techniques – Surge immunity test*  
Amendment 1 (2000)

IEC 61000-4-6:2003, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-6: Testing and measurement techniques – Immunity to conducted disturbances, induced by radio-frequency fields*  
Amendment 1 (2004)  
Amendment 2 (2006)

IEC 61000-4-8:1993, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-8: Testing and measurement techniques – Power frequency magnetic field immunity test* – Basic EMC Publication  
Amendment 1 (2000)

IEC 61000-4-11:1994, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-11: Testing and measurement techniques – Voltage dips, short interruptions and voltage variations immunity tests*  
Amendment 1 (2000)

IEC 61000-4-13:2002, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-13: Testing and measurement techniques – Harmonics and interharmonics including mains signalling at a.c. power port, low-frequency immunity tests* – Basic EMC Publication

CISPR 11:2003, *Industrial, scientific and medical (ISM) radio-frequency equipment – Electromagnetic disturbance characteristics – Limits and methods of measurement*  
Amendment 1 (2004)

CISPR 22:2005, *Information technology equipment – Radio disturbance characteristics – Limits and methods of measurement*  
Amendment 1 (2005)  
Amendment 2 (2006)

### 3 Terms, definitions, symbols and abbreviations

For the purposes of this document, relevant definitions of IEC 60947-1, together with the following definitions, apply.

#### 3.1 Terms and definitions

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##### 3.1.1

##### **built-in thermal protection**

protection of certain parts (called protected parts) of a rotating electrical machine against excessive temperatures resulting from certain conditions of thermal overload, achieved by means of a thermal protection system, the whole or part of which is a thermally sensitive device incorporated within the machine

### 3.1.2

#### **thermal protection system**

system intended to ensure the thermal protection of a rotating electrical machine by means of a built-in thermal detector together with a control unit

### 3.1.3

#### **thermal detector**

electrical insulated device (component), sensitive to temperature only, which will initiate a switching function in the control system when its temperature reaches a predetermined level

### 3.1.4

#### **switching type thermal detector**

thermal detector which causes a direct operation of a switching element

NOTE The combination of the thermal detector and the switching element is rated as a unit and mounted in the rotating electrical machine.

### 3.1.5

#### **control system**

system to translate a particular point on the characteristic of a thermal detector to a switching function on the supply to the rotating electrical machine

NOTE The system is capable of being reset (either manually or automatically) when the temperature falls to the reset value.

### 3.1.6

#### **protected part**

part of a rotating electrical machine, the temperature of which is limited to a predetermined value by the action of the thermal protection system

### 3.1.7

#### **thermal overload with slow variation**

slow temperature rise above the normal operating temperature

NOTE 1 The variation of the temperature of the protected part is sufficiently slow for the temperature of the thermal detector to follow without appreciable delay.

NOTE 2 A thermal overload with slow variation may be caused, for instance, by:

- defects in ventilation or in the ventilation system, for example partial blocking of the ventilation ducts, excessive dust, dirt on the windings or on the cooling ribs of the frame;
- an excessive rise in the ambient temperature or in the temperature of the cooling medium;
- gradually increasing mechanical overload;
- prolonged voltage drop or over-voltage in the machine supply;
- excessive duty in a machine.

### 3.1.8

#### **thermal overload with rapid variation**

rapid rise of temperature above the normal operating temperature

NOTE 1 The variation of the temperature of the protected part may be too rapid for the temperature of the thermal detector to follow without delay. This may result in a significant temperature difference between the thermal detector and the protected part.

NOTE 2 A thermal overload with rapid variation may be caused, for instance, by stalling the machine or in certain circumstances, by phase failure or by starting under abnormal conditions (inertia too high, voltage too low, load torque abnormally high).

### 3.1.9

#### **thermally critical part of a machine**

part of a machine in which the temperature most rapidly reaches its dangerous value

NOTE A part of a machine which is thermally critical in the case of thermal overload with slow variation may not be so for a thermal overload with rapid variation.