

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Miscellaneous lampholders –  
Part 1: General requirements and tests**

**Douilles diverses pour lampes –  
Partie 1: Exigences générales et essais**

[IEC 60838-1:2016](https://standards.iteh.ai/)

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### MISCELLANEOUS LAMPHOLDERS –

#### Part 1: General requirements and tests

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**IEC 60838-1 edition 5.2 contains the fifth edition (2016-05) [documents 34B/1850A/FDIS and 34B/1856/RVD], its amendment 1 (2017-02) [documents 34B/1888/FDIS and 34B/1891/RVD] and its amendment 2 (2020-02) [documents 34B/2071/FDIS and 34B/2076/RVD].**

**In this Redline version, a vertical line in the margin shows where the technical content is modified by amendments 1 and 2. Additions are in green text, deletions are in strikethrough red text. A separate Final version with all changes accepted is available in this publication.**



International Standard IEC 60838-1 has been prepared by subcommittee 34B: Lamp caps and holders, of IEC technical committee 34: Lamps and related equipment.

This fifth edition constitutes a technical revision.

The significant technical changes in this edition with respect to the previous edition include the introduction of new or revised requirements for single and dual contact ignition voltages, steel test caps and brass test caps and an Annex E listing amended requirements/clauses which require products to be retested.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60838 series, published under the general title *Miscellaneous lampholders*, can be found on the IEC website.

In this standard, the following type is used:

- *compliance statements: in italic type.*

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendments 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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## MISCELLANEOUS LAMPHOLDERS –

### Part 1: General requirements and tests

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60838 applies to lampholders of miscellaneous types intended for building-in (to be used with general purpose light sources, projection lamps, floodlighting lamps and street-lighting lamps with caps as listed in Annex A) and the methods of test to be used in determining the safe use of lamps in lampholders.

This part of IEC 60838 also covers lampholders which are integral with a luminaire. It covers the requirements for the lampholder only.

This part of IEC 60838 also covers lampholders integrated in an outer shell and dome similar to Edison screw lampholders. Such lampholders are further tested in accordance with the relevant clauses of IEC 60238.

Requirements for lampholders for tubular fluorescent lamps, Edison screw lampholders and bayonet lampholders are covered by separate standards.

#### 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.

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IEC 60061 (all parts), *Lamp caps and holders together with gauges for the control of interchangeability and safety* (available at <http://std.iec.ch/iec60061>)

IEC 60061-2, *Lamp caps and holders together with gauges for the control of interchangeability and safety – Part 2: Lampholders*

IEC 60061-3, *Lamp caps and holders together with gauges for the control of interchangeability and safety – Part 3: Gauges*

IEC 60068-2-75:2014, *Environmental testing – Part 2-75: Tests – Test Eh: Hammer tests*

IEC 60112:2003, *Method for the determination of the proof and the comparative tracking indices of solid insulating materials*  
IEC 60112:2003/AMD1:2009

IEC 60227 (all parts), *Polyvinyl chloride insulated cables of rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V*

IEC 60238, *Edison screw lampholders*

IEC 60245 (all parts), *Rubber insulated cables – Rated voltages up to and including 450/750 V*

IEC 60352-1, *Solderless connections – Part 1: Wrapped connections – General requirements, test methods and practical guidance*

IEC 60399, *Barrel thread for lampholders with shade holder ring*

IEC 60417, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment* (available at <http://www.graphical-symbols.info/equipment>)

IEC 60529:1989, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP code)*<sup>1</sup>  
IEC 60529:1989/AMD1:1999  
IEC 60529:1989/AMD2:2013

IEC 60598-1:2014, *Luminaires – Part 1: General requirements and tests*  
IEC 60598-1:2014/AMD1:2017

IEC 60664-1:2007, *Insulation co-ordination for equipment within low-voltage systems – Part 1: Principles, requirements and tests*

IEC 60695-2-11, *Fire hazard testing – Part 2-11: Glowing/hot-wire based test methods – Glow-wire flammability test method for end products (GWEPT)*

IEC 60695-11-5, *Fire hazard testing – Part 11-5: Test flames – Needle-flame test method – Apparatus, confirmatory test arrangement and guidance*

ISO 1456, *Metallic and other inorganic coatings – Electrodeposited coatings of nickel, nickel plus chromium, copper plus nickel and of copper plus nickel plus chromium*

ISO 2081, *Metallic and other inorganic coatings – Electroplated coatings of zinc with supplementary treatments on iron or steel*

ISO 2093, *Electroplated coatings of tin – Specification and test methods*

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ISO 4046-4:2002, *Paper, board, pulps and related terms – Vocabulary – Part 4: Paper and board grades and converted products*

### 3 Terms and definitions

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

#### 3.1

##### **rated voltage**

voltage declared by the manufacturer to indicate the highest working voltage for which the lampholder is intended

#### 3.2

##### **working voltage**

highest r.m.s. voltage that may occur across any insulation, transients being disregarded, both when the lamp is operating under normal conditions and when the lamp is removed

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<sup>1</sup> A consolidated version of this publication exists, comprising IEC 60529:1989, IEC 60529:1989/AMD1:1999 and IEC 60529:1989/AMD2:2013.

**3.3  
rated current**

current declared by the manufacturer to indicate the highest current for which the lampholder is intended

**3.4  
lampholder for building-in**

lampholder designed to be built into a luminaire, an additional enclosure or the like

**3.4.1  
unenclosed lampholder**

lampholder for building-in so designed that it requires additional means, for example enclosures, to meet the requirements of this standard with regard to protection against electric shock

**3.4.2  
enclosed lampholder**

lampholder for building-in so designed that it fulfils on its own the requirements of this standard with regard to protection against electric shock

**3.5  
rated operating temperature**

highest temperature for which the lampholder is designed

**3.6  
rated pulse ignition voltage**

highest peak value of an ignition pulse voltage the holder is able to withstand

**3.7  
lamp connector**

set of contacts specially designed to provide for electrical contact but not supporting the lamp

**3.8  
type test**

test or series of tests made on a type test sample, for the purpose of checking compliance of the design of a given product with the requirements of the relevant standard

**3.9  
type test sample**

sample consisting of one or more similar specimens submitted by the manufacturer or responsible vendor for the purpose of a type test

**3.10  
live part**

conductive part which may cause an electric shock

**3.11  
impulse withstand category**

numeral defining a transient overvoltage condition

Note 1 to entry: Impulse withstand categories I, II, III and IV are used.

a) Purpose of classification of impulse withstand categories

Impulse withstand categories are to distinguish different degrees of availability of equipment with regard to required expectations on continuity of service and on an acceptable risk of failure.

By selection of impulse withstand levels of equipment, insulation co-ordination can be achieved in the whole installation reducing the risk of failure to an acceptable level providing a basis for overvoltage control.

A higher characteristic numeral of an impulse withstand category indicates a higher specific impulse withstand of the equipment and offers a wider choice of methods for overvoltage control.

The concept of impulse withstand categories is used for equipment energized directly from the mains.

b) Description of impulse withstand categories

Equipment of impulse withstand category I is equipment which is intended to be connected to the fixed electrical installations of buildings. Protective means are taken outside the equipment – either in the fixed installation or between the fixed installation and the equipment – to limit transient overvoltages to the specific level.

Equipment of impulse withstand category II is equipment to be connected to the fixed electrical installations of buildings.

Equipment of impulse withstand category III is equipment which is part of the fixed electrical installations and other equipment where a higher degree of availability is expected.

Equipment of impulse withstand category IV is for use at or in the proximity of the origin of the electrical installations of buildings upstream of the main distribution board.

**3.12**  
**primary circuit**

circuit which is directly connected to the AC mains supply

Note 1 to entry: It includes, for example, the means for connection to the AC mains supply, the primary windings of transformers, motors and other loading devices.

**3.13**  
**secondary circuit**

circuit which has no direct connection to a primary circuit and derives its power from a transformer, converter or equivalent isolation device, or from a battery

Note 1 to entry: Exception: autotransformers. Although having direct connection to a primary circuit, the tapped part of them is also deemed to be a secondary circuit as defined above.

Note 2 to entry: Mains transients in such a circuit are attenuated by the corresponding primary windings. Also inductive ballasts reduce the mains transient voltage height. Therefore, components located after a primary circuit or after an inductive ballast can be suited for an impulse withstand category of one step lower, i.e. for impulse withstand category II.

**3.14**  
**basic insulation**

insulation applied to live parts to provide basic protection against electric shock

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Note 1 to entry: Basic insulation does not necessarily include insulation used exclusively for functional purposes.

**3.15**  
**supplementary insulation**

independent insulation applied in addition to basic insulation in order to provide protection against electric shock in the event of a failure of basic insulation

**3.16**  
**double insulation**

insulation comprising both basic insulation and supplementary insulation

**3.17**  
**reinforced insulation**

single insulation system applied to live parts, which provides a degree of protection against electric shock equivalent to double insulation under the conditions specified

Note 1 to entry: The term "insulation system" does not imply that the insulation shall be one homogeneous piece. It may comprise several layers which cannot be tested singly as supplementary or basic insulation.

**3.18**  
**enclosed reinforced insulated lampholder**

lampholder for building-in so designed that on its own it fulfils the requirements for double or reinforced insulated parts in class II applications

**3.19**  
**partly reinforced insulated lampholder**

lampholder for building-in, so designed that some parts of the lampholder require additional means to fulfil the requirements with regard to double or reinforced insulation

Note 1 to entry: In some cases, the dimensions might be achieved only after mounting into the luminaire.

**3.20**  
**polarized lampholder**

lampholder for building-in, specially designed for asymmetric ~~rated-pulse~~ ignition voltages, where the rated ignition voltage (higher rated ~~pulse~~ ignition voltage) is designated to a fixed contact

**3.21**  
**single contact ignition voltage**

ignition voltage which appears on one contact of the lampholder only

**3.22**  
**dual contact ignition voltage**

ignition voltage which is split between the two contacts of the lampholder

**3.23**  
**critical frequency**

$f_{crit}$   
frequency at which the reduction of the breakdown voltage of a clearance begins (occurs)

Note 1 to entry:  $f_{crit} \approx 0,2/d$  [MHz] where d (in mm) is the clearance according to Table 3 (basic or supplementary insulation and reinforced insulation respectively) disregarding the frequency.

[SOURCE: IEC 61347-1:2015, 3.40, modified — the note has been added]

**3.24**  
**ignition voltage**

peak voltage applied to ignite a discharge lamp

[SOURCE: IEC 61347-1:2015, 3.46]

**3.24.1**  
**ignition pulse voltage**

peak ignition voltage with a total duration of  $\leq 750 \mu\text{s}$  (summation of all pulse durations) within 10 ms, with the duration time (width) of each pulse being measured at the level of 50% of the maximum absolute peak value

Note 1 to entry: Ignition pulse waveforms, which are considered as ignition pulse voltage, should not contain any dominant frequency above 30 kHz or should be usually highly damped (after 20  $\mu\text{s}$  the peak voltage level should be less than one half of the maximum peak voltage). For the assessment of the dominant frequency IEC 60664-4:2005, Annex E should be consulted.

[SOURCE: IEC 61347-1:2015, 3.46.1]

**3.25**  
**maximum working voltage**

$U_{out}$   
maximum occurring working voltage (r.m.s.) between the output terminals of a controlgear or between the output terminals and earth, during normal or abnormal operating condition

Note 1 to entry: Transients and ignition voltages have to be neglected.

[SOURCE: IEC 61347-1:2015, 3.33, modified — "of a controlgear" has been added]