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TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

SPECIFICATION TECHNIQUE

Explosive atmospheres – ITC STANDARD PREVIEW
Part 32-1: Electrostatic hazards, guidance
(standards.iteh.ai)

Atmosphères explosives –
Partie 32-1: Dangers électrostatiques – Recommandations
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(standards.iteh.ai)

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EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

Part 32-1: Electrostatic hazards, guidance

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The French version of this technical report has not been voted upon.

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INTRODUCTION

This IEC Technical Specification is based on CENELEC TR 50404:2003, *Code of practice for the avoidance of hazards due to static electricity* and a number of other documents:

- from the UK: BS 5958, Parts 1 & 2:1991, *Control of undesirable static electricity*,
- from Germany: TRBS 2153:2009, *Preventing risks of ignition due to electrostatic charges*,
- from Shell International Petroleum: *Static electricity – Technical and safety aspects*,
- from the US: NFPA 77, *Recommended Practice on Static Electricity* (2007),
- from Japan: JNOSH TR42, *Recommendations for Requirements for Avoiding Electrostatic Hazards in Industry* (2007),
- from ASTM, EUROPIA, IEC, International chamber of shipping, ISO etc.

It gives the best available accepted state of the art guidance for the avoidance of hazards due to static electricity.

This document is mainly written for designers and users of processes and equipment, manufacturers and test houses. It can also be used by suppliers of equipment (e.g. machines) and flooring or apparel when no product family or dedicated product standard exists or where the existing standard does not deal with electrostatic hazards.

A second part, IEC 60079-32-2, *Electrostatic Hazards, Tests*, is under development.

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EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

Part 32-1: Electrostatic hazards, guidance

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60079 gives guidance about the equipment, product and process properties necessary to avoid ignition and electrostatic shock hazards arising from static electricity as well as the operational requirements needed to ensure safe use of the equipment, product or process. It can be used in a risk assessment of electrostatic hazards or for the preparation of product family or dedicated product standards for electrical or non-electrical machines or equipment.

The hazards associated with static electricity in industrial processes and environments that most commonly give problems are considered. These processes include the handling of solids, liquids, powders, gases, sprays and explosives. In each case, the source and nature of the electrostatic hazard are identified and specific recommendations are given for dealing with them.

The purpose of this document is to provide standard recommendations for the control of static electricity, such as earthing of conductors, reduction of charging and restriction of chargeable areas of insulators. In some cases static electricity plays an integral part of a process, e.g. electrostatic coating, but often it is an unwelcome side effect and it is with the latter that this guidance is concerned. If the standard recommendations given in this document are fulfilled it can be expected that the risk of hazardous electrostatic discharges in an explosive atmosphere is at an acceptably low level.

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If the requirements of this document cannot be fulfilled, alternative approaches can be applied under the condition that at least the same level of safety is achieved.

Basic information about the generation of undesirable static electricity in solids, liquids, gases, explosives, and also on people, together with descriptions of how the charges generated cause ignitions or electrostatic shocks, is given in the annexes and in IEC TR 61340-1.

This Technical Specification is not applicable to the hazards of static electricity relating to lightning or to damage to electronic components.

This Technical Specification is not intended to supersede standards that cover specific products and industrial situations.

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 60079-0, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 0: Equipment – General requirements*

IEC 60079-10-1, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 10-1: Classification of areas – Explosive gas atmospheres*