

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials –
Part 404: Miscellaneous tests – Mineral oil immersion tests for sheaths

Câbles électriques et à fibres optiques – Méthodes d'essai pour les matériaux
non-métalliques –
Partie 404: Essais divers – Essais de résistance à l'huile minérale pour les
gaines



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**ELECTRIC AND OPTICAL FIBRE CABLES –
TEST METHODS FOR NON-METALLIC MATERIALS –****Part 404: Miscellaneous tests –
Mineral oil immersion tests for sheaths**

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.
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International Standard IEC 60811-404 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 20: Electric cables.

This Part 404 of IEC 60811 cancels and replaces Clause 10 of IEC 60811-2-1:1998, which is withdrawn. Full details of the replacements are shown in Annex A of IEC 60811-100:2012.

There are no specific technical changes with respect to the previous edition, but see the Foreword to IEC 60811-100:2012.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
20/1288/FDIS	20/1337/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.

This Part of IEC 60811 shall be used in conjunction with IEC 60811-100.

A list of all the parts in the IEC 60811 series, published under the general title *Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication 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.

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INTRODUCTION

The IEC 60811 series specifies the test methods to be used for testing non-metallic materials of all types of cables. These test methods are intended to be referenced in standards for cable construction and for cable materials.

NOTE 1 Non-metallic materials are typically used for insulating, sheathing, bedding, filling or taping within cables.

NOTE 2 These test methods are accepted as basic and fundamental and have been developed and used over many years principally for the materials in all energy cables. They have also been widely accepted and used for other cables, in particular optical fibre cables, communication and control cables and cables for ships and offshore applications.

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ELECTRIC AND OPTICAL FIBRE CABLES – TEST METHODS FOR NON-METALLIC MATERIALS –

Part 404: Miscellaneous tests – Mineral oil immersion tests for sheaths

1 Scope

This Part 404 of IEC 60811 specifies the method for a mineral oil immersion test, which typically applies to cross-linked compounds used for sheathing materials.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60811-100:2012, *Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials – Part 100: General*

IEC 60811-501, *Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials – Part 501: Mechanical tests – Tests for determining the mechanical properties of insulating and sheathing compounds*

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ISO 1817, *Rubber, vulcanized – Determination of the effect of liquids*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60811-100 apply.

4 Test method

4.1 General

This Part of IEC 60811 shall be used in conjunction with IEC 60811-100.

Unless otherwise specified, tests shall be carried out at room temperature.

4.2 Pre-conditioning

All the tests shall be carried out not less than 16 h after the extrusion or cross-linking, if any, of the sheathing compounds.

4.3 Sample and test piece preparation

Five test pieces shall be prepared in accordance with the procedures described in IEC 60811-501.

4.4 Determination of the cross-sectional area of the test piece

See the test method in IEC 60811-501.

4.5 Oil to be used

Unless otherwise agreed, the mineral oil to be used shall be oil no. 2 (IRM 902) as described in ISO 1817.

4.6 Procedure

The test pieces shall be immersed in the oil bath, previously heated to the specified test temperature, and shall be maintained in the oil at that temperature for the specified time (see standard for the type of cable).

At the end of the specific duration, the test pieces shall be removed from the oil, blotted lightly to remove excess oil and suspended in air at ambient temperature for at least 16 h but not more than 24 h, unless otherwise specified in the relevant cable standard. At the end of this period, any further excess oil shall be removed by lightly blotting the test pieces.

4.7 Determination of mechanical properties

See the test method in IEC 60811-501.

4.8 Expression of results

The calculation of tensile strength shall be based on the cross-sectional area of the test piece measured before immersion (see 4.2.2).

The difference between the median value obtained on the five test pieces immersed in oil and the median value of the values obtained on the untreated test pieces (see IEC 60811-501), expressed as a percentage of the latter, shall not exceed the percentage specified in the standard for the type of cable.

If required by the standard for the material in the relevant standard for the type of cable, the values found for the aged test pieces shall be calculated, in terms of variation compared to the untreated test pieces according to the following formulae:

$$V_T = \frac{T_E - T_U}{T_U} \times 100 \quad (1)$$

$$V_E = \frac{E_E - E_U}{E_U} \times 100 \quad (2)$$

where

- V_T is the variation of the tensile strength in per cent;
- T_E is the tensile strength of aged test piece;
- T_U is the tensile strength of untreated test piece;
- V_E is the variation of the elongation at break in per cent;
- E_E is the elongation at break of aged test piece in per cent;
- E_U is the elongation at break of untreated test piece in per cent.

NOTE The untreated specimen is kept at room temperature.

5 Test report

The test report shall be in accordance with that given in IEC 60811-100.

Bibliography

IEC 60811-2-1:1998, *Insulating and sheathing materials of electric and optical cables – Common test methods – Part 2-1: Methods specific to elastomeric compounds – Ozone resistance, hot set and mineral oil immersion test*
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