

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Performance standard –  
Part 021-3: Single-mode fibre optic connectors for category U – Uncontrolled environment

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INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

PRICE CODE

**R**

ICS 33.180.20

ISBN 978-2-83220-490-0

**Warning! Make sure that you obtained this publication from an authorized distributor.**

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**FIBRE OPTIC INTERCONNECTING DEVICES AND  
PASSIVE COMPONENTS – PERFORMANCE STANDARD –**
**Part 021-3: Single-mode fibre optic connectors for category U –  
Uncontrolled environment**

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International Standard IEC 61753-021-3 has been prepared by subcommittee 86B: Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components, of IEC technical committee 86: Fibre optics.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
86B/3495/FDIS	86B/3542/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.

A list of all parts of the IEC 61753 series, published under the general title *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Performance standard*, can be found on the IEC website.

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# FIBRE OPTIC INTERCONNECTING DEVICES AND PASSIVE COMPONENTS – PERFORMANCE STANDARD –

## Part 021-3: Single-mode fibre optic connectors for category U – Uncontrolled environment

### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 61753 defines minimum initial test and measurement requirements and severities which a single-mode connector, either part of a pigtail, or part of a cord, must satisfy in order to be categorized as meeting the IEC standard category U (uncontrolled environment).

### 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.

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IEC 60793-2-50:2008, *Optical fibres – Part 2-50: Product specifications – Sectional specification for class B single-mode fibres*

IEC 61300-2-1, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 2-1: Tests – Vibration (sinusoidal)*

IEC 61300-2-2, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 2-2: Tests – Mating durability*

IEC 61300-2-4, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 2-4: Tests – Fibre/cable retention*

IEC 61300-2-6, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 2-6: Tests – Tensile strength of coupling mechanism*

IEC 61300-2-12:2009, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 2-12: Tests – Impact*

IEC 61300-2-17, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 2-17: Tests – Cold*

IEC 61300-2-18, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 2-18: Tests – Dry heat – High temperature endurance*

IEC 61300-2-22, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 2-22: Tests – Change of temperature*

IEC 61300-2-42, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 2-42: Tests – Static side load for connectors*

IEC 61300-2-44, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 2-44: Tests – Flexing of the strain relief of fibre optic devices*

IEC 61300-3-3, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 3-3: Examinations and measurements – Active monitoring of changes in attenuation and return loss*

IEC 61300-3-4, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 3-4: Examinations and measurements – Attenuation*

IEC 61300-3-6, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 3-6: Examinations and measurements – Return loss*

IEC 61300-3-28, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 3-28: Examinations and measurements – Transient loss*

IEC 61300-3-34, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 3-34: Examinations and measurements – Attenuation of random mated connectors*

IEC 61753-1:2007, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components performance standard – Part 1: General and guidance for performance standards*

IEC 61754 (all parts), *Fibre optic connector interfaces*

IEC 61755 (all parts), *Fibre optic connector optical interfaces*

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### **3 Terms and definitions**

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

#### **3.1**

##### **change in attenuation**

peak-to-peak variation of attenuation

#### **3.2**

##### **sample**

complete set of connector components required to provide demountable coupling between one or more pairs of optical fibres

#### **3.3**

##### **pigtail**

a cabled fibre or a secondary coated fibre terminated with a connector on one end

#### **3.4**

##### **cord**

general term for terminated cable assembly

### **4 Tests**

All test methods are in accordance with the relevant parts of IEC 61300 as defined in 7.6 and 7.7.



The connectors under test shall be terminated onto single-mode fibre category B1.1, B1.3 or B6\_a of IEC 60793-2-50:2008, depending upon the design of the connector, it will be terminated with a cabled fibre or a secondary coated fibre. The connector interface standard shall meet the dimensions of IEC 61754 series and the connector optical interface standard shall meet the relevant requirements of IEC 61755 series.

Each test defines the number of samples to be evaluated. The sample set used for the first test is to be composed of randomly selected and previously unstressed new samples.

The optical criteria for each test shall be as defined in 7.6.

## 5 Test report

Fully documented test reports and supporting evidence shall be prepared and available for inspection as evidence that the tests have been carried out and the results are satisfactory.

## 6 Reference components

No reference components are required to perform the tests in this standard.

## 7 Performance requirements

### 7.1 Dimensions

Dimensions shall comply with the appropriate IEC interface standard as defined in the IEC 61754 series.

[IEC 61753-021-3:2012](#)

### 7.2 Sample size

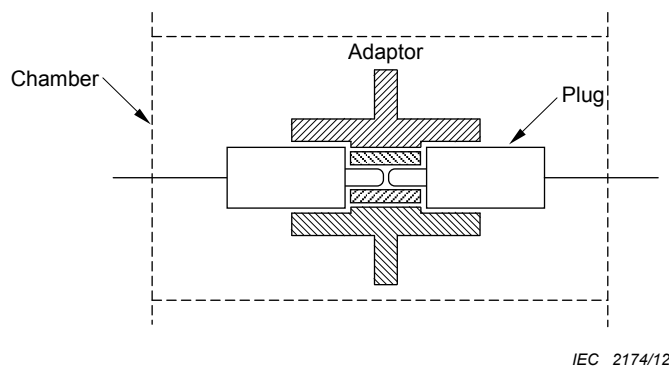
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For the purposes of this standard, a sample is composed of pigtail assemblies and cord assemblies (see Clause 3). The sample sizes to be used for the tests shall be as defined in Annex A. There is no defined sequence or grouping in which the tests shall be run. Samples for the first test (attenuation) are to be randomly selected and randomly mated new products. Samples for the second test (return loss) are the same plugs selected and mated for the first test. Samples for subsequent tests may be randomly selected and randomly mated new products or the same plugs.

### 7.3 Connector set sample test configuration

Two connector plugs mated with an adaptor with pigtailed leads, as shown in Figure 1.

Each of the pigtailed leads shall be at least 3 m long so that when the sample is located inside an environmental test chamber the connections may be located outside the chamber.



**Figure 1 – Pigtail assembly**

**7.4 Cord sample test configuration**

Cord connected with adaptors to two additional connector plugs with pigtailed leads on either end, as shown in Figure 2. The cord shall be 3 m to 5 m. Each of the pigtailed leads shall be long enough so that the splices may be located outside of the environmental test chamber.



**Figure 2 – Cord assembly**

**7.5 Optical Interface requirements**

The connector endface shall comply with the endface geometry requirements of the applicable IEC optical interface standard as defined in the 61755-3 series. Compliance with the appropriate optical interface standard shall be confirmed on all samples before the start of testing and after all of the tests have been completed. Non-compliance with the endface geometry requirements of the applicable optical interface standard on any connector tested results in a failure of this performance standard.

**7.6 Performance criteria**

The optical performance levels shall meet the requirements as defined in Table A.12 of IEC 61753-1:2007 (see Table 1).

**Table 1 – Requirements for different performance levels**

Performance level	Test name	Initial	During/after test
B <sup>a</sup> /1	Attenuation IEC 61300-3-34	≤ 0,12 dB mean (see Note) ≤ 0,25 dB max. for ≥ 97 % of samples	

Performance level	Test name	Initial	During/after test
	Return loss IEC 61300-3-6	≥ 60 dB	
	Monitoring change in attenuation and in return loss (multiple path IEC 61300-3-3)		Maximum attenuation variation ≤ 0,2 dB during and after test for pigtails. Maximum attenuation variation ≤ 0,5 dB during and ≤ 0,4 dB after test for cords. Return loss ≥ 60 dB during and after test
B <sup>a</sup> /2	Attenuation IEC 61300-3-34	≤ 0,12 dB mean (see Note) ≤ 0,25 dB max. for ≥ 97 % of samples	
	Return loss IEC 61300-3-6	≥ 45 dB	
	Monitoring change in attenuation and in return loss (multiple path IEC 61300-3-3)		Maximum attenuation variation ≤ 0,2 dB during and after test for pigtails. Maximum attenuation variation ≤ 0,5 dB during and ≤ 0,4 dB after test for cords. Return loss ≥ 45 dB during and after test
C/1	Attenuation IEC 61300-3-34	≤ 0,25 dB mean (see Note) ≤ 0,50 dB max. for ≥ 97 % of samples	
	Return loss IEC 61300-3-6	≥ 60 dB	
	Monitoring change in attenuation and in return loss (multiple path IEC 61300-3-3)		Maximum attenuation variation ≤ 0,2 dB during and after test for pigtails. Maximum attenuation variation ≤ 0,5 dB during and ≤ 0,4 dB after test for cords. Return loss ≥ 60 dB during and after test
C/2	Attenuation IEC 61300-3-34	≤ 0,25 dB mean (see Note) ≤ 0,50 dB max. for ≥ 97 % of samples	
	Return loss IEC 61300-3-6	≥ 45 dB	
	Monitoring change in attenuation and in return loss (multiple path IEC 61300-3-3)		Maximum attenuation variation ≤ 0,2 dB during and after test for pigtails. Maximum attenuation variation ≤ 0,5 dB during and ≤ 0,4 dB after test for cords Return loss ≥ 45 dB during and after test
<p><sup>a</sup> Grade B connector attenuation is specified at mode field diameter range <math>9,2 \mu\text{m} \pm 0,4 \mu\text{m}</math> for B1.1 and B1.3 fibres. When connectors terminated with these fibres are intermated with connectors terminated with B6_a fibres the average attenuation value is expected to increase due to mode field diameter mismatch. The expected average increase is less than 0,05 dB.</p>			
NOTE Initial attenuation requirements of each test in Table 1 are per connection.			