IEC 61481-1

Edition 1.0 2014-10

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

colour inside

Live working – Phase comparators –
Part 1: Capacitive type to be used for voltages exceeding 1 kV a.c.

Travaux sous tension – Comparateurs de phase –
Partie 1: Type capacitif pour usage sur des tensions alternatives de plus de 1 kV

IEC 61481-1:2014-10(en-fr)

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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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 61481-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 78: Live working.

This first edition, together with the first edition of IEC 61481-2, cancels and replaces the first edition of IEC 61481 published in 2001, Amendment 1:2002 and Amendment 2:2004. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

The major changes are:

- split of the standard in two parts;
- extension of the scope to include two-pole phase comparators operating with a wireless connection up to 245 kV a.c.;
- review of the requirements for indication;
- introduction of a requirement for a new marking “LU” for limited use;
- addition of requirements and tests for two-pole phase comparators operating with a wireless connection;
- clarification of the test procedures in case of additional contact electrodes, accessories and combination of accessories, as well as in case of family of phase comparators;
- addition of requirements and tests for electromagnetic compatibility (EMC);
- clarification of the test provisions for the function tests;
- clarification of the test procedure for clear perceptibility of audible indication;
- preparation of the elements of evaluation of defects, and general application of IEC 61318:2007;
- revision of existing annexes;
- change of existing normative Annex C in two new Annexes D and F giving the classification of defects (normative) and the rationale for the classification of defects (informative);
- deletion of existing Annex D, no longer needed following the specification of IEC 60068-2-75;
- deletion of existing Annex F, not applicable according to IEC 61318:2007;
- addition of a new informative Annex E giving additional information on the use of the limit mark and of a contact electrode extension.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
78/1051/FDIS	78/1087/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.

In this standard terms defined in Clause 3 appear in *italics*.

A list of all parts of the IEC 61481 series, published under the general title *Live working – Phase comparators,* 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.

The contents of the corrigendum of July 2015 have been included in this copy.

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 document using a colour printer.

INTRODUCTION

This International Standard has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of IEC 61477.

Taking into consideration the two different functioning principles of portable *phase comparators* of capacitive type available on the market, the maximum a.c. *nominal voltage* to be associated with each of them has been considered for delimiting the scope of this standard.

The following table presents the rationale for the resulting maximum *nominal voltage* to be associated with each functioning principle of *phase comparator of capacitive type*.

Functioning principle	**Maximum nominal voltage** kV rms	**Rationale**
Single-pole *phase comparators* operating with a memory system	36	– With this principle of functioning, the *clear indication* of the *phase comparator* is limited by the *memory holding time*. With higher *nominal voltage*s, the distance between phases of the installation increases and the time necessary to move the pole of the *phase comparator* between the two parts to be compared becomes the limitation.
Two-pole *phase comparators* operating with a wireless connection	245	– With this principle of functioning, there is no theoretical limit for the maximum *nominal voltage*. – The definition of 245 kV corresponds to the present limit of validation of the electric test set-up.

The product covered by this standard may have an impact on the environment during some or all stages of its life cycle. These impacts can range from slight to significant, be short-term or long-term, and occur at the global, regional or local level.

In terms of environmental improvement, this standard includes neither requirements nor test provisions for the manufacturers of the product nor recommendations to the users of the product. However, all parties intervening in its design, manufacture, packaging, distribution, use, maintenance, repair, reuse, recovery and disposal are invited to take account of environmental considerations.

LIVE WORKING – PHASE COMPARATORS –

Part 1: Capacitive type to be used for voltages exceeding 1 kV a.c.

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61481 is applicable to portable *phase comparators* of capacitive type to be used on electrical systems for voltages exceeding 1 kV a.c. and frequencies of 50 Hz and/or 60 Hz.

This standard is applicable to:

- single-pole *phase comparators* of capacitive type operating with a memory system up to 36 kV a.c.,
- two-pole *phase comparators* of capacitive type operating with a wireless connection up to 245 kV a.c.

This standard is applicable to *phase comparators* of capacitive type used in contact with the bare conductive parts to be compared:

- as a complete device including its *insulating element* or
- as a separate device, adaptable to an *insulating stick* which, as a separate tool, is not covered by this standard.

NOTE Some parts such as the *contact electrode* or the *insulating element* of a *phase comparator* as a complete device may be dismantled.

Some restrictions on their use are applicable in the case of factory-assembled switchgear and on overhead systems of electrified railways (see Annex A).

A device that is designed to provide other functions than phase comparison is a different device and is not covered by this standard. For example a device designed to be also used as a voltage detector is not covered by this standard (see Annex A).

Products designed and manufactured according to this standard contribute to the safety of users provided they are used by persons trained for the work, in accordance with the hot stick working method and the instructions for use.

Except when otherwise specified, all the voltages defined in this standard refer to phase-to-phase voltages of three-phase systems. In other systems, the applicable phase-to-phase or phase-to-earth (ground) voltages should be used to determine the operating voltage.

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.

CISPR 11, *Industrial, scientific and medical equipment – Radio-frequency disturbance characteristics – Limits and methods of measurement*

IEC 60060-1:2010, *High-voltage test techniques – Part 1: General definitions and test requirements*

IEC 60068-1, *Environmental testing – Part 1: General and guidance*

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 60068-2-31, *Environmental testing – Part 2-31: Tests – Test Ec: Rough handling shocks, primarily for equipment-type specimens*

IEC 60068-2-75, *Environmental testing – Part 2-75: Tests – Test Eh: Hammer tests*

IEC 60304, *Standard colours for insulation for low-frequency cables and wires*

IEC 60417, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment* (Available from: http://www.graphical-symbols.info/equipment)

IEC 60942, *Electroacoustics – Sound calibrators*

IEC 61000-4-2, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-2: Testing and measurement techniques – Electrostatic discharge immunity test*

IEC 61000-4-3, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-3: Testing and measurement techniques – Radiated, radio-frequency, electromagnetic field immunity test*

IEC 61260, *Electroacoustics – Octave-band and fractional-octave-band filters*

IEC 61318, *Live working – Conformity assessment applicable to tools, devices and equipment*

IEC 61326-1, *Electrical equipment for measurement, control and laboratory use – EMC requirements – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 61477, *Live working – Minimum requirements for the utilization of tools, devices and equipment*

IEC 61672-1, *Electroacoustics – Sound level meters – Part 1: Specifications*

ISO 354, *Acoustics – Measurement of sound absorption in a reverberation room*

ISO 3744:2010, *Acoustics – Determination of sound power levels and sound energy levels of noise sources using sound pressure – Engineering method for an essentially free-field over a reflecting plane*

ISO 3745, *Acoustics – Determination of sound power levels and sound energy levels of noise sources using sound pressure – Precision methods for anechoic and hemi-anechoic rooms*

CIE 15, *Colorimetry*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 61318, as well as the following apply.

3.1
accessory
supplementary item not necessary for the functioning of the *phase comparator* and provided by the manufacturer to facilitate its use under certain operating conditions

Note 1 to entry: An *accessory* is not considered as a part of a device. Without the *accessory*, the device is still functional. An item that is required each time a device is used is not an *accessory* but a part of the device which may be disassembled.

Note 2 to entry: For example an *accessory* is used to lengthen the handle, to improve the efficiency of the *contact electrode*, to enable the *contact electrode* to reach the parts to be compared, etc.

3.2
active signal
visual phenomenon, and optionally audible phenomenon, whose presence, absence or variation is considered as representing information on the condition "correct phase relationship" or "incorrect phase relationship"

Note 1 to entry: A signal indicating that the *phase comparator* is ready to operate is not considered as an *active signal*.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-101:1998, 101-12-02, modified – the definition of "signal" has been modified to fit the specific context of diagnostic of phase relationship and Note 1 to entry has been added.]

3.3
adaptor
part of a *phase comparator* as a separate device which permits attachment of an *insulating stick*

3.4
clear indication
unambiguous detection and indication of "incorrect phase relationship" and/or "correct phase relationship" between the parts to be compared

3.5
clear perceptibility
case when the indication is unmistakably discernible by the user under specific environmental conditions when the *phase comparator* is in its operating position

3.6
contact electrode
bare conductive part of the *phase comparator* which establishes the electric connection to the part to be compared

3.7
contact electrode extension
externally insulated conductive part to enable the *contact electrode* to reach the parts of the installation to be compared

Note 1 to entry: For a certain installation configuration, the *contact electrode extension* is used to increase the *insertion depth* (see Figure 1d).

Note 2 to entry: The *contact electrode extension* is an *accessory* of the *phase comparator*.

3.8
end fittings
part of an *insulating stick* permanently fitted to the end of an insulating tube or rod

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-651:2014, 651-22-02]

3.9
family of phase comparators
for testing purposes, a group of *phase comparators*, delimited by a minimum and a maximum *rated voltage* and/or by the two frequencies (50 Hz and 60 Hz), that are identical in design (including dimensions) and only differ by their *nominal voltage*s or *nominal voltage* ranges and/or their nominal frequency

3.10
hand guard
distinctive physical guard separating the handle of a *phase comparator* as a complete device from its *insulating element*

Note 1 to entry: The purpose of a *hand guard* is to prevent the hands from slipping and passing into contact with the *insulating element*.

3.11
indicator
part of the *phase comparator* that indicates the status of the phase relationship between two parts to be compared

Note 1 to entry: In the case of single-pole *phase comparators*, the *indicator* also indicates that the *phase comparator* is ready to be moved to the second part to be compared ("memory ready").

Note 2 to entry: In the case of two-pole-wireless *phase comparators*, the *indicator* also indicates the communication status.

3.12
indicator unit
additional unit of a two-pole *phase comparator* with wireless connection, normally intended to be hand-held and which is either an indicator or repeater that brings the indication and possibly other information close to the user

3.13
indoor type
phase comparator designed for use in dry conditions, normally indoors

3.14
insertion depth
A_i
distance between the *limit mark* and the top of the *contact electrode* for a *phase comparator* as a complete device

3.15
insulating element
part of a *phase comparator* as a complete device that provides adequate safety distance and insulation to the user

3.16
insulating stick
insulating tool made essentially of an insulating tube and/or rod with *end fittings*

Note 1 to entry: For phase comparison, an *insulating stick* is intended to be attached to a *phase comparator* as a separate device in order to provide the length to reach the installation to be tested and adequate safety distance and insulation to the user.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-651:2014, 651-22-01, modified – the Note 1 to entry has been added.]

3.17
interference field
superposed electric field which may affect the indication