

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE



**AC motor capacitors –  
Part 2: Motor start capacitors**

**Condensateurs des moteurs à courant alternatif –  
Partie 2: Condensateurs de démarrage de moteurs**

IEC 60252-2:2010

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iec/62b27af3-a77d-4baa-8fd4-43e6f5ec0d50/iec-60252-2-2010>



## THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED

Copyright © 2013 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 l'IEC ou du Comité national de l'IEC du pays du demandeur. Si vous avez des questions sur le copyright de l'IEC ou si vous désirez obtenir des droits supplémentaires sur cette publication, utilisez les coordonnées ci-après ou contactez le Comité national de l'IEC de votre pays de résidence.

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

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11  
[info@iec.ch](mailto:info@iec.ch)  
[www.iec.ch](http://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 corrigendum or an amendment might have been published.

#### IEC publications search - [webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform](http://webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform)

The advanced search enables 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 It also gives information on projects, replaced and withdrawn publications.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 online collection - [oc.iec.ch](http://oc.iec.ch)

Discover our powerful search engine and read freely all the publications previews. With a subscription you will always have access to up to date content tailored to your needs.

#### IEC Just Published - [webstore.iec.ch/justpublished](http://webstore.iec.ch/justpublished)

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

#### Electropedia - [www.electropedia.org](http://www.electropedia.org)

The world's leading online dictionary on electrotechnology, containing more than 22 000 terminological entries in English and French, with equivalent terms in 18 additional languages. Also known as the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) online.

#### IEC Customer Service Centre - [webstore.iec.ch/csc](http://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: [sales@iec.ch](mailto:sales@iec.ch).

### A propos de l'IEC

La Commission Electrotechnique Internationale (IEC) 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 IEC

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

#### Recherche de publications IEC -

[webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform](http://webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform)

La recherche avancée permet de trouver des publications IEC 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.

#### IEC online collection - [oc.iec.ch](http://oc.iec.ch)

Découvrez notre puissant moteur de recherche et consultez gratuitement tous les aperçus des publications. Avec un abonnement, vous aurez toujours accès à un contenu à jour adapté à vos besoins.

#### IEC Just Published - [webstore.iec.ch/justpublished](http://webstore.iec.ch/justpublished)

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

#### Electropedia - [www.electropedia.org](http://www.electropedia.org)

Le premier dictionnaire d'électrotechnologie en ligne au monde, avec plus de 22 000 articles terminologiques en anglais et en français, ainsi que les termes équivalents dans 16 langues additionnelles. Egalement appelé Vocabulaire Electrotechnique International (IEV) en ligne.

#### Service Clients - [webstore.iec.ch/csc](http://webstore.iec.ch/csc)

Si vous désirez nous donner des commentaires sur cette publication ou si vous avez des questions contactez-nous: [sales@iec.ch](mailto:sales@iec.ch).



IEC 60252-2

Edition 2.1 2013-08  
CONSOLIDATED VERSION

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE



**AC motor capacitors –  
Part 2: Motor start capacitors**

**Condensateurs des moteurs à courant alternatif –  
Partie 2: Condensateurs de démarrage de moteurs**

IEC 60252-2:2010

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iec/62b27af3-a77d-4baa-8fd4-43e6f5ec0d50/iec-60252-2-2010>

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

COMMISSION  
ELECTROTECHNIQUE  
INTERNATIONALE

ICS 31.060.30; 31.060.70

ISBN 978-2-8322-1075-8

**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.**



## REDLINE VERSION

## VERSION REDLINE



**AC motor capacitors –  
Part 2: Motor start capacitors**

**Condensateurs des moteurs à courant alternatif –  
Partie 2: Condensateurs de démarrage de moteurs**

IEC 60252-2:2010

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iec/62b27af3-a77d-4baa-8fd4-43e6f5ec0d50/iec-60252-2-2010>

## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
1 Scope .....	6
2 Normative references .....	6
3 Terms and definitions .....	7
4 Service conditions .....	10
4.1 Normal service conditions .....	10
4.2 Preferred tolerances on capacitance .....	11
5 Self-healing motor start capacitors .....	11
5.1 Quality requirements and tests .....	11
5.1.1 Test requirements .....	11
5.1.2 Nature of tests .....	11
5.1.3 Type tests .....	12
5.1.4 Routine tests .....	14
5.1.5 Tangent of the loss-angle measurement .....	14
5.1.6 Visual examination .....	14
5.1.7 Voltage test between the terminals .....	14
5.1.8 Voltage test between terminals and case .....	14
5.1.9 Capacitance measurement .....	15
5.1.10 Check of dimensions .....	15
5.1.11 Mechanical tests .....	15
5.1.12 Sealing test .....	17
5.1.13 Endurance test .....	17
5.1.14 Damp heat test .....	19
5.1.15 Self-healing test .....	19
5.1.16 Destruction test .....	20
5.1.17 Resistance to heat, fire and tracking .....	25
5.2 Overloads .....	26
5.2.1 Maximum permissible voltage .....	26
5.2.2 Maximum permissible current .....	26
5.2.3 Maximum permissible reactive output .....	26
5.3 Safety requirements .....	26
5.3.1 Creepage distances and clearances .....	26
5.3.2 Terminals and connecting cables .....	27
5.3.3 Earth connections .....	27
5.3.4 Discharge devices .....	27
5.3.5 Pollution .....	28
5.4 Marking .....	28
6 Electrolytic motor start capacitors .....	28
6.1 Quality requirements and tests .....	28
6.1.1 Test requirements .....	28
6.1.2 Nature of tests .....	29
6.1.3 Type tests .....	29
6.1.4 Routine tests .....	32
6.1.5 Visual examination .....	32
6.1.6 Voltage test between the terminals .....	32
6.1.7 Voltage test between terminals and case .....	32

6.1.8	Capacitance and power factor measurement.....	32
6.1.9	Check of dimensions.....	34
6.1.10	Mechanical tests.....	34
6.1.11	Sealing test.....	36
6.1.12	Endurance test.....	36
6.1.13	Damp heat test.....	38
6.1.14	Pressure relief test.....	38
6.1.15	Resistance to heat, fire and tracking.....	39
6.2	Overloads.....	39
6.2.1	Maximum permissible voltage.....	39
6.2.2	Maximum permissible current.....	39
6.2.3	Maximum permissible reactive output.....	40
6.3	Safety requirements.....	40
6.3.1	Creepage distances and clearances.....	40
6.3.2	Terminals and connecting cables.....	40
6.3.3	Earth connections.....	40
6.3.4	Discharge devices.....	41
6.3.5	Pollution.....	41
6.4	Marking.....	41
7	Guidance for installation and operation.....	42
7.1	General.....	42
7.2	Choice of rated voltage.....	42
7.2.1	Measurement of working voltage.....	42
7.2.2	Influence of capacitance.....	43
7.3	Checking capacitor temperature.....	43
7.3.1	Choice of maximum permissible capacitor operating temperature.....	43
7.3.2	Choice of minimum permissible capacitor operating temperature.....	43
7.4	Checking transients.....	43
7.5	Storage of electrolytic capacitors.....	44
Annex A (normative)	Test voltage.....	45
Figure 1	Destruction test.....	20
Figure 42	Test apparatus for d.c. conditioning.....	21
Figure 23	Test apparatus for a.c. destruction test.....	22
Figure 34	Arrangement to produce the variable inductor $\pm L$ in Figure 23.....	22
Figure 5	Test apparatus for simultaneous DC and AC.....	23
Figure 46	Test circuit for measurement of capacitance and power factor.....	33
Table 1	Type test schedule.....	13
Table 2	Test voltages.....	14
Table 3	Torque.....	16
Table 4	Minimum creepage distances and clearances.....	27
Table 5	Type test schedule.....	31
Table 6	Test voltages.....	32
Table 7	Torque.....	35
Table 8	Minimum creepage distances and clearances.....	41

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**AC MOTOR CAPACITORS –****Part 2: Motor start capacitors**

## 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 the official IEC Standard and its amendment has been prepared for user convenience.**

**IEC 60252-2 edition 2.1 contains the second edition (2010) [documents 33/476/FDIS and 33/480/RVD] and its amendment 1 (2013) [documents 33/533/FDIS and 33/539/RVD].**

**In this Redline version, a vertical line in the margin shows where the technical content is modified by amendment 1. Additions and deletions are displayed in red, with deletions being struck through. A separate Final version with all changes accepted is available in this publication.**



International Standard IEC 60252-2 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 33: Power capacitors and their applications.

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

- definition of segmented film capacitors;
- clearer definition of the purpose of d.c. conditioning in destruction test.

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

A list of all parts of IEC 60252 series, published under the general title *AC motor capacitors*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendment 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.

**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.**

iTech Standards  
Document Preview

[IEC 60252-2:2010](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iec/62b27af3-a77d-4baa-8fd4-43e6f5ec0d50/iec-60252-2-2010)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iec/62b27af3-a77d-4baa-8fd4-43e6f5ec0d50/iec-60252-2-2010>

## AC MOTOR CAPACITORS –

### Part 2: Motor start capacitors

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60252 applies to motor start capacitors intended for connection to windings of asynchronous motors supplied from a single-phase system having the frequency of the mains.

This standard covers impregnated or unimpregnated metallized motor start capacitors having a dielectric of paper or plastic film, or a combination of both and electrolytic motor start capacitors with non-solid electrolyte, with rated voltages up to and including 660 V.

#### 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 60062, *Marking codes for resistors and capacitors*

IEC 60068-2 (all parts), *Environmental testing – Part 2: Tests*

IEC 60068-2-6, *Environmental testing – Part 2-6: Tests – Test Fc: Vibration (sinusoidal)*

IEC 60068-2-14, *Environmental testing – Part 2-14: Tests – Test N: Change of temperature*

IEC 60068-2-20, *Environmental testing – Part 2-20: Tests – Test T: Soldering*

IEC 60068-2-21, *Environmental testing – Part 2-21: Tests – Test U: Robustness of terminations and integral mounting devices*

IEC 60068-2-78:2001, *Environmental testing – Part 2-78: Tests – Test Cab: Damp heat, steady state*

IEC 60112, *Method for determining the comparative and the proof tracking indices of solid insulating materials under moist conditions*

IEC 60309-1:1999, *Plugs, socket-outlets and couplers for industrial purposes – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 60529:2001, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)*

IEC 60695-2-10:2000, *Fire hazard testing – Part 2-10: Glowing/hot-wire based test methods – Glow-wire apparatus and common test procedure*

IEC 60695-2-11:2000, *Fire hazard testing – Part 2-11: Glowing/hot-wire based test methods – Glow-wire flammability test method for end-products*

ISO 4046:2002, *Paper, board, pulps and related terms – Vocabulary*

### 3 Terms and definitions

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

#### 3.1

##### **motor running capacitor**

power capacitor which, when used in conjunction with an auxiliary winding of a motor, assists the motor to start and improves the torque under running conditions

NOTE The running capacitor is usually connected permanently to the motor winding and remains in circuit throughout the running period of the motor. During the starting period, if it is in parallel with the starting capacitor, it helps to start the motor.

#### 3.2

##### **motor starting capacitor**

power capacitor which provides a leading current to an auxiliary winding of a motor and which is switched out of circuit once the motor is running

#### 3.3

##### **metal foil capacitor**

capacitor, whose electrodes consist of metal foils or strips separated by a dielectric

#### 3.4

##### **metallized capacitor**

capacitor, in which the electrodes consist of a metallic deposit on the dielectric

#### 3.5

##### **self-healing capacitor**

capacitor, whose electrical properties, after local breakdown of the dielectric, are rapidly and essentially self-restored

#### 3.6

##### **segmented film capacitor**

metallised capacitor with a repeating pattern on the metallic deposit on at least one layer, designed to isolate sections of the capacitor in the event of localised faults occurring in the dielectric

#### 3.7

##### **discharge device of a capacitor**

device which may be incorporated in a capacitor, capable of reducing the voltage between the terminals effectively to zero, within a given time, after the capacitor has been disconnected from a network

#### 3.8

##### **continuous operation**

operation with no time limit within the normal life of the capacitor

#### 3.9

##### **intermittent operation**

operation in which periods with the capacitor energized are followed by intervals during which the capacitor is unenergized

#### 3.10

##### **starting operation**

special type of intermittent operation in which the capacitor is energized for only a very short period while the motor is accelerating to rated speed

**3.11  
rated duty cycle**

rated value indicating the rate of intermittent or starting duty for which a capacitor is suitable

NOTE It is specified by the duty cycle duration, in minutes, and the percentage of the time during which the capacitor is energized.

**3.12  
duty cycle duration**

total time of one energized and one unenergized interval during the intermittent operation

**3.13  
relative operation time**

percentage of the cycle duration in which the capacitor is energized

**3.14  
capacitor for continuous and starting operation**

capacitor designed to operate at one voltage when in continuous operation and at a different (usually higher) voltage when in starting operation

**3.15  
minimum permissible capacitor operating temperature**

minimum permissible temperature on the outside of the case at the moment of switching on the capacitor

**3.16  
maximum permissible capacitor operating temperature**

$t_c$   
maximum permissible temperature of the hottest area of the outside of the capacitor case during operation

**3.17  
rated voltage of a capacitor**

$U_N$   
r.m.s. value of the alternating voltage for which the capacitor has been designed

**3.18  
maximum voltage**

maximum r.m.s. voltage permissible at the starting capacitor terminals between the point of starting and the instant at which the capacitor is disconnected

**3.19  
rated frequency of a capacitor**

$f_N$   
highest frequency for which the capacitor has been designed

**3.20  
rated capacitance of a capacitor**

$C_N$   
capacitance value for which the capacitor has been designed

**3.21  
rated current of a capacitor**

$I_N$   
r.m.s. value of the alternating current at the rated voltage and frequency

### 3.22 rated output of a capacitor

$Q_N$   
reactive power derived from the rated values of capacitance, frequency and voltage (or current)

### 3.23 capacitor losses

active power dissipated by a capacitor

NOTE Unless otherwise stated, the capacitor losses will be understood to include losses in fuses and discharge resistors forming an integral part of the capacitor.

### 3.24 tangent of loss angle (tan delta) of a capacitor

ratio between the equivalent series resistance and the capacitive reactance of a capacitor at specified sinusoidal alternating voltage and frequency

### 3.25 power factor

ratio between the active power and the apparent power of a capacitor

### 3.26 capacitive leakage current (only for capacitors with a metal case)

current flowing through a conductor connecting the metallic case to earth, when the capacitor is energized from an a.c. supply system with an earthed neutral

### 3.27 type of capacitor

capacitors are considered to be of the same type when of similar constructional form, the same constructional technology, same rated voltage, same climatic category and same kind of operation

NOTE 1 Capacitors of the same type can differ only in rated capacitance and size; minor differences between terminations and mounting devices are permitted.

NOTE 2 The same construction includes, for example, the same dielectric material, dielectric thickness and type of case (metal or plastic).

### 3.28 model of capacitor

capacitors are considered to be of the same model when they are of the same construction and have the same functional and dimensional characteristics within the tolerance limits and are consequently interchangeable

### 3.29 class of safety protection

degree of safety protection identified by one of ~~three~~ four codes to be marked on the capacitor

~~(P2) — indicates that the capacitor type has been designed to fail in the open circuit mode only and is protected against fire or shock hazard. Compliance is verified by the test described in 5.1.16~~

~~(P1) — indicates that the capacitor type may fail in the open circuit or short circuit mode and is protected against fire or shock hazard. Compliance is verified by the test described in 5.1.16~~

~~(P0) — indicates that the capacitor type has no specific failure protection~~

~~This subclause does not apply to electrolytic capacitors.~~

Note 1 to entry: This definition does not apply to electrolytic capacitors.

### 3.29.1

#### **(SO) class of safety protection**

degree of safety protection indicating that the capacitor type has no specific failure protection

Note 1 to entry: Formerly referred to as P0.

### 3.29.2

#### **(S1) class of safety protection**

degree of safety protection indicating that the capacitor type may fail in the open-circuit or short-circuit mode and is protected against fire or shock hazard

Note 1 to entry: Compliance is verified by the test described in 5.1.16.3 and 5.1.16.5.

Note 2 to entry: Formerly referred to as P1.

### 3.29.3

#### **(S2) class of safety protection**

degree of safety protection indicating that the capacitor type has been designed to fail in the open-circuit mode only and is protected against fire or shock hazard.

Note 1 to entry: Compliance is verified by the test described in 5.1.16.3 and 5.1.16.5.

Note 2 to entry: Formerly referred to as P2.

### 3.29.4

#### **(S3) class of safety protection**

degree of safety protection indicating that the capacitor is of segmented film construction as defined in 3.6

Note 1 to entry: This capacitor type is required to fail with low residual capacitance ( $<1\% C_N$ ) and has protection against fire and shock hazard. Compliance is verified by the test described in 5.1.16.4 and 5.1.16.6.

## 4 Service conditions

IEC 60252-2:2010

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/iec/62b27af3-a77d-4baa-8fd4-43e6f5ec0d50/iec-60252-2-2010>

### 4.1 Normal service conditions

This standard gives requirements for capacitors intended for use under the following conditions:

- a) altitude: not exceeding 2 000 m;
- b) residual voltage at energization: shall not exceed 10 % rated voltage (see notes to 5.3.4 and 6.3.4);
- c) pollution: capacitors included in the scope of this standard are designed for operation in lightly polluted atmospheres;

NOTE The IEC has not yet established a definition for "lightly polluted". When this definition is established by the IEC, it will be incorporated in this standard.

- d) operating temperature: between  $-40\text{ °C}$  and  $+100\text{ °C}$  (see 3.15 and 3.16).

The preferred minimum and maximum permissible capacitor operating temperatures are as follows:

- minimum temperatures:  $-40\text{ °C}$ ,  $-25\text{ °C}$ ,  $-10\text{ °C}$  and  $0\text{ °C}$ ;
- maximum temperatures:  $55\text{ °C}$ ,  $70\text{ °C}$ ,  $85\text{ °C}$  and  $100\text{ °C}$ .

Capacitors shall be suitable for transport and storage at temperatures down to  $-25\text{ °C}$ , or the minimum operating temperature, whichever is the lower, without adverse effect on their quality;

- e) damp heat severity: between 4 days and 56 days. The preferred severity is 21 days.