

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Fixed capacitors for use in electronic equipment –
Part 21: Sectional specification – Fixed surface mount multilayer capacitors of
ceramic dielectric, Class 1**

**Condensateurs fixes utilisés dans les équipements électroniques –
Partie 21: Spécification intermédiaire – Condensateurs multicouches fixes à
diélectriques en céramique pour montage en surface, de Classe 1**

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

FIXED CAPACITORS FOR USE IN ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT –**Part 21: Sectional specification –
Fixed surface mount multilayer capacitors of ceramic dielectric, Class 1**

FOREWORD

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IEC 60384-21 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 2019. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) the document has been completely restructured to comply with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 and to make it more useable; tables, figures and references have been revised accordingly; Annex X contains all cross-references of changes in clause/subclause numbers;
- b) the terms have been replaced by the letter symbols in Table 3;

- c) code of temperature coefficient and tolerance of C0G, U2J have been added in Table 4, Table 6, Table 8, Table 9, Table 11, Table 13, Table 16 and Annex B;
- d) the requirement in 5.5.2(visual examination) has been repeated in 5.9.3, 5.10.5, 5.11.4, 5.11.4, 5.13.7, 5.14.5 and 5.15.5;
- e) the deflection D in the very robust designs has been added in 5.9.1;
- f) Annex B has been changed informative into normative;
- g) Clause C.5 (Test schedule for quality conformance inspection) has been newly added to withdraw the blank detail specification: IEC 60384-21-1.

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

Draft	Report on voting
40/3119/FDIS	40/3138/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.

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 60384 series, published under the general title *Fixed capacitors for use in electronic equipment*, can be found on the IEC website.

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, or
- revised.

FIXED CAPACITORS FOR USE IN ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT –

Part 21: Sectional specification – Fixed surface mount multilayer capacitors of ceramic dielectric, Class 1

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60384 is applicable to fixed unencapsulated surface mount multilayer capacitors of ceramic dielectric with a defined temperature coefficient (dielectric Class 1), intended for use in electronic equipment. These capacitors have metallized connecting pads or soldering strips and are intended to be mounted on printed boards, or directly onto substrates for hybrid circuits.

Capacitors for electromagnetic interference suppression are not included but are covered by IEC 60384-14.

The object of this document is to specify preferred ratings and characteristics and to select from IEC 60384-1:2021 the appropriate quality assessment procedures, tests and measuring methods and to give general performance requirements for this type of capacitor. Test severities and requirements specified in detail specifications referring to this document provide specific test severities and requirements of an equal or higher performance level. Further information on the conception of generic, sectional and detail specifications can be found in the Introduction of IEC 60384-1:2021.

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 60068-2-58, *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 60384-1:2021, *Fixed capacitors for use in electronic equipment – Part 1: Generic specification*

IEC 61193-2:2007, *Quality assessment systems – Part 2: Selection and use of sampling plans for inspection of electronic components and packages*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60384-1:2021 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

surface mount multilayer capacitor

multilayer capacitor whose small dimensions and nature or shape of terminations make it suitable for surface mounting in hybrid circuits and on printed boards

3.2

capacitor of ceramic dielectric, Class 1

capacitor specially designed and suited for resonant circuit application where low losses and high stability of capacitance are essential or where a precisely defined temperature coefficient is required, for example for compensating temperature effects in the circuit

Note 1 to entry: The ceramic dielectric is defined by its nominal temperature coefficient (α).

3.3

subclass

<Class 1> tolerance on the temperature coefficient for a given nominal temperature coefficient

Note 1 to entry: See Table 2.

Note 2 to entry: The nominal temperature coefficient value and its tolerance refer to the temperature interval from the reference temperature +20 °C or +25 °C to +85 °C, but because in practice TC curves are not strictly linear, it is necessary to define limiting capacitance deviation ($\Delta C/C$) for other temperatures (see Table 3 and Annex B).

3.4

temperature range

ambient temperature range for which the capacitor has been designed to operate continuously

Note 1 to entry: This is given by the lower and upper category temperature. (see Table 3 and Annex B).

3.5

rated temperature

T_R

maximum ambient temperature at which the rated voltage can be continuously applied

3.6

rated voltage

U_R

maximum DC voltage that can be applied continuously to a capacitor at any temperature between the lower category temperature and the rated temperature

Note 1 to entry: The maximum DC voltage is the sum of the DC voltage and peak AC voltage or peak pulse voltage applied to the capacitor.

3.7

category voltage

U_C

maximum voltage that can be applied continuously to a capacitor at its upper category temperature

4 Preferred ratings and characteristics

4.1 Preferred characteristics

Preferred climatic categories only shall be given in the preferred characteristics.

The capacitors covered by this document are classified into climatic categories in accordance with the general rules given in IEC 60068-1:2013, Annex A.

For reference temperature 20 °C or 25 °C, the lower and upper category temperatures and the duration of the damp heat, steady state test shall be chosen from the following:

- lower category temperature: -55 °C , -40 °C , -25 °C , -10 °C and $+10\text{ °C}$;
- upper category temperature: $+70\text{ °C}$, $+85\text{ °C}$, $+100\text{ °C}$, $+125\text{ °C}$;
- duration of the damp heat, steady state test (40 °C , 93 \% RH): 4, 10, 21 and 56 days.

The severities of the cold and dry heat tests are the lower and upper category temperatures respectively.

NOTE The resistance to humidity resulting from the above climatic category is for the capacitors in their unmounted state. The climatic performance of the capacitors after mounting is greatly influenced by the mounting substrate, the mounting method (see 5.4) and the final coating.

4.2 Preferred values of ratings

4.2.1 Rated temperature (T_R)

For capacitors covered by this document, the rated temperature is equal to the upper category temperature, unless the upper category temperature exceeds 125 °C .

4.2.2 Rated voltage (U_R)

The preferred values of the rated voltage are the values of the R5 series of ISO 3. If other values are needed, they shall be chosen from the R10 series.

The sum of the DC voltage and the peak AC voltage or the peak-to-peak AC voltage, whichever is the greater, applied to the capacitor shall not exceed the rated voltage.

4.2.3 Category voltage (U_C)

When the rated temperature is defined as the upper category temperature, the category voltage is equal to the rated voltage as defined in IEC 60384-1:2021, 3.5. If the upper category temperature exceeds 125 °C , or the rated voltages exceed 500 V , the category voltage shall be given in the detail specification.

4.2.4 Preferred values of nominal capacitance and associated tolerance values

4.2.4.1 Preferred values of nominal capacitance

Nominal capacitance values should be taken from the E6, E12 and E24 series given in IEC 60063.

4.2.4.2 Preferred tolerances on nominal capacitance

See Table 1.

Table 1 – Preferred tolerances on nominal capacitance

Preferred series	Tolerance			
	$C_N \geq 10\text{ pF}$	Letter code	$C_N < 10\text{ pF}$	Letter code
E6	$\pm 20\text{ \%}$	M	$\pm 2\text{ pF}$	G
E12	$\pm 10\text{ \%}$	K	$\pm 1\text{ pF}$	F
E24	$\pm 5\text{ \%}$	J	$\pm 0,5\text{ pF}$	D
	$\pm 2\text{ \%}$	G	$\pm 0,25\text{ pF}$	C
	$\pm 1\text{ \%}$	F	$\pm 0,1\text{ pF}$	B

4.2.5 Temperature coefficient (α)

4.2.5.1 Nominal temperature coefficient and tolerance (for reference temperature 20 °C)

Table 2 shows the nominal temperature coefficients for the reference temperature 20 °C, the associated tolerances, expressed in parts per million per Kelvin ($10^{-6}/K$), and the corresponding subclasses and letter codes. The temperature coefficients, tolerances and letter codes for the reference temperature 25 °C are given in Annex B.

The detail specification shall specify for each temperature coefficient the minimum value of capacitance for which the given tolerance of temperature coefficient can be verified, considering the accuracy of the methods of capacitance measurement specified.

For values of capacitance lower than this minimum value:

- the detail specification shall specify a multiplying factor for the tolerance on α , as well as the permissible changes of capacitance at the lower and upper category temperature;
- special methods of measurement can be necessary and, if required, shall be stated in the detail specification.

**Table 2 – Nominal temperature coefficient and tolerance
(for reference temperature 20 °C)**

Nominal temperature coefficient ($10^{-6}/K$)	Tolerance on temperature coefficient ($10^{-6}/K$)	Subclass	Letter code for	
			α	Tolerance
+100	± 30	1B	A	G
0	± 30	1B	C	G
-33	± 30	1B	H	G
-75	± 30	1B	L	G
-150	± 30	1B	P	G
-220	± 30	1B	R	G
-330	± 60	1B	S	H
-470	± 60	1B	T	H
-750	± 120	1B	U	J
-1 000	± 250	1F	Q	K
-1 500	± 250	1F	V	K
+140 $\geq \alpha \geq$ -1 000	^a	1C	SL	-

The nominal temperature coefficients and their tolerances are defined using the capacitance change between the temperatures 20 °C and 85 °C.

A capacitor with a temperature coefficient $0 \times 10^{-6}/K$ and a tolerance on temperature coefficient of $\pm 30 \times 10^{-6}/K$ is designated as a CG capacitor (subclass 1B).

^a This temperature coefficient value is not subject to inspection since no limits for relative capacitance variation are specified in Table 3.

4.2.5.2 Permissible relative variation of capacitance

Table 3 shows for each combination of temperature coefficient and tolerance the permissible relative variation of capacitance expressed in parts per thousand at both the upper and lower category temperatures. Temperature coefficients and tolerances are expressed in parts per million per Kelvin ($10^{-6}/K$). In case of reference temperature 25 °C, see Table B.1 for an explanation of the permissible relative variation of capacitance.

Table 3 – Combination of temperature coefficient and tolerance

		Permissible relative variation in capacitance in parts per 1 000 between 20 °C and a given temperature							
		Lower category temperature				Upper category temperature			
α	Tolerance	-55 °C	-40 °C	-25 °C	-10 °C	+70 °C	+85 °C	+100 °C	+125 °C
$10^{-6}/K$	$10^{-6}/K$								
+100	±30 (G)	-9,75/ -3,71	-7,80/ -2,96	-5,85/ -2,22	-3,90/ -1,48	3,50/ 6,50	4,55/ 8,45	5,60/ 10,4	7,35/ 13,7
0	±30 (G)	-2,25/ 5,45	-1,80/ 4,36	-1,35/ 3,27	-0,90/ 2,18	-1,50/ 1,50	-1,95/ 1,95	-2,40/ 2,40	-3,15/ 3,15
-33	±30 (G)	0,225/ 8,47	0,180/ 6,77	0,135/ 5,08	0,090/ 3,39	-3,15/ -0,15	-4,10/ -0,195	-5,04/ -0,240	-6,62/ -0,32
-75	±30 (G)	3,38/ 12,3	2,70/ 9,85	2,03/ 7,39	1,35/ 4,92	-5,25/ -2,25	-6,83/ -2,93	-8,40/ -3,60	-11,0/ -4,73
-150	±30 (G)	9,00/ 19,2	7,20/ 15,3	5,40/ 11,5	3,60/ 7,67	-9,00/ -6,0	-11,7/ -7,80	-14,4/ -9,60	-18,9/ -12,6
-220	±30 (G)	14,3/ 25,6	11,4/ 20,46	8,55/ 15,3	5,70/ 10,2	-12,5/ -9,50	-16,2/ -12,4	-20,0/ -15,2	-26,3/ -20,0
-330	±60 (H)	20,3/ 38,4	16,2/ 30,7	12,2/ 23,0	8,10/ 15,4	-19,5/ -13,5	-25,4/ -17,6	-31,2/ -21,6	-41,0/ -28,4
-470	±60 (H)	30,8/ 51,2	24,6/ 41,0	18,5/ 30,7	12,3/ 20,5	-26,5/ -20,5	-34,5/ -26,7	-42,4/ -32,8	-55,7/ -43,1
-750	±120 (J)	47,3/ 82,3	37,8/ 65,8	28,4/ 49,4	18,9/ 32,9	-43,5/ -31,5	-56,6/ -41,0	-69,6/ -50,4	-91,4/ -66,2
-1 000	±250 (K)	56,3/ 117	45,0/ 93,7	33,8/ 70,2	22,5/ 46,8	-62,5/ -37,5	-81,3/ -48,8	-100/ -60,0	-131/ -78,8
-1 500	±250 (K)	93,8/ 163	75,0/ 130	56,3/ 97,7	37,5/ 65,1	-87,5/ -62,5	-114/ -81,3	-140/ -100	-184/ -131

When the upper category temperature is above 125 °C, the limits shall be given in the detail specification.

Formulas for calculation of the permissible relative variation in capacitance:

Permissible relative variation in the temperature range from 20 °C to the upper category temperature:

$$\Delta C/C (10^{-3}) = (\alpha \pm |\delta|) \times (UCT - 20) / 1000 \quad (1)$$

Permissible relative variation in the temperature range from 20 °C to the lower category temperature:

a) lower permissible relative variation in capacitance from 20 °C to lower category temperature:

$$\Delta C/C (10^{-3}) = (\alpha \pm |\delta|) \times (LCT - 20) / 1000 \quad (2)$$

b) upper permissible relative variation in capacitance from 20 °C to lower category temperature:

$$\Delta C/C (10^{-3}) = [(-36) - (1,22 \times |\delta|) + (0,22 \times \alpha) + \alpha] \times (LCT - 20) / 1000 \quad (3)$$

α Temperature coefficient
 δ Tolerance of α
 LCT Lower category temperature
 UCT Upper category temperature