

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# IEC 60502-2

Second edition  
2005-03

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**Power cables with extruded insulation and their accessories for rated voltages from 1 kV ( $U_m = 1,2$  kV) up to 30 kV ( $U_m = 36$  kV) –**

**Part 2:  
Cables for rated voltages from 6 kV ( $U_m = 7,2$  kV) up to 30 kV ( $U_m = 36$  kV)**

*This **English-language** version is derived from the original **bilingual** publication by leaving out all French-language pages. Missing page numbers correspond to the French-language pages.*



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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**POWER CABLES WITH EXTRUDED INSULATION AND THEIR ACCESSORIES  
FOR RATED VOLTAGES FROM 1 kV ( $U_m = 1,2$  kV) UP TO 30 kV ( $U_m = 36$  kV) –****Part 2: Cables for rated voltages from 6 kV  
( $U_m = 7,2$  kV) up to 30 kV ( $U_m = 36$  kV)**

## FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 60502-2 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 20: Electric cables.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 1997, its amendment 1 (1998) and its corrigendum 1 (1999) and constitutes a technical revision.

Significant technical changes with respect to the first edition have been made. The changes relate to possible water ingress, large conductor sizes, partial discharge requirements, insulation and oversheath thickness requirements, range of type approval, electrical tests after installation and tabulated current ratings.

IEC 60502 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Power cables with extruded insulation and their accessories for rated voltages from 1 kV ( $U_m = 1,2$  kV) up to 30 kV ( $U_m = 36$  kV)*:

- Part 1: Cables for rated voltages of 1 kV ( $U_m = 1,2$  kV) and 3 kV ( $U_m = 3,6$  kV);
- Part 2: Cables for rated voltages from 6 kV ( $U_m = 7,2$  kV) up to 30 kV ( $U_m = 36$  kV);
- Part 3: Reserved;
- Part 4: Test requirements on accessories for cables with rated voltages from 6 kV ( $U_m = 7,2$  kV) up to 30 kV ( $U_m = 36$  kV).

The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
20/749/FDIS	20/763/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

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**POWER CABLES WITH EXTRUDED INSULATION  
AND THEIR ACCESSORIES FOR RATED VOLTAGES  
FROM 1 kV ( $U_m = 1,2$  kV) UP TO 30 kV ( $U_m = 36$  kV) –**

**Part 2: Cables for rated voltages from 6 kV  
( $U_m = 7,2$  kV) up to 30 kV ( $U_m = 36$  kV)**

## 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60502 specifies the construction, dimensions and test requirements of power cables with extruded solid insulation from 6 kV up to 30 kV for fixed installations such as distribution networks or industrial installations.

When determining applications, it is recommended that the possible risk of radial water ingress is considered. Cable designs with barriers claimed to prevent longitudinal water penetration and an associated test are included in this part of IEC 60502.

Cables for special installation and service conditions are not included, for example cables for overhead networks, the mining industry, nuclear power plants (in and around the containment area) nor for submarine use or shipboard application.

## 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.

<https://standards.iteh.ai/iec/60502-2:2005>  
<https://standards.iteh.ai/iec/60038>, IEC standard voltages

IEC 60060-1, *High-voltage test techniques – Part 1: General definitions and test requirements*

IEC 60183, *Guide to the selection of high-voltage cables*

IEC 60228, *Conductors of insulated cables*

IEC 60229, *Tests on cable oversheaths which have a special protective function and are applied by extrusion*

IEC 60230, *Impulse tests on cables and their accessories*

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 60811-1-1, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric cables and optical cables – Part 1-1: Methods for general application – Measurement of thickness and overall dimensions – Tests for determining the mechanical properties*

IEC 60811-1-2, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric cables – Part 1: Methods for general application – Section 2: Thermal ageing methods*

IEC 60811-1-3, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric and optical cables – Part 1-3: General application – Methods for determining the density – Water absorption tests – Shrinkage test*

IEC 60811-1-4, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric cables – Part 1: Methods for general application – Section 4: Test at low temperature*

IEC 60811-2-1, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric and optical cables – Part 2-1: Methods specific to elastomeric compounds – Ozone resistance, hot set and mineral oil immersion tests*

IEC 60811-3-1, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric cables – Part 3: Methods specific to PVC compounds – Section 1: Pressure test at high temperature – Tests for resistance to cracking*

IEC 60811-3-2, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric cables – Part 3: Methods specific to PVC compounds – Section 2: Loss of mass test – Thermal stability test*

IEC 60811-4-1, *Insulating and sheathing materials of electric and optical cables – Common test methods – Part 4-1: Methods specific to polyethylene and polypropylene compounds – Resistance to environmental stress cracking – Measurement of the melt flow index – Carbon black and/or mineral filler content measurement in polyethylene by direct combustion – Measurement of carbon black content by thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) – Assessment of carbon black dispersion in polyethylene using a microscope*

IEC 60885-3, *Electrical test methods for electric cables – Part 3: Test methods for partial discharge measurements on lengths of extruded power cables*

IEC 60986, *Short-circuit temperature limits of electric cables with rated voltages from 6 kV ( $U_m$  7,2 kV) up to 30 kV ( $U_m$  =36 kV)*

ISO 48, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic – Determination of hardness (hardness between 10 IRHD and 100 IRHD)*

### **3 Terms and definitions**

For the purpose of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

#### **3.1 Definitions of dimensional values (thicknesses, cross-sections, etc.)**

##### **3.1.1**

##### **nominal value**

value by which a quantity is designated and which is often used in tables

NOTE Usually, in this standard, nominal values give rise to values to be checked by measurements taking into account specified tolerances.

##### **3.1.2**

##### **approximate value**

value which is neither guaranteed nor checked; it is used, for example, for the calculation of other dimensional values

**3.1.3****median value**

when several test results have been obtained and ordered in an increasing (or decreasing) succession, the median value is the middle value if the number of available values is odd, and the mean of the two middle values if the number is even

**3.1.4****fictitious value**

value calculated according to the "fictitious method" described in Annex A

**3.2 Definitions concerning the tests****3.2.1****routine tests**

tests made by the manufacturer on each manufactured length of cable to check that each length meets the specified requirements

**3.2.2****sample tests**

tests made by the manufacturer on samples of completed cable or components taken from a completed cable, at a specified frequency, so as to verify that the finished product meets the specified requirements

**3.2.3****type tests**

tests made before supplying, on a general commercial basis, a type of cable covered by this standard, in order to demonstrate satisfactory performance characteristics to meet the intended application

NOTE These tests are of such a nature that, after they have been made, they need not be repeated, unless changes are made in the cable materials or design or manufacturing process which might change the performance characteristics.

**3.2.4****electrical tests after installation**

tests made to demonstrate the integrity of the cable and its accessories as installed

**4 Voltage designations and materials****4.1 Rated voltages**

The rated voltages  $U_0/U(U_m)$  of the cables considered in this standard are as follows:

$$U_0/U(U_m) = 3,6/6 (7,2) - 6/10 (12) - 8,7/15 (17,5) - 12/20 (24) - 18/30 (36) \text{ kV.}$$

NOTE 1 The voltages given above are the correct designations although in some countries other designations are used, e.g. 3,5/6 – 5,8/10 – 11,5/20 – 17,3/30 kV.

In the voltage designation of cables  $U_0/U(U_m)$ :

- $U_0$  is the rated power frequency voltage between conductor and earth or metallic screen for which the cable is designed;
- $U$  is the rated power frequency voltage between conductors for which the cable is designed;
- $U_m$  is the maximum value of the "highest system voltage" for which the equipment may be used (see IEC 60038).

The rated voltage of the cable for a given application shall be suitable for the operating conditions in the system in which the cable is used. To facilitate the selection of the cable, systems are divided into three categories:

- category A: this category comprises those systems in which any phase conductor that comes in contact with earth or an earth conductor is disconnected from the system within 1 min;
- category B: this category comprises those systems which, under fault conditions, are operated for a short time with one phase earthed. This period, according to IEC 60183, should not exceed 1 h. For cables covered by this standard, a longer period, not exceeding 8 h on any occasion, can be tolerated. The total duration of earth faults in any year should not exceed 125 h;
- category C: this category comprises all systems which do not fall into category A or B.

NOTE 2 It should be realized that in a system where an earth fault is not automatically and promptly isolated, the extra stresses on the insulation of cables during the earth fault reduce the life of the cables to a certain degree. If the system is expected to be operated fairly often with a permanent earth fault, it may be advisable to classify the system in category C.

The values of  $U_0$  recommended for cables to be used in three-phase systems are listed in Table 1.

**Table 1 – Recommended rated voltages  $U_0$**

Highest system voltage ( $U_m$ ) kV	Rated voltage ( $U_0$ ) kV	
	Categories A and B	Category C
7,2	3,6	6,0
12,0	6,0	8,7
17,5	8,7	12,0
24,0	12,0	18,0
36,0	18,0	–

#### 4.2 Insulating compounds

The types of insulating compound covered by this standard are listed in Table 2, together with their abbreviated designations.