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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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Optical fibres –
Part 2-40: Product specifications – Sectional specification for category A4 multimode fibres

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FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 60793-2-40 has been prepared by subcommittee 86A: Fibres and cables, of IEC technical committee 86: Fibre optics.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2009. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

a) harmonization of terminology within the IEC 60793-2 series;

b) added measurement parameters for numerical aperture and fibre geometry.

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

CDV	Report on voting
86A/1587/CDV	86A/1618/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

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

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OPTICAL FIBRES –

Part 2-40: Product specifications – Sectional specification for category A4 multimode fibres

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60793-2 is applicable to category A4 optical multimode fibres and the related sub-categories A4a, A4b, A4c, A4d, A4e, A4f, A4g and A4h. These fibres have a plastic core and plastic cladding and may have step-index, multi-step index or graded-index profiles. The fibres are used in information transmission equipment and other applications employing similar light transmitting techniques, and finally in fibre optic cables. Table 1 summarizes some of the salient characteristics and applications of these fibres.

Table 1 – Characteristics and applications of category A4 fibres

Sub-category	A4a	A4b	A4c	A4d	A4e	A4f	A4g	A4h
Core diameter (µm)	See Note 1	See Note 1	See Note 1	See Note 1	≥ 500	200	120	62,5
Cladding diameter (µm)	1 000	750	500	1 000	750	490	490	245
Numerical aperture Na_{ff}	0,50	0,50	0,50	0,30	0,25	0,190	0,190	0,190
Operating wave-length (s) (nm)	650 See Note 2	650	650	650	650	650 850 1 300	650 850 1 300	850 1 300
Applica-tions	Digital audio interface, automobile, industrial, sensor and data transmis-sion	Indus-trial and sen-sor	Sen-sor	Digital audiovisual interface and data transmission	Digital audiovisual interface and data transmission	Industrial and mobile; compatible with A3 transmission equipment	Data transmission	Data transmission; primarily used in ribbon structures

NOTE 1 Typically 15 µm to 35 µm smaller than the cladding diameter.

NOTE 2 Other potential wavelengths for A4a fibre are described in Annex J.

In addition to the applications shown in Table 1, other applications for A4 fibres include, but are not restricted to, the following: support for short reach, high bit-rate systems in telephony, distribution and local networks, carrying data, voice and/or video services and on-premises intrabuilding and interbuilding fibre installations, including LANs, PBXs, video, various multiplexing uses and miscellaneous related uses, such as consumer electronics and industrial and mobile networks.

Three types of requirements apply to A4 fibres:

- general requirements, as defined in IEC 60793-2;
- specific requirements common to category A4 multimode fibres covered in this standard and which are given in Clause 3;

- particular requirements applicable to individual fibre sub-categories and implementations or specific applications which are defined in this standard, in the normative family specification annexes.

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

IEC 60793-1-20:2001, *Optical fibres – Part 1-20: Measurement methods and test procedures – Fibre geometry*

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

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

IEC 60793-1-41, *Optical fibres – Part 1-41: Measurement methods and test procedures – Bandwidth*

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

IEC 60793-1-43, *Optical fibres – Part 1-43: Measurement methods and test procedures – Numerical aperture measurement*

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

IEC 60793-1-47:2009, *Optical fibres – Part 1-47: Measurement methods and test procedures – Macrobending loss*

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*

3 Specifications

3.1 Dimensional requirements

Relevant dimensional attributes and measurement methods are given in Table 2.

Requirements common to all category A4 fibres are indicated in Table 3.

Additional attributes that shall be specified in the family specifications for sub-categories A4f through A4h are given in Table 4.

Table 2 – Dimensional attributes and measurement methods

Attribute	Measurement method
Cladding diameter	IEC 60793-1-20 [a]
Cladding non-circularity	IEC 60793-1-20 [a]
Core diameter [b]	IEC 60793-1-20
Fibre length	IEC 60793-1-22
Core-cladding concentricity error	IEC 60793-1-20
Core non-circularity	IEC 60793-1-20

[a] Mechanical methods are also applicable to cladding diameter and cladding non-circularity measurements if they provide the same measurement uncertainty.

[b] Core diameter is specified at (650 ± 10) nm with a test specimen length of 2,0 m ± 0,2 m and a threshold value k_{CORE} of 2,5 % (IEC 60793-1-20:2001, Method B) for A4 fibres.

Table 3 – Requirements common to all category A4 fibres

Attribute	Unit	Limit
Cladding diameter	µm	[a]
Cladding non-circularity	%	≤ 6 [b]
Core diameter	µm	[c]
Fibre length	km	[d]

[a] The cladding diameter varies and is listed in the family specification.

[b] Unless otherwise specified in the family specification.

[c] For A4a, A4b, A4c and A4d fibre, the core diameter is typically 15 µm to 35 µm smaller than the cladding diameter. For A4e, A4f, A4g and A4h fibre, the core diameter varies and is listed in the family specification.

[d] Length requirements vary and should be agreed between supplier and customer.

Table 4 – Additional attributes required in A4f through A4h family specifications

Attribute
Core non-circularity
Core-cladding concentricity error

3.2 Mechanical requirements

3.2.1 General

Mechanical attributes, test methods, and requirements for buffered fibres can be found in IEC 60794-2-41.

Relevant mechanical attributes and test methods are given in Table 5.

Requirements common to all category A4 fibres are indicated in Table 6.

Additional attributes that shall be specified in the family specifications for sub-categories A4f through A4h are given in Table 7.