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**Kalibriranje preskusne garniture za merjenje kromatične disperzije optičnih vlaken (IEC 61744:2001)\***

Calibration of fibre optic chromatic dispersion test sets (IEC 61744:2001)

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

**EN 61744**

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

April 2001

ICS 33.180.01

English version

**Calibration of fibre optic chromatic dispersion test sets  
(IEC 61744:2001)**

Etalonnage des ensembles  
de la dispersion chromatique  
des fibres optiques  
(CEI 61744:2001)

Kalibrierung von Prüf-Aufbauten zur  
Bestimmung der chromatischen  
Dispersion  
(IEC 61744:2001)

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2001-01-01. CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Central Secretariat or to any CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the Central Secretariat has the same status as the official versions.

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European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization  
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique  
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

**Central Secretariat: rue de Stassart 35, B - 1050 Brussels**

## Foreword

The text of document 86/170/FDIS, future edition 1 of IEC 61744:2001, prepared by IEC TC 86, Fibre optics, was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and was approved by CENELEC as EN 61744 on 2001-01-01.

The following dates were fixed:

- latest date by which the EN has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2001-11-01
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the EN have to be withdrawn (dow) 2004-01-01

Annexes designated "normative" are part of the body of the standard.

Annexes designated "informative" are given for information only.

In this standard, annexes A, B and ZA are normative and annexes C and D are informative.

Annex ZA has been added by CENELEC.

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## Endorsement notice

The text of the International Standard IEC 61744:2001 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

In the official version, for Bibliography, the following note has to be added for the standard indicated:

IEC 61315 NOTE: Harmonized as EN 61315:1997 (not modified).

## Annex ZA (normative)

### Normative references to international publications with their corresponding European publications

This European Standard incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this European Standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies (including amendments).

NOTE When an international publication has been modified by common modifications, indicated by (mod), the relevant EN/HD applies.

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>EN/HD</u>	<u>Year</u>
IEC 60050-731	1991	International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) Chapter 731: Optical fibre communication	-	-
IEC 60793-1-1	1995	Optical fibres Part 1: Generic specification -- Section 1: General	-	-
IEC 60825-1	1993	Safety of laser products Part 1: Equipment classification, requirements and user's guide	EN 60825-1 + February + A11	1994 1995 1996
IEC 62129	1)	Calibration of optical spectrum analyzers	-	-
ISO 9000	Series	Quality management and quality assurance standards - Part 1: Guidelines for selection and use	EN ISO 9000	Series
ISO 10012-1	1992	Quality assurance requirements for measuring equipment Part 1: Metrological confirmation system for measuring equipment	-	-
ISO 10012-2	1997	Part 2: Guidelines for control of measurement processes	-	-
ISO	1993	Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement (ISBN 02-67-10188-9)	-	-
EN 45001 <sup>2)</sup>	1989	General criteria for the operation of testing laboratories	-	-

1) To be published.

2) EN 45001:1989 is superseded by EN ISO/IEC 17025:2000.

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# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# IEC 61744

First edition  
2001-02

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## Calibration of fibre optic chromatic dispersion test sets

*Etalonnage des ensembles d'essai de la dispersion  
chromatique des fibres optiques*

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## CONTENTS

	Page
FOREWORD .....	4
INTRODUCTION .....	5
 Clause	
1 Scope .....	7
2 Normative references .....	7
3 Terms and definitions .....	8
4 Calibration .....	14
4.1 Rationale for calibration of CD test sets .....	14
4.1.1 (Full) calibration .....	14
4.1.2 Calibration checking .....	14
4.2 Preparation for calibration .....	15
4.2.1 General advice and organization .....	15
4.2.2 Test environmental requirements .....	16
4.2.3 Measurement equipment requirements .....	16
4.2.4 Traceability .....	16
4.3 Calibration procedure .....	16
4.4 Calibration checking procedure .....	17
5 Wavelength calibration procedure .....	17
5.1 General .....	17
5.2 Discrete sources .....	17
5.3 Tunable sources .....	18
5.3.1 Method A .....	18
5.3.2 Method B .....	19
5.3.3 Method C .....	20
5.4 Uncertainties and reporting .....	20
6 Delay [dispersion] calibration procedure .....	20
6.1 General .....	20
6.2 Equipment and preparation .....	20
6.2.1 Pulse delay CD test sets .....	21
6.2.2 Phase shift CD test sets .....	22
6.2.3 Interferometric CD test sets .....	22
6.2.4 Differential phase shift CD test sets .....	22
6.3 Calibration procedure .....	23
6.4 Uncertainties and reporting .....	23
7 Calibration checking procedure .....	23
7.1 General .....	23
7.2 Equipment and preparation .....	24
7.3 Procedure .....	24
7.4 Uncertainties and reporting .....	25
7.5 Generation of infant reference fibre .....	25
8 Documentation .....	26
8.1 Specifications, measurement data and uncertainties .....	26
8.2 Traceability information .....	27



Annex A (normative) Mathematical basis.....	28
A.1 Deviations.....	28
A.2 Uncertainties type A.....	28
A.3 Uncertainties type B.....	29
A.4 Accumulation of uncertainties.....	30
A.5 Reporting.....	31
Annex B (normative) Assessment of operational uncertainties.....	32
B.1 Wavelength calibration uncertainties.....	32
B.2 Fibre length uncertainty.....	33
B.3 Optical delay variation.....	33
B.4 Instrumentation uncertainties.....	34
B.5 Effect of dispersion modelling.....	37
B.6 Fibre related uncertainties.....	37
B.7 System dispersion uncertainties.....	38
Annex C (informative) Chromatic dispersion.....	39
C.1 Chromatic dispersion in fibres.....	39
C.2 Description of chromatic dispersion test sets.....	39
C.3 Measurement techniques.....	40
C.4 Fibre chromatic dispersion specifications.....	41
Annex D (informative) CD test set calibration compensation.....	42
D.1 Calibration compensation.....	42
D.2 Calibrated reference fibres.....	43
D.3 Calibration compensation procedure.....	43
Bibliography.....	45

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**CALIBRATION OF FIBRE OPTIC CHROMATIC DISPERSION TEST SETS**

FOREWORD

- 1) The IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of the 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, the IEC publishes International Standards. 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. The 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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- 3) The documents produced have the form of recommendations for international use and are published in the form of standards, technical specifications, technical reports or guides and they are accepted by the National Committees in that sense.
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- 6) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this International Standard may be the subject of patent rights. The IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard IEC 61744 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 86: Fibre optics.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
86/170/FDIS	86/173/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 3.

Annexes A and B form an integral part of this standard.

Annexes C and D are for information only.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until 2002. At this date, the publication will be

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

## INTRODUCTION

### Chromatic dispersion in optical fibres

Chromatic dispersion is the variation with optical light wavelength of the light propagation delay time in a length of fibre. This variation can cause bandwidth limitation in the fibre when used to transmit communication signals. For a more detailed explanation, refer to annex C and IEC 60793-1-1.

### Chromatic dispersion (CD) test sets

CD test sets are used to measure the chromatic dispersion properties of optical fibres and typically comprise an optical source of known wavelength(s), a fibre light input coupling and output coupling means, optical detection means, and electronic or optical means of determining the optical delay or dispersion at the source wavelength. There are several variants each requiring slightly different calibration techniques. Refer to annex C for further details.

In general, all CD test sets produce an output of fibre delay or dispersion versus the light wavelength, typically in graphical form. Thus, wavelength constitutes the 'x-axis' and delay or dispersion the 'y-axis'.

### Overview of calibration procedures described in this standard

The requirement to calibrate the CD test set, traceable to known standards, is essential for quality control in fibre optic production, fibre research and similar activities. This standard describes the detailed procedures used to establish calibration of a CD test set.

Calibration of a CD test set is established by applying known artefacts or standards (themselves calibrated to reference standards) to the CD test set, measuring its response and adjusting (correcting) the CD test set to achieve results that match the standards used. In this way the CD test set results will be brought to close agreement with other CD test sets also calibrated in the manner described in this standard.

Primarily the artefacts or standards used are as follows:

- a) wavelength artefact(s) used to calibrate the light source wavelength(s) used by the CD test set. This is to establish the correct excitation wavelength for the system (the 'x-axis') in order that the correct delay or dispersion (the 'y-axis') be determined subsequently;
- b) delay or dispersion artefact(s) used to calibrate the delay or dispersion response of the CD test set (the 'y-axis').

Calibration can only be carried out using these artefacts. After a calibration has been completed, a calibration period is defined over which the CD test set is deemed to remain calibrated. At the end of this period, it would be necessary to establish if the CD test set calibration requires updating (changing); this can be performed using the artefact described above, or by use of a known standard fibre (reference fibre) whose chromatic dispersion is known. This is referred to as calibration checking. The fibre forms a stable source of known dispersion and may be used as a simple dispersion artefact.

If it is found that the calibration has not changed within the required uncertainty limits, then it is possible to simply extend the calibration period again by a defined amount.

If, however, it is found that the CD test set measurement results have changed significantly compared to the user requirements (i.e. the test set has drifted), then calibration using the artefacts (if not already carried out at this time) should be carried out and the calibration renewed.

The above rationale ensures that the CD test set calibration is only ever performed using known standards (artefacts), but that if the CD test set is sufficiently stable over the calibration period selected, then a simple check of calibration can suffice to ascertain this and to (justify) allow the extension of the calibration period. The extension can be repeated indefinitely over many calibration periods, provided the CD test set continues to remain within uncertainty limits over the entire set of calibration periods.

In order to be considered calibrated and in conformance with this standard, a CD test set must have its calibration adjusted based on comparison to artefacts for the primary parameters of wavelength and delay [dispersion]. In all cases, this calibration of primary parameters is necessary, but may or may not be sufficient, to ensure calibration of the CD test set to the required uncertainty.

In addition, it may be necessary to also confirm or compensate the calibration state of a CD test set using a calibrated reference fibre. The CD test set calibration compensation is explained more fully in annex D. It should be noted that use of a calibrated reference fibre alone is not sufficient to ensure calibration of a CD test set.

It should also be noted that if a calibrated CD test set undergoes calibration compensation using a calibrated reference fibre, the scope and extent of its calibration is limited to the conditions used at the time of calibration compensation (i.e. wavelength, fibre type, loss regime, etc.) Care should be exercised that test sets calibrated and compensated in this manner are used only within the appropriate limits of their calibration extent. The adjustments required to effect compensation on one set of wavelengths for one fibre type may increase the uncertainty of measurement of other fibre types with different minimum dispersion wavelengths.

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# CALIBRATION OF FIBRE OPTIC CHROMATIC DISPERSION TEST SETS

## 1 Scope

This International Standard provides standard procedures for the calibration of optical fibre chromatic dispersion (CD) test sets. It also provides procedures to perform calibration checking on CD test sets whereby an extension to the test set calibration period may be obtained.

This standard is applicable to all types of CD test sets, with the exception that measurements on multimode optical fibres are excluded.

The purpose of this standard is to define a standard procedure for calibrating optical fibre chromatic dispersion (CD) test sets. The detailed calibration steps used vary according to the measurement technique used in the CD test set.

Whilst it is acknowledged that chromatic dispersion also occurs in multimode fibre and this fibre may be measured on many CD test sets, this standard will restrict discussion to single mode fibre measurements only.

The purpose of the procedures outlined in this standard is to focus manufacturers and users of CD test sets toward the reduction of measurement uncertainty in chromatic dispersion determination in optical fibres under all applicable conditions. The procedures apply to calibration laboratories and to the manufacturers or users of CD test sets for the purpose of

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- calibrating CD test sets,
  - setting specifications of CD test sets,
  - extending the calibration period of an already calibrated CD test set.

Use of the procedures also allows correct evaluation of CD test set uncertainty, relative and traceable to appropriate (for example, National) standards.

## 2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

IEC 60050(731):1991, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Chapter 731: Optical fibre communication*

IEC 60793-1-1:1995, *Optical fibres – Part 1: Generic specification – Section 1: General*<sup>1)</sup>

IEC 60825-1:1993, *Safety of laser products – Part 1: Equipment classification, requirements and user's guide*<sup>2)</sup>

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<sup>1)</sup> A consolidated edition 1.1 exists (1999) that includes IEC 60793-1-1 (1995) and its amendment 1 (1998).

IEC 62129, *Calibration of optical spectrum analyzers*<sup>3)</sup>

ISO 9000 (all parts), *Quality management and quality assurance standards*

ISO 10012-1:1992, *Quality assurance requirements for measuring equipment – Part 1: Metrological confirmation system for measuring equipment*

ISO 10012-2:1997, *Quality assurance for measuring equipment – Part 2: Guidelines for control of measurement processes*

*Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement*, 1993, ISO, ISBN 02-67-10188-9

EN 45001:1989, *General criteria for the operation of testing laboratories*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this International Standard, IEC 60050(731) and the following definitions apply.

#### 3.1

##### **accredited calibration laboratory**

calibration laboratory authorized by the appropriate national standards laboratory to issue calibration certificates with a minimum specified uncertainty, which demonstrate traceability to national standards

#### 3.2

##### **adjustment**

modifying the hardware or firmware of a CD test set with the intention of making the measurement result of the CD test set equal to that of a national standard or a similar calibrated CD test set. This has the effect of correcting all subsequent measurements on that CD test set

#### 3.3

##### **artefact**

device, instrument or equipment used in the process of calibrating a CD test set, for both wavelength and delay [dispersion]. The artefact is a means of transferring calibration of these parameters to a CD test set

#### 3.4

##### **calibration**

process by which the relationship between the values indicated by the infant CD test set and known values of the calibration standard is established under specified conditions. The intention of calibration is to bring all CD test sets into substantial agreement with a suitable national standards laboratory. This may be performed by first comparing the relevant parameter of a measurement artefact with that produced by the CD test set, followed by transfer of that result, either by adjustment of the CD test set or by documentation of a calibration factor(s) in a calibration certificate. The pertaining environmental conditions and instrument state are usually recorded. Calibration includes estimation of all uncertainties. The use of reference fibres is for calibration checking only

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<sup>2)</sup> A consolidated edition 1.1 exists (1998) that includes IEC 60825-1 (1993) and its amendment 1 (1997).

<sup>3)</sup> To be published.

### 3.5 calibration chain

unbroken chain of transfers from a primary standard to the CD test set via reference standards, intermediate and/or working standards (see figure 1)

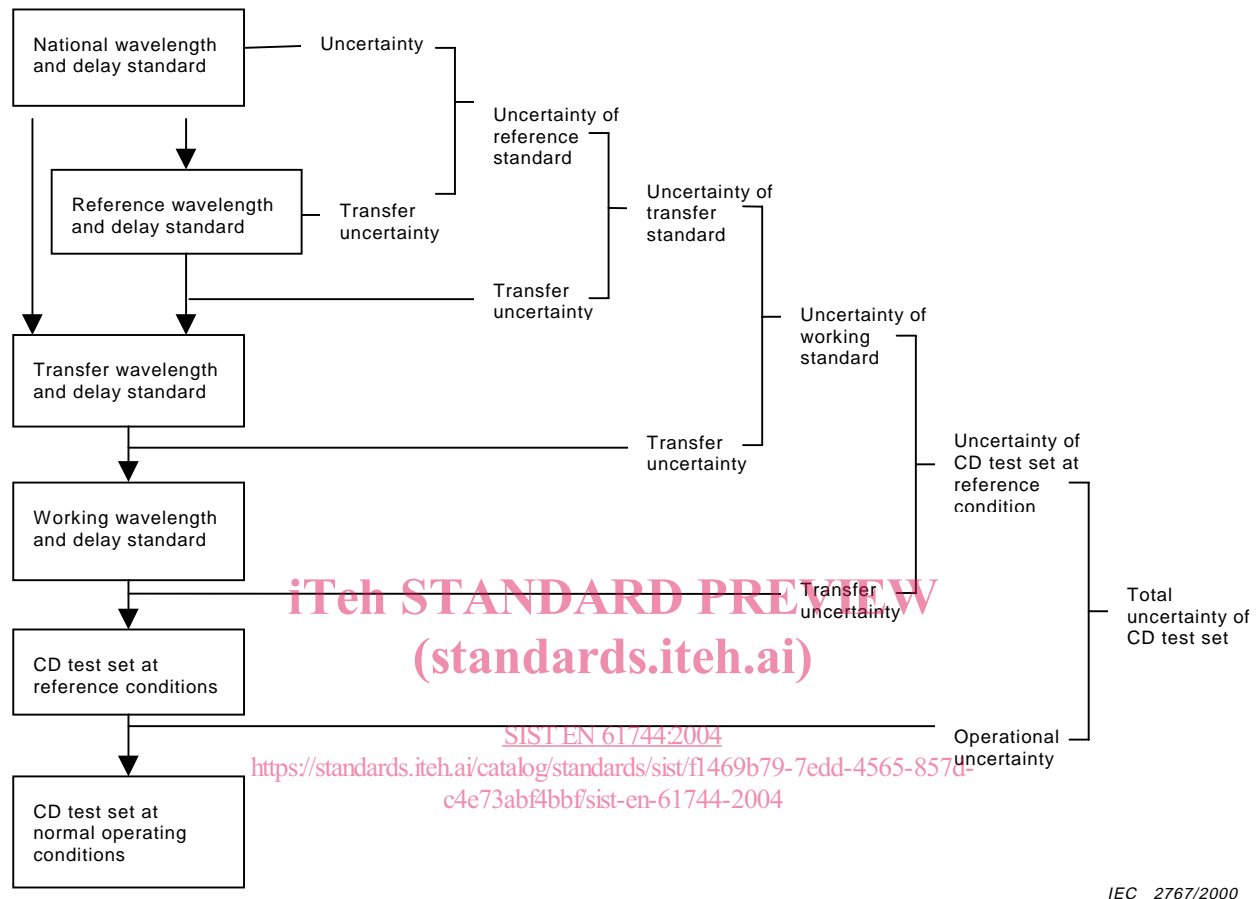


Figure 1 – Typical calibration chain for CD test sets

### 3.6 calibration checking

process of establishing that a CD test set which has been previously calibrated, but is nearing the end of its calibration period, remains within specified uncertainty limits. If the CD test set has drifted outside these limits, then calibration is required. Otherwise, the calibration period can be extended for a stated period, and calibration checking may be repeated indefinitely if the CD test set remains stable over successive calibration periods. Calibration checking is performed using a reference fibre or working standard. Essentially calibration checking is the first part of the process of calibration, but without the additional process of transfer or adjustment

### 3.7 calibration period interval of confirmation

time period over which a calibration performed in accordance with the procedures in this standard is deemed to remain within the uncertainty limits set. (i.e. remain valid). The time allotted will be governed by individual user requirements, CD test set characteristics, past experience, environmental conditions, etc. and by monitored CD test set measurement result experience in normal use (see also ISO 10012-1 and ISO 10012-2)