

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Electrical installations of buildings –
Part 5-55: Selection and erection of electrical equipment – Other equipment**

**Installations électriques des bâtiments –
Partie 5-55: Choix et mise en oeuvre des matériels électriques – Autres matériels**

[IEC 60364-5-55:2011](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iec/b6144f61-5676-42c9-ba8b-3b3b0f59c271/iec-60364-5-55-2011)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iec/b6144f61-5676-42c9-ba8b-3b3b0f59c271/iec-60364-5-55-2011>



THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED
Copyright © 2012 IEC, Geneva, Switzerland

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from either IEC or IEC's member National Committee in the country of the requester.
If you have any questions about IEC copyright or have an enquiry about obtaining additional rights to this publication, please contact the address below or your local IEC member National Committee for further information.

Droits de reproduction réservés. Sauf indication contraire, aucune partie de cette publication ne peut être reproduite ni utilisée sous quelque forme que ce soit et par aucun procédé, électronique ou mécanique, y compris la photocopie et les microfilms, sans l'accord écrit de la CEI ou du Comité national de la CEI du pays du demandeur.

Si vous avez des questions sur le copyright de la CEI ou si vous désirez obtenir des droits supplémentaires sur cette publication, utilisez les coordonnées ci-après ou contactez le Comité national de la CEI de votre pays de résidence.

IEC Central Office
3, rue de Varembe
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11
Fax: +41 22 919 03 00
info@iec.ch
www.iec.ch

About the IEC

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is the leading global organization that prepares and publishes International Standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies.

About IEC publications

The technical content of IEC publications is kept under constant review by the IEC. Please make sure that you have the latest edition, a corrigenda or an amendment might have been published.

Useful links:

IEC publications search - www.iec.ch/searchpub

The advanced search enables you to find IEC publications by a variety of criteria (reference number, text, technical committee,...).

It also gives information on projects, replaced and withdrawn publications.

IEC Just Published - webstore.iec.ch/justpublished

Stay up to date on all new IEC publications. Just Published details all new publications released. Available on-line and also once a month by email.

Electropedia - www.electropedia.org

The world's leading online dictionary of electronic and electrical terms containing more than 30 000 terms and definitions in English and French, with equivalent terms in additional languages. Also known as the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) on-line.

Customer Service Centre - webstore.iec.ch/csc

If you wish to give us your feedback on this publication or need further assistance, please contact the Customer Service Centre: csc@iec.ch.

A propos de la CEI

La Commission Electrotechnique Internationale (CEI) est la première organisation mondiale qui élabore et publie des Normes internationales pour tout ce qui a trait à l'électricité, à l'électronique et aux technologies apparentées.

A propos des publications CEI

Le contenu technique des publications de la CEI est constamment revu. Veuillez vous assurer que vous possédez l'édition la plus récente, un corrigendum ou amendement peut avoir été publié.

Liens utiles:

Recherche de publications CEI - www.iec.ch/searchpub

La recherche avancée vous permet de trouver des publications CEI en utilisant différents critères (numéro de référence, texte, comité d'études,...).

Elle donne aussi des informations sur les projets et les publications remplacées ou retirées.

Just Published CEI - webstore.iec.ch/justpublished

Restez informé sur les nouvelles publications de la CEI. Just Published détaille les nouvelles publications parues. Disponible en ligne et aussi une fois par mois par email.

Electropedia - www.electropedia.org

Le premier dictionnaire en ligne au monde de termes électroniques et électriques. Il contient plus de 30 000 termes et définitions en anglais et en français, ainsi que les termes équivalents dans les langues additionnelles. Egalement appelé Vocabulaire Electrotechnique International (VEI) en ligne.

Service Clients - webstore.iec.ch/csc

Si vous désirez nous donner des commentaires sur cette publication ou si vous avez des questions contactez-nous: csc@iec.ch.

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Electrical installations of buildings –
Part 5-55: Selection and erection of electrical equipment – Other equipment**

**Installations électriques des bâtiments –
Partie 5-55: Choix et mise en oeuvre des matériels électriques – Autres matériels**

[IEC 60364-5-55:2011](https://standards.iteh.ai/standards/iec/60364-5-55-2011)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iec/b6144f61-5676-42c9-ba8b-3b3b0f59c271/iec-60364-5-55-2011>

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

COMMISSION
ELECTROTECHNIQUE
INTERNATIONALE

ICS 91.140

ISBN 978-2-8322-0426-9

**Warning! Make sure that you obtained this publication from an authorized distributor.
Attention! Veuillez vous assurer que vous avez obtenu cette publication via un distributeur agréé.**

CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
550 Introduction	6
550.1 Scope	6
550.2 Normative references	6
550.3 Terms and definitions.....	8
551 Low-voltage generating sets	8
551.1 Scope	8
551.2 General requirements	9
551.3 Protective measure: extra-low-voltage provided by SELV and PELV	10
551.4 Fault protection (protection against indirect contact).....	10
551.5 Protection against overcurrent.....	11
551.6 Additional requirements for installations where the generating set provides a supply as a switched alternative to the normal supply to the installation	12
551.7 Additional requirements for installations where the generating set may operate in parallel with other sources including systems for distribution of electricity to the public.....	12
551.8 Requirements for installations incorporating stationary batteries.....	14
557 Auxiliary circuits	14
557.1 Scope	14
557.2 Terms and definitions	14
557.3 Requirements for auxiliary circuits.....	15
557.4 Characteristics of cables and conductors – Minimum cross-sectional areas	18
557.5 Requirements for auxiliary circuits used for measurement.....	19
557.6 Functional consideration.....	19
557.7 Functional safety.....	22
557.8 EMC	22
559 Luminaires and lighting installations	22
559.1 Scope	22
559.2 Terms and definitions	22
559.3 General requirements for installations	23
559.4 Protection of the surroundings against thermal effects	23
559.5 Wiring systems for lighting installations	24
559.6 Independent lamp controlgear, e.g. ballasts.....	25
559.7 Compensation capacitors	25
559.8 Protection against electric shock for display stands for luminaires	26
559.9 Stroboscopic effect	26
559.10 Ground recessed luminaires.....	26
 Annex A (informative) List of notes concerning certain countries.....	 27
Annex B (informative) Explanation of symbols used in luminaires, in controlgear for luminaires and in the installation of the luminaires	 33

Bibliography.....	35
Figure 557.1 – Auxiliary circuit supplied directly from the main circuit.....	15
Figure 557.2 – Auxiliary circuit supplied via rectifier from the main circuit.....	16
Figure 557.3 – Auxiliary circuit supplied from the main circuit via transformer.....	16
Figure 557.4 – Configuration of an auxiliary circuit.....	21
Table 557.1 – Minimum cross-sectional area of copper conductors in mm ²	18

iTeh Standards
(<https://standards.iteh.ai>)
Document Preview

[IEC 60364-5-55:2011](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iec/b6144f61-5676-42c9-ba8b-3b3b0f59c271/iec-60364-5-55-2011)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iec/b6144f61-5676-42c9-ba8b-3b3b0f59c271/iec-60364-5-55-2011>

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS OF BUILDINGS –

Part 5-55: Selection and erection of electrical equipment – Other equipment

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.
- 2) The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This consolidated version of IEC 60364-5-55 consists of the second edition (2011) [documents 64/1805/FDIS and 64/1813/RVD] and its amendment 1 (2012) [documents 64/1831/FDIS and 64/1863/RVD]. It bears the edition number 2.1.

The technical content is therefore identical to the base edition and its amendment and has been prepared for user convenience. A vertical line in the margin shows where the base publication has been modified by amendment 1. Additions and deletions are displayed in red, with deletions being struck through.

International Standard IEC 60364-5-55 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 64: Electrical installations and protection against electric shock.

The major technical changes with respect to the previous edition are listed below:

- additional requirements for connection of luminaires to the fixed wiring;
- modification of requirements regarding the fixing of luminaires;
- inclusion of alternative solutions for connecting devices used for through wiring and for connection of luminaires to the supply;
- withdrawal of Clause 556, as IEC 60364-5-56 now covers this matter.

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

A list of all parts in the IEC 60364 series, under the general title *Low-voltage electrical installations*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendments will remain unchanged until the stability 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

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

iTeh Standards
(<https://standards.itih.ai>)
Document Preview

IMPORTANT – The “colour inside” logo on the cover page of this publication indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this publication using a colour printer.

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS OF BUILDINGS –

Part 5-55: Selection and erection of electrical equipment – Other equipment

550 Introduction

550.1 Scope

This part of IEC 60364 covers requirements for the selection and erection of low-voltage generating sets and for the selection and erection of luminaires and lighting installations intended to be part of the fixed installation.

550.2 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 60038, IEC standard voltages

IEC 60050-195, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary – Part 195: Earthing and protection against electric shock*

IEC 60050-826, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary – Part 826: Electrical installations*

IEC 60079 (all parts), *Explosive atmospheres*

IEC 60245-3, *Rubber insulated cables – Rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V – Part 3: Heat resistant silicone insulated cables*

IEC 60331-11, *Tests for electric cables under fire conditions – Circuit integrity – Part 11: Apparatus – Fire alone at a flame temperature of at least 750 °C*

IEC 60331-21, *Tests for electric cables under fire conditions – Circuit integrity – Part 21: Procedures and requirements – Cables of rated voltage up to and including 0,6/1,0 kV*

IEC 60364-1:2005, *Low-voltage electrical installations – Part 1: Fundamental principles, assessment of general characteristics, definitions*

IEC 60364-4-41:2005, *Low-voltage electrical installations – Part 4-41: Protection for safety – Protection against electric shock*

IEC 60364-4-42, *Low-voltage electrical installations – Part 4-42: Protection for safety – Protection against thermal effects*

IEC 60364-4-43:2008, *Low-voltage electrical installations – Part 4-43: Protection for safety – Protection against overcurrent*

IEC 60364-4-44:2007, Low-voltage electrical installations – Part 4-44: Protection for safety – Protection against voltage disturbances and electromagnetic disturbances

IEC 60364-5-52:2009, Low-voltage electrical installations – Part 5-52: Selection and erection of electrical equipment – Wiring systems

IEC 60364-5-53:2001, *Electrical installations of buildings – Part 5-53: Selection and erection of electrical equipment – Isolation, switching and control*

IEC 60364-7-712, *Electrical installations of buildings – Part 7-712: Requirements for special installations or locations – Solar photovoltaic (PV) power supply systems*

IEC 60364-7-717, *Low-voltage electrical installations – Part 7-717: Requirements for special installations or locations – Mobile or transportable units*

IEC 60417 (all parts), *Graphical symbols for use on equipment*

IEC 60570, *Electrical supply track systems for luminaires*

IEC 60598 (all parts), *Luminaires*

IEC 60598-2-13:2006, *Luminaires – Part 2-13: Particular requirements – Ground recessed luminaires*

IEC 60598-2-22:1997, *Luminaires – Part 2-22: Particular requirements – Luminaires for emergency lighting*

IEC 60670 (all parts), *Boxes and enclosures for electrical accessories for household and similar fixed electrical installations*

IEC 60670-21, *Boxes and enclosures for electrical accessories for household and similar fixed electrical installations – Part 21: Particular requirements for boxes and enclosures with provision for suspension means*

IEC 60702-1, *Mineral insulated cables and their terminations with a rated voltage not exceeding 750 V – Part 1: Cables*

IEC 60702-2, *Mineral insulated cables and their terminations with a rated voltage not exceeding 750 V – Part 2: Terminations*

IEC 60998 (all parts), *Connecting devices for low-voltage circuits for household and similar purposes – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 61048:2006, *Auxiliaries for lamps – Capacitors for use in tubular fluorescent and other discharge lamp circuits – General and safety requirements*

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iec/66144161-5676-42c9-ba8b-3b3b0f59c271/iec-60364-5-55-2011>

IEC 61439-1:2011, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear assemblies – Part 1: General rules*

IEC 61508 (all parts), *Functional safety of electrical/electronic/programmable electronic safety-related systems*

IEC 61535, *Installation couplers intended for permanent connection in fixed installations*

IEC 61557-8, *Electrical safety in low voltage distribution systems up to 1 000 V a.c. and 1 500 V d.c. – Equipment for testing, measuring or monitoring of protective measures – Part 8: Insulation monitoring devices for IT systems*

IEC 61557-9, *Electrical safety in low voltage distribution systems up to 1 000 V a.c. and 1 500 V d.c. – Equipment for testing, measuring or monitoring of protective measures – Part 9: Equipment for insulation fault location in IT systems*

IEC 61995 (all parts), *Devices for the connection of luminaires for household and similar purposes*

ISO 8528-12, *Reciprocating internal combustion engine driven alternating current generating sets – Part 12: Emergency power supply to safety services*

550.3 Terms and definitions

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

550.3.1

self-contained battery unit

unit comprising a battery and a charging and testing unit

550.3.2

non-maintained mode

operating mode of electrical equipment, essential for safety services, operating only when the normal supply fails

550.3.3

maintained mode

operating mode of electrical equipment, essential for safety services, operating at all times

550.3.4

safety services

those services in a building which are essential

- for the safety of persons,
- for avoiding damage to the environment or other material

NOTE Examples of safety services include

- emergency (escape) lighting,
- fire pumps,
- fire brigade lifts,
- alarm systems, such as fire alarms, smoke alarms, CO alarms and intruder alarms,
- evacuation systems,

– smoke extraction systems,

- essential medical equipment.

550.3.5

electrical safety source

source intended to maintain the supply to electrical equipment essential for the safety services

550.3.6

electrical supply system for safety services

see IEC 60050-826

550.3.7

rated operating time of a safety source

operating time for which a safety source is designed under normal operating conditions.

551 Low-voltage generating sets

551.1 Scope

This clause provides requirements for the selection and erection of low-voltage and extra-low voltage generating sets intended to supply, either continuously or occasionally, all or part of the installation. Requirements are also included for installations with the following supply arrangements:

- supply to an installation which is not connected to a system for distribution of electricity to the public;
- supply to an installation as an alternative to a system for distribution of electricity to the public;
- supply to an installation in parallel with a system for distribution of electricity to the public supply;
- appropriate combinations of the above.

This part does not apply to self-contained items of extra-low voltage electrical equipment which incorporate both the source of energy and the energy-using load and for which a specific product standard exists that includes the requirements for electrical safety.

NOTE Requirements of the electricity distributor should be ascertained before a generating set is installed in an installation that is connected to a system for distribution of electricity to the public.

551.1.1 Generating sets with the following power sources are considered:

- combustion engines;
- turbines;
- electric motors;
- photovoltaic cells (IEC 60364-7-712 also applies);
- electrochemical accumulators;
- other suitable sources.

551.1.2 Generating sets with the following electrical characteristics are considered:

- mains-excited and separately excited synchronous generators;
- mains-excited and self-excited asynchronous generators;
- mains-commutated and self-commutated static converters with or without by-pass facilities;
- generating sets with other suitable electrical characteristics.

551.1.3 The use of generating sets for the following purposes is considered:

- supply to permanent installations;
- supply to temporary installations;
- supply to portable equipment which is not connected to a permanent installation;
- supply to mobile units (IEC 60364-7-717 also applies).

551.2 General requirements

551.2.1 The means of excitation and commutation shall be appropriate for the intended use of the generating set and the safety and proper functioning of other sources of supply shall not be impaired by the generating set.

NOTE See 551.7 for particular requirements where the generating set may operate in parallel with a system for the distribution of electricity to the public.

551.2.2 The prospective short-circuit current and prospective earth fault current shall be assessed for each source of supply or combination of sources which can operate independently of other sources or combinations. The short-circuit breaking capacity of protective devices within the installation and, where appropriate, connected to a system for distribution of electricity to the public, shall not be exceeded for any of the intended methods of operation of the sources.

NOTE Attention should be given to the power factor specified for protective devices in the installation.

551.2.3 The capacity and operating characteristics of the generating set shall be such that danger or damage to equipment does not arise after the connection or disconnection of any intended load as a result of the deviation of the voltage or frequency from the intended operating range. Means shall be provided to automatically disconnect such parts of the installation as may be necessary if the capacity of the generating set is exceeded.

NOTE 1 Attention should be given to the size of individual loads as a proportion of the capacity of the generating set and to motor starting currents.

NOTE 2 Attention should be given to the power factor specified for protective devices in the installation.

NOTE 3 The installation of a generating set within an existing building or installation may change the conditions of external influence for the installation (see IEC 60364-1), for example by the introduction of moving parts, parts at high temperature or by the presence of inflammable fluids and noxious gases, etc.

551.2.4 Provision for isolation shall meet the requirements of Clause 537 for each source or combination of sources of supply.

551.3 Protective measure: extra-low-voltage provided by SELV and PELV

551.3.1 Additional requirements for SELV and PELV where the installation is supplied from more than one source

Where a SELV or PELV system may be supplied by more than one source, the requirements of 414.3 of IEC 60364-4-41:2005 shall apply to each source. Where one or more of the sources is earthed, the requirements for PELV systems in 414.4 of IEC 60364-4-41:2005 shall apply.

If one or more of the sources does not meet the requirements of 414.3, the system shall be treated as a FELV system and the requirements of 411.7 of IEC 60364-4-41:2005 shall apply.

551.3.2 Additional requirements where it is necessary to maintain the supply to an extra-low voltage system

Where it is necessary to maintain the supply to an extra-low voltage system following the loss of one or more sources of supply, each source of supply or combination of sources of supply which can operate independently of other sources or combinations shall be capable of supplying the intended load of the extra-low voltage system. Provisions shall be made so that the loss of low-voltage supply to an extra-low voltage source does not lead to danger or damage to other extra-low voltage equipment.

NOTE Such precautions may be necessary in supplies for safety services (see Clause 35 of IEC 60364-1:2005).

551.4 Fault protection (protection against indirect contact)

551.4.1 Fault protection shall be provided for the installation in respect of each source of supply or combination of sources of supply that can operate independently of other sources or combinations of sources.

The fault protective provisions shall be selected or precautions shall be taken to ensure that where fault protective provisions are achieved in different ways within the same installation or part of an installation according to the active sources of supply, no influence shall occur or conditions arise that could impair the effectiveness of the fault protective provisions.

NOTE This might, for example, require the use of a transformer providing electrical separation between parts of the installation using different earthing systems.

551.4.2 The generating set shall be connected so that any provision within the installation for protection by residual current devices in accordance with IEC 60364-4-41 remains effective for every intended combination of sources of supply.

NOTE Connection of live parts of the generator with earth may affect the protective measures.

551.4.3 Protection by automatic disconnection of supply

551.4.3.1 General

Where the protective measure automatic disconnection of supply is used for protection against electric shock, the requirements of Clause 411 of IEC 60364-4-41:2005 apply, except as modified for the particular cases given in 551.4.3.2 or 551.4.3.3.

551.4.3.2 Additional requirements for installations where the generating set provides a supply as a switched alternative to the normal supply to the installation

Protection by automatic disconnection of supply shall not rely upon the connection to the earthed point of the distribution system when the generator is operating as a switched alternative. A suitable means of earthing shall be provided.

551.4.3.3 Additional requirements for installations incorporating static converters

551.4.3.3.1 Where fault protection for parts of the installation supplied by the static converter relies upon the automatic closure of the by-pass switch and the operation of protective devices on the supply side of the by-pass switch is not within the time required by Clause 411 of IEC 60364-4-41:2005, supplementary equipotential bonding shall be provided between simultaneously accessible exposed-conductive-parts and extraneous-conductive-parts on the load side of the static converter in accordance with 415.2 of IEC 60364-4-41:2005.

The resistance of supplementary equipotential bonding conductors required between simultaneously accessible conductive parts shall fulfill the following condition:

$$R \leq \frac{50 \text{ V}}{I_a}$$

IEC 60364-5-55:2011

<https://www.rds.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iec/b6144f61-5676-42c9-ba8b-3b3b0f59c271/iec-60364-5-55-2011>

I_a is the maximum earth fault current which can be supplied by the static converter alone for a period of up to 5 s.

NOTE Where such equipment is intended to operate in parallel with a system for distribution of electricity to the public, the requirements of 551.7 also apply.

551.4.3.3.2 Precautions shall be taken or equipment shall be selected so that the correct operation of protective devices is not impaired by d.c. currents generated by a static converter or by the presence of filters.

551.4.3.3.3 A means of isolation shall be installed on both sides of a static converter.

This requirement does not apply on the power source side of a static converter which is integrated in the same enclosure as the power source.

551.5 Protection against overcurrent

551.5.1 Where overcurrent protection of the generating set is required, it shall be located as near as practicable to the generator terminals.

NOTE The contribution to the prospective short-circuit current by a generating set may be time-dependent and may be much less than the contribution made by a system where the source is a mv/lv transformer.

551.5.2 Where a generating set is intended to operate in parallel with another source of supply, including a supply from a system for distribution of electricity to the public, or where two or more generating sets may operate in parallel, harmonic currents shall be limited so that the thermal rating of conductors is not exceeded.

The effects of harmonic currents may be limited as follows:

- the selection of generating sets with compensated windings;
- the provision of a suitable impedance in the connection to generator star points;
- the provision of switches which interrupt the circuit but which are interlocked so that at all times fault protection is not impaired;
- the provision of filtering equipment;
- other suitable means.

NOTE 1 Consideration should be given to the maximum voltage which may be produced across an impedance connected to limit harmonics.

NOTE 2 Monitoring equipment complying with IEC 61557-12 provides information on level of disturbances resulting from the presence of harmonics.

551.6 Additional requirements for installations where the generating set provides a supply as a switched alternative to the normal supply to the installation

551.6.1 Precautions complying with the relevant requirements of IEC 60364-5-53 for isolation shall be taken, so that the generator cannot operate in parallel with the public supply system for distribution of electricity to the public. Suitable precautions may include:

- an electrical, mechanical or electro-mechanical interlock between the operating mechanisms or control circuits of the change-over switching devices;
- a system of locks with a single transferable key;
- a three-position, break-before-make, change-over switch;
- an automatic change-over switching device with a suitable interlock;
- other means providing equivalent security of operation.

NOTE Isolation should include supplies to the control circuits of the generator.

551.6.2 For TN-S systems where the neutral is not switched, any residual current device shall be positioned to avoid incorrect operation due to the existence of any parallel neutral-earth path.

NOTE 1 It may be desirable in TN systems to disconnect the neutral of the installation from the neutral or PEN of the system for distribution of electricity to the public to avoid disturbances such as induced voltage surges caused by lightning.

NOTE 2 See also 444.4.7 of IEC 60364-4-44:2007.

551.7 Additional requirements for installations where the generating set may operate in parallel with other sources including systems for distribution of electricity to the public

551.7.1 Where a generating set is used as an additional source of supply in parallel with another source, protection against thermal effects in accordance with IEC 60364-4-42 and protection against overcurrent in accordance with IEC 60364-4-43 shall remain effective in all situations.

Except where an uninterruptible power supply is provided to supply specific items of current using equipment within the final circuit to which it is connected, such a generating set shall be installed on the supply side of all the protective devices for the final circuits of the installation.