

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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**Mechanical structures for electronic equipment – Tests for IEC 60917 and IEC 60297 –
Part 3: Electromagnetic shielding performance tests for cabinets and subracks**

**Structures mécaniques pour équipement électronique – Essais pour la CEI 60917 et la CEI 60297 –
Partie 3: Essais de performance du blindage électromagnétique pour les baies et les bacs à cartes**



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**MECHANICAL STRUCTURES FOR ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT –
TESTS FOR IEC 60917 AND IEC 60297 –****Part 3: Electromagnetic shielding performance
tests for cabinets and subracks**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61587-3 has been prepared by subcommittee 48D: Mechanical structures for electronic equipment, of IEC technical committee 48: Electromechanical components and mechanical structures for electronic equipment.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition issued in 2006. It constitutes a technical revision.

The main technical changes with regard to the previous edition are as follows.

This edition corrects the errors of EM code descriptions and the frequency range for the shielding performance is extended up to 3 000 MHz.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
48D/527/FDIS	48D/534/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 IEC 61587 series, under the general title *Mechanical structures for electronic equipment – Tests for IEC 60917 and IEC 60297*, 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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MECHANICAL STRUCTURES FOR ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT – TESTS FOR IEC 60917 AND IEC 60297 –

Part 3: Electromagnetic shielding performance tests for cabinets and subracks

1 Scope and object

This part of IEC 61587 specifies the tests for empty cabinets and subracks concerning electromagnetic shielding performance, in the frequency range of 30 MHz to 3 000 MHz. Stipulated attenuation values are chosen for the definition of the shielding performance level of cabinets and subracks for the IEC 60297 and IEC 60917 series. The shielding performance levels are chosen with respect to the requirements of the typical fields of industrial application. They will support the measures to achieve electromagnetic compatibility but cannot replace the final testing of compliance of the equipped enclosure.

The purpose of this standard is to ensure physical integrity and environmental performance of cabinets and subracks, taking into account the need for different levels of performance in different applications. It is intended to give the user a level of confidence in the selection of products to meet his specific needs. This standard in whole or in part applies only to the empty enclosures, for example cabinets and subracks according to IEC 60297 and IEC 60917 and does not apply to the enclosures when electronic equipment is installed. Chassis may be tested in the same way as subracks and cases may be tested in the same way as cabinets.

This standard was developed in close relationship to IEC 61000-5-7 but with the specific focus on subracks and cabinets and the determination of performance levels at the chosen frequency range.

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 60297 (all parts), *Mechanical structures for electronic equipment – Dimensions of mechanical structures of the 482,6 mm (19 in) series*

IEC 60917 (all parts), *Modular order for the development of mechanical structures for electronic equipment practices*

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

IEC 61000-5-7, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 5-7: Installation and mitigation guidelines – Degrees of protection provided by enclosures against electromagnetic disturbances (EM code)*

CISPR 16-1 (all parts), *Specification for radio disturbance and immunity measuring apparatus and methods*

3 Electromagnetic shielding performance test

3.1 Electromagnetic shielding performance tests for cabinets and subracks

Various levels of shielding performance can be achieved depending upon the construction of the cabinet or subrack. Although shielding performance measurements are of limited value in predicting the final overall system performance, consistent measurement techniques are vital to ensure any measure of repeatability. The aim of this standard is to provide comparable shielding performance testing results from one test laboratory to another (see IEC 61000-4-3). The test result is valid only for cabinets or subracks determined by equal dimensions and contents, for example removable covers, door, etc. The standard should be used for the evaluation of design variations.

3.2 Test condition

All testing shall be performed in a semi-anechoic or full anechoic chamber or open field test site as illustrated in the figures. When the semi-anechoic chamber or the open field test site is used, the chamber shall meet the vertical and horizontal site attenuation test described in CISPR 16-1. For the test set-up in the open field or an anechoic chamber, see Figures 3 to 8.

3.3 Test configuration

3.3.1 Calibration of the reference antenna

The purpose of calibration is to check the characteristics of the reference antenna, which is the output level of a transmitting antenna and the sensitivity level of a receiving antenna.

The test shall be performed by setting the transmitting antenna facing the receiving antenna.

The direction of the transmitting antenna is at 0° and the radiated field strength is maximum.

The height of the transmitting antenna shall be set at 1,1 m.

The receiving antenna shall be positioned 1 m high and 3 m in distance from the transmitting antenna. The frequency is 100 MHz and 500 MHz.

Calibration shall be made using both horizontal and vertical antenna polarities.

3.3.2 Transmitting antenna

The transmitting source shall be a Spherical Dipole Antenna (SDA) see Annex A or similar (see Note 1 in Table 1). The size of the transmitting antenna should be equal or smaller than 150 mm in diameter. The equivalency to the SDA should be evaluated by an analysis of the radiation pattern of the alternative antenna. Annex A illustrates the application of a spherical dipole antenna (SDA). It is necessary to confirm whether sufficient power level of the transmitting antenna can be ensured.

The transmitting antenna should be connected to the sender equipment located in outside of the test specimen without affecting the shielding integrity of the test specimen.

The distance of the transmitting antenna to the metal wall of the enclosure should be at least the diameter of the spherical antenna. The dynamic range of the measuring equipment should be determined with the appropriate level above the expected attenuation level as shown in Table 1.

3.3.3 Receiving antenna

The receiving antenna shall be one of the following types:

- 30 MHz to 200(300) MHz biconical antenna;
- 200(300) MHz to 1 000 MHz log periodic antenna.

The change from biconical to the log periodic may be at 200 MHz or 300 MHz (see Note 1 in Table 1).

Alternatively, a combined biconical/logarithmic-periodic antenna for the whole frequency range up to 1 000 MHz may be used.

For the frequency range 1 000 MHz to 3 000 MHz, horn antennas should be used.

3.3.4 Reference measurement

Reference measurements E_1 (dB μ V) are made without the test specimen. The transmitting antenna shall be placed at the position in which it will be once the test specimen is present. The transmitting antenna shall be positioned at 3 m distance from the receiving antenna and the two antennas shall face each other in the same direction as that of the calibration.

Measurements shall use both horizontal and vertical polarities. Transmitting and receiving antenna shall be polarized in the same manner. Frequency sweeps shall be in increments of not greater than 5 MHz between 30 MHz and 3 000 MHz. The receiving antenna shall be swept through heights of 1 m to 4 m. The greatest signal strength E_1 for each frequency shall be recorded (see Figures 3 and 6).

3.3.5 Transmitting antenna set-up

The transmitting antenna shall be placed in the centre inside the test specimen in the same direction as that of the reference measurement and suspended by non-conductive material (see Note 1 in Table 1).

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3.3.6 Test specimen set-up

In the case of a floor-standing cabinet, there shall be an insulation between the cabinet and the reference plane of the chamber of 100 mm (± 5 %). A table top test specimen shall be placed at a height of 800 mm (± 5 %) from the reference plane.

3.4 Test requirements

Measurements shall be made by using both horizontal and vertical antenna polarities. Both transmitting and receiving antennas shall be polarized in the same manner. Frequency increment measurements shall be made.

The equipment under test shall be rotated 360° through its vertical axis (via a turntable or other means) and the maximum signal strength determined in increments of 90°, i.e. a minimum of four reading points in the frequency range of 30 MHz to 200(300) MHz, 45° in the frequency range of 200(300) MHz to 1 000 MHz and 30° in the frequency range of 1 000 MHz to 3 000 MHz.

Frequency sweeps shall be made in increments of not greater than 5 MHz between 30 MHz and 3 000 MHz. The receiving antenna shall be swept through heights of 1 m to 4 m. The greatest signal strength E_2 (dB μ V) from the combined sweep of the turntable and antenna height shall be recorded for each frequency. For the typical test equipment configuration, see Figure 1.

3.5 Test results

3.5.1 General

The enclosure shielding performance is the difference between the appropriate reference measurement (Figure 3 or 6) and the associated measurement with the antenna within the cabinet or subrack. Refer to Table 1 for the appropriate test results.

The shielding performance is calculated in decibels as the difference between E_1 and E_2 . For the shielding performance levels, defined by attenuation values dependent on the frequency range, see Table 1. A typical graph of a measurement data (E_1-E_2) (dB) presentation is shown in Figure 2.

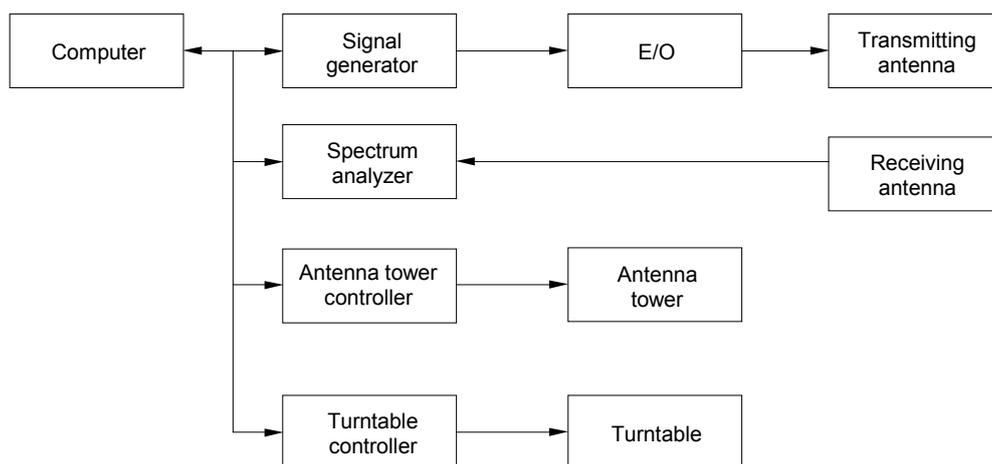
Attenuation requirements are based upon the final cabinet/subrack configuration with all vents, panels, openings, etc., present. For a definition of the minimum shielding performance, see Note 2 in Table 1.

Table 1 – Electric field attenuation levels

Performance level	Minimum shielding performance		
	Frequency range 30 MHz to 230 MHz dB	Frequency range 230 MHz to 1 000 MHz dB	Frequency range 1 000 MHz to 3 000 MHz dB
1	20	10	0
2	40	30	20
3	60	50	40

NOTE 1 For the receiving antenna, biconical or log periodic antennas should be used for the frequency range between 30 MHz and 1 000 MHz and horn antennas should be used for the frequency range between 1 000 MHz and 3 000 MHz. A spherical dipole antenna (SDA) may be used especially for the installation within the relatively small subrack as the transmitting antenna. Equivalent SDA can be used. See Annex A on SDA.

NOTE 2 The minimum shielding performance will exclude cavity resonance.



IEC 351/13

NOTE 1 Electromagnetic shielding in accordance to IEC 61000-5-7,
 performance level 1: EMxx20xx (EM code is not fully equivalent to level 1)
 performance level 2: EMxx42xx (EM code is not fully equivalent to level 2)
 performance level 3: EMxx64xx (EM code is not fully equivalent to level 3)

NOTE 2 E/O is used for fibre optical cable connection.

Figure 1 – Typical test equipment configuration

The antenna, as detailed in Figures 3 to 8, shall be selected as described in 3.5.2 and 3.5.3.

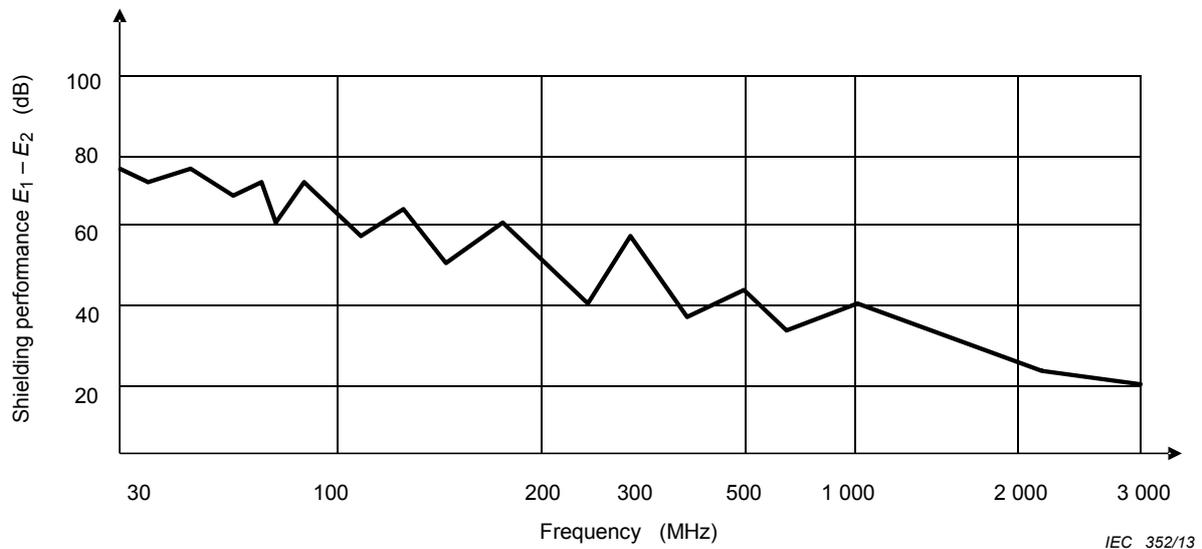


Figure 2 – Example of a measurement data presentation

The graph in Figure 2 shows a typical plot from test results.

3.5.2 Open field test sites

Fibre optical cable connection between a sender equipment and a transmitting antenna is an example for using the SDA.

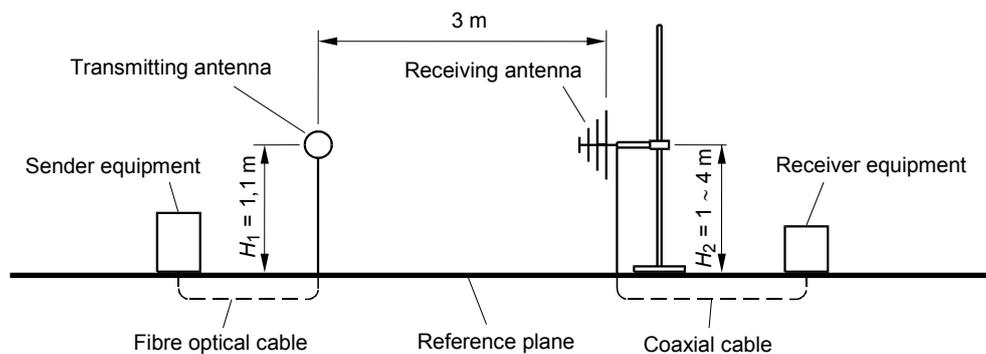
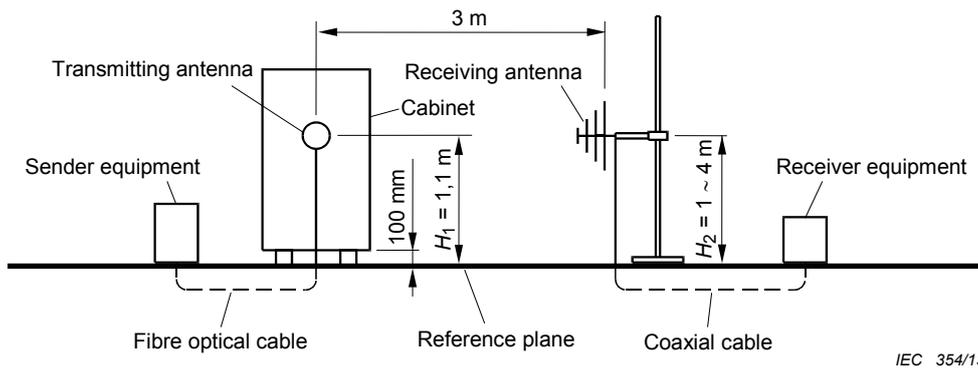
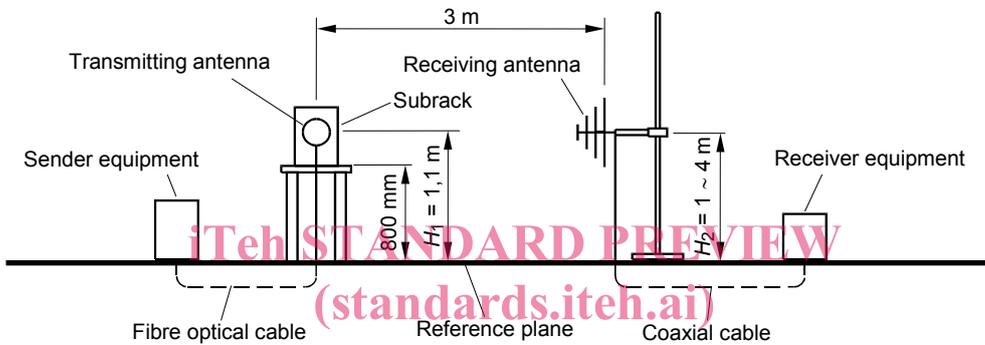


Figure 3 – Set-up for measurement of reference field strength E_1



IEC 354/13

Figure 4 – Set-up for measurement of reference field strength E_2 (cabinet)



IEC 355/13

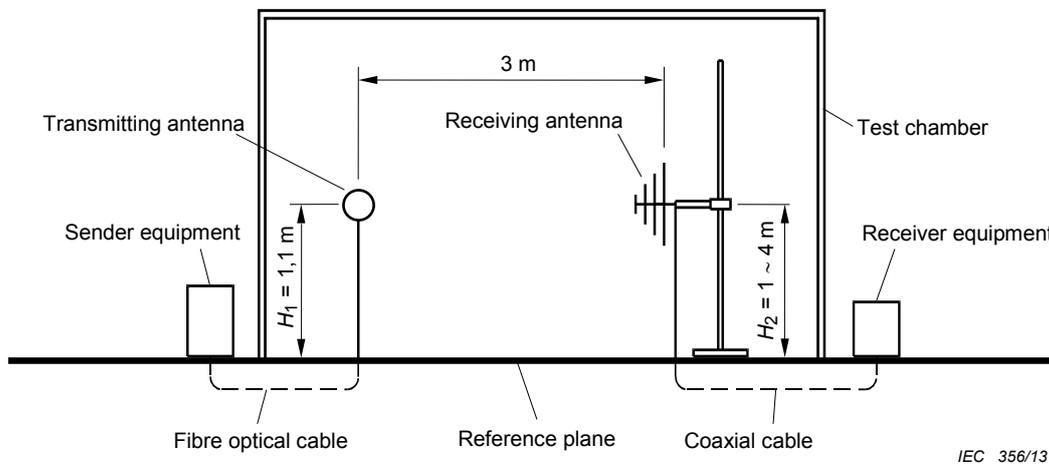
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Figure 5 – Set-up for measurement of reference field strength E_2 (subrack)

3.5.3 Semi-anechoic or full anechoic chambers

Fibre optical cable connection between a sender equipment and a transmitting antenna is an example for using the SDA.



IEC 356/13

Figure 6 – Set-up for measurement of reference field strength E_1