

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



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

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

## OPTICAL FIBRES –

**Part 2-50: Product specifications –  
Sectional specification for class B single-mode fibres**

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International Standard IEC 60793-2-50 has been prepared by subcommittee 86A: Fibres and cables, of IEC technical committee 86: Fibre optics.

This fifth edition cancels and replaces the fourth edition, published in 2012. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) aligns the requirements with the ITU-T Recommendations G.654 (2012-10) and G.657 (2012-10);
- b) adds a new sub-category B1.2\_d;
- c) modifies B6 sub-categories in terms of attenuation and chromatic dispersion coefficient.

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

CDV	Report on voting
86A/1571/CDV	86A/1614/RVC

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 60793 series published under the general title *Optical fibres*, 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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- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

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## OPTICAL FIBRES –

### Part 2-50: Product specifications – Sectional specification for class B single-mode fibres

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60793 is applicable to optical fibre categories B1.1, B1.2, B1.3, B2, B4, B5 and B6. A map illustrating the connection of IEC designations to ITU-T designations is shown in Annex I. These fibres are used or can be incorporated in information transmission equipment and optical fibre cables.

Three types of requirements apply to these fibres:

- general requirements, as defined in IEC 60793-2;
- specific requirements common to the class B single-mode fibres covered in this standard and which are given in Clause 5;
- particular requirements applicable to individual fibre categories or specific applications, which are defined in Annexes A to G.

For some fibre categories (shown in the relevant family specifications), there are sub-categories that are distinguished on the basis of difference in transmission attribute specifications. The designations for these sub-categories are documented in the individual family specifications.

#### 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 60793-1 (all parts), *Optical fibres – Measurement methods and test procedures*

IEC 60793-1-1, *Optical fibres – Measurement methods and test procedures – Part 1-1: General and guidance*

IEC 60793-1-20, *Optical fibres – Part 1-20: Measurement methods and test procedures – Fibre geometry*

IEC 60793-1-21, *Optical fibres – Part 1-21: Measurement methods and test procedures – Coating geometry*

IEC 60793-1-22, *Optical fibres – Part 1-22: Measurement methods and test procedures – Length measurement*

IEC 60793-1-30, *Optical fibres – Part 1-30: Measurement methods and test procedures – Fibre proof test*

IEC 60793-1-31, *Optical fibres – Part 1-31: Measurement methods and test procedures – Tensile strength*

IEC 60793-1-32, *Optical fibres – Part 1-32: Measurement methods and test procedures – Coating strippability*

IEC 60793-1-33, *Optical fibres – Part 1-33: Measurement methods and test procedures – Stress corrosion susceptibility*

IEC 60793-1-34, *Optical fibres – Part 1-34: Measurement methods and test procedures – Fibre curl*

IEC 60793-1-40:2001, *Optical fibres – Part 1-40: Measurement methods and test procedures – Attenuation*

IEC 60793-1-42, *Optical fibres – Part 1-42: Measurement methods and test procedures – Chromatic dispersion*

IEC 60793-1-44, *Optical fibres – Part 1-44: Measurement methods and test procedures – Cut-off wavelength*

IEC 60793-1-45, *Optical fibres – Part 1-45: Measurement methods and test procedures – Mode field diameter*

IEC 60793-1-46, *Optical fibres – Part 1-46: Measurement methods and test procedures – Monitoring of changes in optical transmittance*

IEC 60793-1-47, *Optical fibres – Part 1-47: Measurement methods and test procedures – Macrobending loss*

IEC 60793-1-48, *Optical fibres – Part 1-48: Measurement methods and test procedures – Polarization mode dispersion*

IEC 60793-1-50, *Optical fibres – Part 1-50: Measurement methods and test procedures – Damp heat (steady state) tests*

IEC 60793-1-51, *Optical fibres – Part 1-51: Measurement methods and test procedures – Dry heat (steady state) tests*

IEC 60793-1-52, *Optical fibres – Part 1-52: Measurement methods and test procedures – Change of temperature tests*

IEC 60793-1-53, *Optical fibres – Part 1-53: Measurement methods and test procedures – Water immersion tests*

IEC 60793-2, *Optical fibres – Part 2: Product specifications – General*

IEC 60794-3, *Optical fibre cables – Part 3: Outdoor cables – Sectional specification*

IEC TR 62316, *Guidance for the interpretation of OTDR backscattering traces*

### **3 Terms and definitions**

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60793-2 and the IEC 60793-1 series apply.

NOTE General definitions for fibres are provided in IEC 60793-2. The definitions of the specified attributes are contained in the relevant test methods standard of the IEC 60793-1 series, while general definitions for testing are provided in IEC 60793-1-1.

## 4 Abbreviations and symbols

For the purposes of this document, the following abbreviations and symbols apply:

$\lambda_0$	zero dispersion wavelength
$F_{\text{avg}}$	average strip force
$F_{\text{peak}}$	peak strip force
MFD	mode field diameter
$n_d$	stress corrosion parameter – dynamic
PMD	polarization mode dispersion
$PMD_Q$	PMD link design value

## 5 Specifications

### 5.1 General

The fibre shall consist of a glass core and glass cladding in accordance with the construction of optical fibre class B – single-mode fibre – as given in IEC 60793-2.

The term “glass” usually refers to material consisting of non-metallic oxides. The composition of some fibres may be all glass, or glass and glass/hard polymeric composites.

### 5.2 Dimensional requirements

Relevant dimensional attributes and measurement methods are given in Table 1.

Requirements common to all categories of class B single-mode fibres are given in Table 2.

Cladding diameter, cladding non-circularity, and core concentricity error shall be specified in the family specifications

**Table 1 – Dimensional attributes and measurement methods**

Attribute	Measurement method
Cladding diameter	IEC 60793-1-20
Cladding non-circularity	IEC 60793-1-20
Core-cladding concentricity error	IEC 60793-1-20
Primary coating diameter	IEC 60793-1-21
Primary coating non-circularity	IEC 60793-1-21
Primary coating-cladding concentricity error	IEC 60793-1-21
Fibre length	IEC 60793-1-22

**Table 2 – Dimensional requirements common to all category B fibres**

Attribute	Unit	Limit
Primary coating diameter – uncoloured	µm	235 to 255 <sup>a</sup>
Primary coating diameter – coloured	µm	235 to 265 <sup>a</sup>
Primary coating-cladding concentricity error	µm	≤ 12,5
Fibre length	km	<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> The above limits on primary coating diameter are most commonly used in telecommunications cables. There are other applications, such as fibre for use within optical sub-systems, pigtails, or specialty applications such as for submarines cables or for compact FTTH cables, which use other primary coating diameters, several of which are listed below.

Alternative nominal primary coating diameters and ranges:

200 µm ± 10 µm (uncoloured; 190 µm to 220 µm coloured)

400 µm ± 40 µm

500 µm ± 30 µm

700 µm ± 100 µm

900 µm ± 100 µm

The primary coating cladding concentricity error should be limited to a maximum 10 µm for 200 µm.

Alternative coating diameters may impact fibre connectivity such as ribbons, multi-fibre connectors, mechanical splices, and fusion splice protectors; they may also need adjustments to connectivity tools.

<sup>b</sup> Length requirements vary and should be agreed between supplier and customer.

**5.3 Mechanical requirements**

Relevant mechanical attributes and test methods are given in Table 3. The relationship between some of these attributes and mechanical reliability are described in IEC TR 62048.

Requirements common to all categories of class B single-mode fibres are given in Table 4.

**Table 3 – Mechanical attributes and test methods**

Attribute	Test method
Proof test	IEC 60793-1-30
Tensile strength	IEC 60793-1-31
Coating strippability	IEC 60793-1-32
Stress corrosion susceptibility	IEC 60793-1-33
Fibre curl	IEC 60793-1-34