

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Railway applications – Fixed installations – Electrical safety, earthing and the return circuit –
Part 1: Protective provisions against electric shock**

**Applications ferroviaires – Installations fixes – Sécurité électrique, mise à la terre et circuit de retour –
Partie 1: Mesures de protection contre les chocs électriques**



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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	7
1 Scope.....	9
2 Normative references	9
3 Terms and definitions	10
3.1 Electrical safety and hazards.....	10
3.2 Earthing and equipotential bonding	13
3.3 Return circuit.....	14
3.4 Electric traction system	15
3.5 Contact line	17
3.6 Corrosion and corrosion protection.....	19
3.7 Current collection	19
3.8 Residual current devices	20
3.9 General terms	20
4 Contact line zone and current collector zone	21
4.1 Overhead contact line systems.....	21
4.2 Conductor rail systems	23
4.3 Trolleybus systems.....	23
5 Protective provisions against direct contact	24
5.1 General.....	24
5.2 Protection by clearance.....	25
5.2.1 Standing surface	25
5.2.2 Exceptions for working persons.....	27
5.2.3 Warning signs.....	27
5.2.4 Minimum height of overhead contact lines above roads	27
5.2.5 Feeders above loading roads.....	27
5.2.6 Clearance between live parts of overhead contact line systems and trees.....	28
5.3 Protection by protective obstacles	28
5.3.1 General	28
5.3.2 Obstacles for standing surfaces in public areas	29
5.3.3 Obstacles for standing surfaces in restricted areas.....	31
5.3.4 Protection degree for obstacles for low voltage.....	37
5.3.5 Anti-climbing provisions.....	37
5.4 Protective provisions allowing working under live conditions.....	37
5.4.1 General	37
5.4.2 Overhead contact lines for railways or tramways beneath structures	38
5.4.3 Overhead contact lines for trolley bus systems beneath structures	38
5.5 Specific protective provisions against electric shock in conductor rail systems.....	40
5.5.1 Location of conductor rail at platforms	40
5.5.2 Exceptions.....	40
5.5.3 Protection provisions in workshops.....	40
5.5.4 Protective boarding for conductor rails in restricted areas.....	40
5.5.5 Requirements for top contact conductor rails in public areas	41
5.5.6 Requirements for top contact conductor rails in restricted areas	41
5.6 Specific protective provisions against electric shock in systems in which the wheels of the vehicles are not used for return circuit	43

5.6.1	General	43
5.6.2	Railway systems	44
5.6.3	Trolleybus systems	44
6	Protective provisions against indirect contact	45
6.1	General	45
6.2	Protective provisions for exposed conductive parts within the contact line zone or the current collector zone	45
6.2.1	AC traction systems	45
6.2.2	DC traction systems	45
6.2.3	Exceptions for low voltage traction systems	46
6.2.4	Anchors of non-conductive masts	47
6.3	Protective provisions for wholly or partly conductive structures	47
6.3.1	Structures in the overhead contact line zone or the current collector zone	47
6.3.2	Parts in the vicinity of the railways	48
7	Protective provisions for low voltage non-traction power supplies	48
7.1	General	48
7.2	Related provisions	49
7.3	Protective provisions for electrical installations in the overhead contact line zone or the current collector zone	49
7.3.1	Exposed conductive parts	49
7.3.2	Equipment of protection Class II	50
7.4	Protective provisions for installations which are endangered by the traction power supply return circuit	50
7.4.1	Design of auxiliary power supply	50
7.4.2	Low voltage power supply by TT system	51
7.4.3	Low voltage power supply by TN system	51
7.4.4	Special provisions	52
8	Protective provisions where track systems, which are utilized for carrying traction return current, or/and contact line systems pass through hazardous zones	57
8.1	General	57
8.2	Equipotential bonding	58
8.3	Parallel pipework	58
8.4	Insulating joints	59
8.5	Surge arrester	59
8.6	Contact line of loading sidings	59
9	Limits for touch voltage and protective provisions against the danger of rail potential	60
9.1	General	60
9.1.1	Rail potential	60
9.1.2	Body voltage and touch voltage	60
9.1.3	Touch voltage at vehicles	60
9.1.4	Fault duration condition	61
9.1.5	Voltage limits and time duration aspects	61
9.2	Touch voltage limits in a.c. traction systems	61
9.2.1	General	61
9.2.2	AC voltage limits for the safety of persons	61
9.3	Touch voltage limits in d.c. traction systems	64
9.3.1	General	64
9.3.2	DC voltage limits for the safety of persons	65

9.4	Access control.....	67
10	Additional protective provisions	67
10.1	Traction substations and traction switching stations	67
10.2	Cables.....	67
10.2.1	General requirements.....	67
10.2.2	Cables in a.c. traction power supply systems.....	67
10.2.3	Cables in d.c. traction power supply systems.....	67
10.3	Return circuit connections and earthing conductors.....	68
10.3.1	General requirements.....	68
10.3.2	Continuity of the return circuit.....	68
10.3.3	Cross-bonding of the return circuit.....	68
10.3.4	Railway systems in which the traction current is confined within insulated conductors.....	69
10.4	Removing of decommissioned overhead contact lines	69
10.5	Means of achieving safe isolation between sections	69
10.5.1	Section insulators	69
10.5.2	Isolating gaps	69
10.6	Lightning protection.....	69
Annex A	(informative) Typical obstacles.....	70
Annex B	(normative) Warning sign.....	72
Annex C	(informative) Guiding values for rail potential gradient	73
Annex D	(informative) Effective touch voltage and body voltage with respect to the body current	75
Annex E	(normative) Measurement methods for effective touch voltages	81
Annex F	(normative) The use of voltage-limiting devices.....	82
Annex G	(normative) Special national conditions	84
Annex H	(normative) A-deviations	86
Annex I	(informative) Principles for the return circuit of a.c. railways.....	87
	Bibliography.....	89
	Figure 1 – Overhead contact line zone and current collector zone.....	23
	Figure 2 – Overhead contact line zone and current collector zone for trolley bus systems	24
	Figure 3 – Minimum clearances to accessible live parts on the outside of vehicles as well as to live parts of overhead contact line systems from standing surfaces accessible to persons for low voltages	26
	Figure 4 – Minimum clearances to accessible live parts on the outside of vehicles as well as to live parts of overhead contact line systems from standing surfaces accessible to persons for high voltages.....	26
	Figure 5 – Standing surfaces for persons providing access to live parts on the outside of vehicles and to overhead contact line systems.....	28
	Figure 6 – Standing surfaces for persons providing access to live parts on the outside of vehicles and to conductor rail systems.....	29
	Figure 7 – Examples of obstacles for standing surfaces in public areas for protection against direct contact with adjacent live parts on the outside of vehicles or adjacent live parts of a contact line system	30
	Figure 8 – Examples of obstacles for standing surfaces in restricted areas for protection against direct contact with adjacent live parts on the outside of vehicles or adjacent live parts of a contact line system for low voltages.....	33

Figure 9 – Examples of obstacles for standing surfaces in restricted areas for protection against direct contact with adjacent live parts on the outside of vehicles or adjacent live parts of a contact line system for high voltages	34
Figure 10 – Examples of obstacles for standing surfaces in restricted areas for protection against direct contact when above live parts on the outside of vehicles or live parts of a contact line system for low voltage.....	36
Figure 11 – Examples of obstacles for standing surfaces in restricted areas for protection against direct contact when above live parts on the outside of vehicles or live parts of an overhead contact line system for high voltage	37
Figure 12 – Example of an insulated obstacle beneath a structure	38
Figure 13 – Example of an insulated obstacle beneath a structure for an unearthed trolley bus system	39
Figure 14 – Example of an insulated obstacle beneath a structure for a trolley bus system in which the negative contact wire is earthed or connected to the return circuit of a tramway system	40
Figure 15 – Public and private level crossings	41
Figure 16 – Trackside structures	42
Figure 17 – Signal-post with telephone	42
Figure 18 – Authorized trackside walking route	43
Figure 19 – Railway controlled crossing (depots, goods yard, station crossing).....	43
Figure 20 – TT system for a.c. railways	53
Figure 21 – TN system for a.c. railways	54
Figure 22 – TT system for d.c. railways	56
Figure 23 – TN system for d.c. railways	57
Figure 24 – Disposition of rail-to-rail cross-bonds and track-to-track cross-bonds (double-rail illustration) and connection of the contact line in case of the loading siding having a contact line	58
Figure 25 – Location of a surge arrester outside the overhead contact line zone of a loading siding if there is a possibility of flashovers of the insulating pieces through lightning strikes.....	59
Figure 26 – Design of return circuit, with regard to permissible effective touch voltage by checking the rail potential or the effective touch voltage.....	64
Figure A.1 – Examples of obstacles along the sides of standing surfaces in public areas for protection against direct contact when they are above live parts on the outside of vehicles or live parts of an overhead contact line system for low voltages (see 5.3.2.2)	70
Figure A.2 – Examples of obstacles along the sides of standing surfaces in public areas for protection against direct contact when they are above live parts on the outside of vehicles or live parts of an overhead contact line system for high voltages (see 5.3.2.2)	71
Figure B.1 – Warning sign.....	72
Figure C.1 – Guidance values for the rail potential gradient measured at the mast in a right angle to the track in an a.c. traction system	73
Figure D.1 – Equivalent circuit for the calculation of the permissible touch voltage	77
Figure G.1 – Overhead contact line zone at platforms, workshops and similar locations.....	85
Figure I.1 – Principle for limited touch voltage by earthing the return circuit (railway integrated earthing system).....	87
Figure I.2 – Principle for limited access.....	88

Table 1 – Maximum dimensions for small conductive parts	47
Table 2 – Kinds of auxiliary supplies	50
Table 3 – Maximum permissible body voltages $U_{b, \max}$ in a.c. traction systems as a function of time duration	61
Table 4 – Maximum permissible effective touch voltages $U_{te, \max}$ in a.c. traction systems as a function of time duration	62
Table 5 – Maximum permissible body voltages $U_{b, \max}$ in d.c. traction systems as a function of time duration	65
Table 6 – Maximum permissible effective touch voltages $U_{te, \max}$ in d.c. traction systems as a function of time duration	66
Table C.1 – Guidance values for the rail potential gradient (see Figure C.1)	74
Table D.1 – Body impedance Z_b and body current I_b	76
Table D.2 – Example of the maximum permissible prospective touch voltage for a.c. railways for short-term conditions and $R_a = 1\ 150\ \Omega$	78
Table D.3 – Body currents, body voltages and touch voltages as function of time duration in a.c. traction systems.....	79
Table D.4 – Body currents, body voltages and touch voltages as function of time duration in d.c. traction systems.....	80

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**RAILWAY APPLICATIONS –
FIXED INSTALLATIONS –
ELECTRICAL SAFETY, EARTHING AND THE RETURN CIRCUIT –****Part 1: Protective provisions against electric shock**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 62128-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 9: Electrical equipment and systems for railways.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition issued in 2003. It constitutes a technical revision.

The main technical changes with regard to the previous edition are a consequence of the revision of the related European Standard, EN 50122-1. Main changes are the restructuring of all clauses and changes in the touch voltages limits.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
9/1803/FDIS	9/1837/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 in the IEC 62128 series, published under the general title *Railway applications – Fixed installations – Electrical safety, earthing and the return circuit*, 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

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RAILWAY APPLICATIONS – FIXED INSTALLATIONS – ELECTRICAL SAFETY, EARTHING AND THE RETURN CIRCUIT –

Part 1: Protective provisions against electric shock

1 Scope

This part of IEC 62128 specifies requirements for the protective provisions relating to electrical safety in fixed installations associated with a.c. and/or d.c. traction systems and to any installations that can be endangered by the traction power supply system.

It also applies to all aspects of fixed installations that are necessary to ensure electrical safety during maintenance work within electric traction systems.

This standard applies to all new lines and to all major revisions to existing lines for the following electric traction systems:

- a) railways;
- b) guided mass transport systems such as
 - 1) tramways,
 - 2) elevated and underground railways,
 - 3) mountain railways,
 - 4) trolleybus systems, and
 - 5) magnetically levitated systems, which use a contact line system,
- c) material transportation systems.

This standard does not apply to:

- d) mine traction systems in underground mines;
- e) cranes, transportable platforms and similar transportation equipment on rails, temporary structures (e.g. exhibition structures) in so far as these are not supplied directly or via transformers from the contact line system and are not endangered by the traction power supply system;
- f) suspended cable cars;
- g) funicular railways.

This standard does not specify working rules for maintenance.

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.

NOTE Normative references are made to IEC standards. For some references the IEC standards do not exist. In these cases, references are made to European Standards which are normative for Europe. For non-European countries these references are only informative and therefore listed in the bibliography.

IEC 60050-101, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 101: Mathematics*

IEC 60364-4-41:2005, *Low-voltage electrical installations – Part 4-41: Protection for safety – Protection against electric shock*

IEC/TS 60479-1:2005, *Effects of current on human beings and livestock – Part 1: General aspects*

IEC 60529:1989, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP code)*
Amendment 1:1999

IEC 60850, *Railway applications – Supply voltages of traction systems*

IEC 60898-1:2002, *Electrical accessories – Circuit-breakers for overcurrent protection for household and similar installations – Part 1: Circuit-breakers for a.c. operation*

IEC 60913:2013, *Railway applications – Fixed installations – Electric traction overhead contact lines*

IEC 61140:2001, *Protection against electric shock – Common aspects for installation and equipment*
Amendment 1:2004

IEC 61936-1:2010, *Power installations exceeding 1 kV a.c. – Part 1: Common rules*

IEC 61991:2000, *Railway applications – Rolling stock – Protective provisions relating to electrical hazards*

IEC 62128-2, *Railway applications – Fixed installations – Electrical safety, earthing and the return circuit – Part 2: Provisions against the effects of stray currents caused by d.c. traction systems*
<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/bada6ee9-d86f-465b-bd1f-10b44bf7a5a1/iec-62128-1-2013>

IEC 62305 (all parts), *Protection against lightning*

IEC 62497-1:2010, *Railway applications – Insulation coordination – Part 1: Basic requirements – Clearances and creepage distances for all electrical and electronic equipment*

IEC 62724: –, *Railway applications – Fixed installations – Electric traction – Insulating synthetic rope assemblies for support of overhead contact lines*¹

ISO 3864-1:2011, *Graphical symbols – Safety colours and safety signs – Part 1: Design principles for safety signs and safety markings*

ISO 7010:2011, *Graphical symbols – Safety colours and safety signs – Registered safety signs*

3 Terms and definitions

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

3.1 Electrical safety and hazards

3.1.1

electrical safety

freedom from unacceptable risk of harm caused by electrical systems

¹ To be published.

3.1.2**electric shock**

pathophysiological effect resulting from an electric current passing through a human or animal body

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-604:1987, 604-04-16]

3.1.3**(effective) touch voltage** U_{te}

voltage between conductive parts when touched simultaneously by a person or an animal

Note 1 to entry: The value of the effective touch voltage can be appreciably influenced by the impedance of the person or the animal in electric contact with these conductive parts

Note 2 to entry: The conductive path through the body is conventionally from hand to both feet (horizontal distance of 1 m) or from hand to hand.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-195:1998, 195-05-11]

3.1.4**prospective touch voltage** U_{tp}

voltage between simultaneously accessible conductive parts when those conductive parts are not being touched by a person or an animal

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-195:1998, 195-05-09]

3.1.5**body voltage** U_b

product of the current through the body and the body impedance

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3.1.6**standing surface**

any point on a surface where persons may stand or walk about without great effort

3.1.7**protective boarding**

non-conducting barrier to protect persons from coming into direct contact with the live conductor rail

3.1.8**(electrically) protective obstacle**

part preventing unintentional direct contact, but not preventing direct contact by deliberate action

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-195:1998, 195-06-16]

3.1.9**(electrically) protective barrier**

part providing protection against direct contact from any usual direction of access

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-195:1998, 195-06-15]

3.1.10**anti-trespassing guard**

equipment provided to deter entry to a restricted area, structure or building by an unauthorized person

3.1.11

conductive part

part which can carry electric current

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-195:1998, 195-01-06]

3.1.12

exposed conductive part

conductive part of electrical equipment, which can be touched and which is not normally live, but which can become live when basic insulation fails

Note 1 to entry: A conductive part of electrical equipment which can only become live through contact with an exposed conductive part which has become live is not considered to be an exposed conductive part itself.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-442:1998, 442-01-21]

3.1.13

live part

conductor or conductive part intended to be energised in normal use. By convention this does not include the running rails and parts connected to them

3.1.14

direct contact

electric contact of persons or animals with live parts

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-826:2004, 826-12-03]

3.1.15

indirect contact

electric contact of persons or animals with exposed conductive parts which have become live under fault conditions

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-826:2004, 826-12-04]

3.1.16

neutral conductor

conductor electrically connected to the neutral point and capable of contributing to the distribution of electric energy

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-826:2004, 826-14-07]

3.1.17

protective conductor

PE

conductor, required by some measures for protection against electric shock, for electrically connecting any of the following parts:

- exposed conductive parts;
- extraneous conductive parts;
- main earthing terminal;
- earth electrode;
- earthed point of the source or artificial neutral

3.1.18

PEN conductor

conductor combining the functions of both a protective earthing conductor and a neutral conductor

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[SOURCE: IEC 60050-826:2004, 826-13-25]

3.1.19

solid-wall design

any kind of construction made of concrete, steel or other material without any holes or gaps

3.1.20

voltage-limiting device

VLD

protective device whose function is to prevent existence of an impermissible high touch voltage

3.2 Earthing and equipotential bonding

3.2.1

earth

conductive mass of the earth, whose electric potential at any point is conventionally taken as equal to zero

3.2.2

earthing

connection of conductive parts to an appropriate earth electrode

3.2.3

earth electrode

conductor or a group of conductors in intimate contact with and providing an electrical connection to earth

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[SOURCE: IEC 60050-461:2008, 461-06-18] 62128-1:2013

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3.2.4

structure earth

construction made of metallic parts or construction including interconnected metallic structural parts, which can be used as an earth electrode

Note 1 to entry: Examples are reinforced railway structures such as bridges, viaducts, tunnels, mast foundations and reinforced track bed.

3.2.5

rail to earth resistance

electrical resistance between the running rails and the earth or structure earth

3.2.6

equipotential bonding

provision of electric connections between conductive parts, intended to achieve equipotentiality

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-826:2004, 826-13-19]

3.2.7

main equipotential busbar

MEB

busbar where the equipotential conductors terminate

3.2.8

cross bond

electrical connection intended to connect in parallel the conductors of the return circuit