

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



**Primary batteries –  
Part 1: General**

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

## PRIMARY BATTERIES –

## Part 1: General

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International Standard IEC 60086-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 35: Primary cells and batteries.

This twelfth edition cancels and replaces the eleventh edition (2011) and constitutes a technical revision.

The major technical changes with respect to the previous edition are:

- the order of the Annexes was changed to the order in which they appear in the document and a caption was added to indicate where the Annex information first appears in the document;
- the humidity conditions for non P-system batteries in Table 3 was modified;
- the standard discharge voltage for the Y and W chemistries was determined to be at 3,5 V and 2,8 V respectively;
- details on capacity measurement were moved from Annex E to Subclause 5.1.
- the coin/button cell and battery definition was clarified in order to better address issues with the swallowing of coin cells.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
35/1346/FDIS	35/1349/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 60086 series, under the general title *Primary batteries*, 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 website under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

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## INTRODUCTION

The technical content of this part of IEC 60086 provides fundamental requirements and information on primary cells and batteries. All batteries within the IEC 60086 series are considered dry cell batteries. In this sense, IEC 60086-1 is the main component of the IEC 60086 series and forms the basis for the subsequent parts. For example, this part includes elementary information on definitions, nomenclature, dimensions and marking. While specific requirements are included, the content of this part tends to explain methodology (how) and justification (why).

Over the years, this part has been changed to improve its content and remains under continual scrutiny to ensure that the publication is kept up to date with the advances in both battery and battery-powered device technologies.

NOTE Safety information is available in IEC 60086-4, IEC 60086-5 and IEC 62281.

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# PRIMARY BATTERIES –

## Part 1: General

### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60086 is intended to standardize primary batteries with respect to dimensions, nomenclature, terminal configurations, markings, test methods, typical performance, safety and environmental aspects.

As a primary battery classification tool, electrochemical systems are also standardized with respect to system letter, electrodes, electrolyte, nominal and maximum open circuit voltage.

NOTE The requirements justifying the inclusion or the ongoing retention of batteries in the IEC 60086 series are given in Annex A.

The object of this part of IEC 60086 is to benefit primary battery users, device designers and battery manufacturers by ensuring that batteries from different manufacturers are interchangeable according to standard form, fit and function. Furthermore, to ensure compliance with the above, this part specifies standard test methods for testing primary cells and batteries.

### 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 60086-2:~~2011~~<sup>1</sup>, *Primary batteries – Part 2: Physical and electrical specifications*

IEC 60086-3:2011, *Primary batteries – Part 3: Watch batteries*

IEC 60086-4:~~2007~~<sup>2014</sup>, *Primary batteries – Part 4: Safety of lithium batteries*

IEC 60086-5:2011, *Primary batteries – Part 5: Safety of batteries with aqueous electrolyte*

~~IEC 60410, *Sampling plans and procedures for inspection by attributes*~~

~~ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1: *Procedures for the technical work*~~

~~ISO 3951(all parts, as applicable), *Sampling procedures*~~

### 3 Terms and definitions

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

---

<sup>1</sup> To be published.

### 3.1

#### **application test**

simulation of the actual use of a battery in a specific application

### 3.2

#### **battery**

one or more cells electrically connected ~~by permanent means, and~~ fitted in a case, with terminals, markings and protective devices etc., as necessary for use

[SOURCE:IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-01-04, modified definition]

### 3.3

#### **button (cell or battery)**

small round cell or battery where the overall height is less than the diameter; ~~batteries complying with Figures 3 and 4 of IEC 60086-2~~

Note 1 to entry: In English, the term "button (cell or battery)" is only used for non-lithium batteries while the term "coin (cell or battery)" is used for lithium batteries only. In languages other than English, the terms "coin" and "button" are often used interchangeably, regardless of the electrochemical system.

### 3.4

#### **cell**

basic functional unit, consisting of an assembly of electrodes, electrolyte, container, terminals and usually separators, that is a source of electric energy obtained by direct conversion of chemical energy

[SOURCE:IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-01-01]

### 3.5

#### **closed-circuit voltage**

#### **CCV** (abbreviation)

voltage across the terminals of a battery when it is on discharge

[SOURCE:IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-03-28, modified ("voltage between the terminals of a cell or battery" replaced by "voltage across the terminals of a battery")]

### 3.6

#### **coin (cell or battery)**

see button (cell or battery)

### 3.7

#### **cylindrical (cell or battery)**

~~round~~ cell or battery ~~with a cylindrical shape~~ in which the overall height is equal to or greater than the diameter

[SOURCE:IEC 60050-482: 2004, 482-02-39, modified ("cell with a cylindrical shape" replaced by "round cell or battery")]

### 3.8

#### **discharge** (of a primary battery)

operation during which a battery delivers current to an external circuit

~~[IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-03-23, modified]~~

### 3.9

#### **dry (primary) battery**

primary battery in which the liquid electrolyte is essentially immobilized

[SOURCE:IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-04-14, modified]

**3.10**  
**effective internal resistance – DC method**

the internal d.c. resistance of any electrochemical cell is defined by the following relation:

$$R_i (\Omega) = \frac{\Delta U (V)}{\Delta i (A)}$$

**3.11**  
**end-point voltage**

**EV** (abbreviation)

specified voltage of a battery at which the battery discharge is terminated

[SOURCE:IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-03-30, ~~modified~~]

**3.12**  
**leakage**

unplanned escape of electrolyte, gas or other material from a cell or battery

[SOURCE:IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-02-32]

**3.13**  
**minimum average duration**

**MAD** (abbreviation)

minimum average time on discharge which is met by a sample of batteries

Note 1 to entry: The discharge test is carried out according to the specified methods or standards and designed to show conformity with the standard applicable to the battery types.

**3.14**  
**nominal voltage** (of a primary battery)

$V_n$  (symbol)

suitable approximate value of the voltage used to designate or identify a cell, a battery or an electrochemical system

[SOURCE:IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-03-31, modified (addition of "(of a primary battery)" and symbol  $V_n$ )]

**3.15**  
**open-circuit voltage**

**OCV** (abbreviation)

voltage across the terminals of a cell or battery when it is off discharge

~~[IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-03-32, modified]~~

**3.16**  
**primary** (cell or battery)

cell or battery that is not designed to be electrically recharged

**3.17**  
**round** (cell or battery)

cell or battery with circular cross section

**3.18**  
**service output** (of a primary battery)

service life, or capacity, or energy output of a battery under specified conditions of discharge

**3.19****service output test**

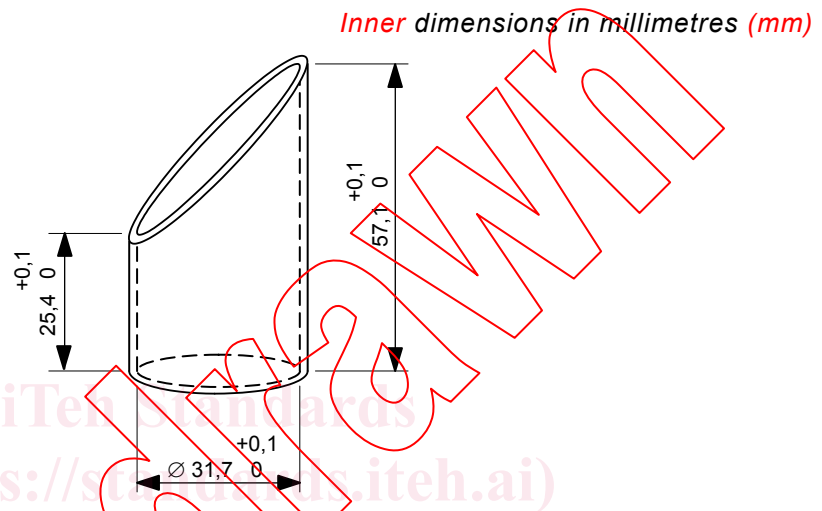
test designed to measure the service output of a battery

Note 1 to entry: A service output test may be prescribed, for example, when

- a) an application test is too complex to replicate;
- b) the duration of an application test would make it impractical for routine testing purposes.

**3.20****small battery**

cell or battery fitting **entirely** within the limits of the truncated cylinder as defined in Figure 1



**Figure 1 – ~~Small cell or battery gauge (inner dimensions)~~ Ingestion gauge**

**3.21****storage life**

duration under specified conditions at the end of which a battery retains its ability to perform a specified service output

[SOURCE:IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-03-47, modified ("function" replaced by "service output")]

**3.22****terminals** (of a primary battery)

conductive parts ~~provided for the connection~~ of a battery that provide connection to an external ~~conductors circuit~~

**4 Requirements****4.1 General****4.1.1 Design**

Primary batteries are sold mainly in consumer markets. In recent years, they have become more sophisticated in both chemistry and construction, for example both capacity and rate capability have increased to meet the growing demands from new, battery-powered equipment technology.

When designing primary batteries, the aforementioned considerations shall be taken into account. Specifically, their dimensional conformity and stability, their physical and electrical performance and their safe operation under normal use and foreseeable mis-use conditions shall be assured.

Additional information on equipment design can be found in Annex B.

#### 4.1.2 Battery dimensions

The dimensions for individual types of batteries are given in IEC 60086-2 and IEC 60086-3.

#### 4.1.3 Terminals

##### 4.1.3.1 General

Terminals shall be in accordance with Clause 6 of IEC 60086-2:-.

Their physical shape shall be designed in such a way that they ensure that the batteries make and maintain good electrical contact at all times.

They shall be made of materials that provide ~~adequate~~ good electrical conductivity and ~~resistance to corrosion~~ protection.

##### 4.1.3.2 Contact pressure resistance

Where stated in the battery specification tables or the individual specification sheets in IEC 60086-2, the following applies:

- a force of 10 N applied through a steel ball of 1 mm diameter at the centre of each contact area for a period of 10 s shall not cause any apparent deformation which might prevent satisfactory operation of the battery.

NOTE See also IEC 60086-3 for exceptions.

##### 4.1.3.3 Cap and base

This type of terminal is used for batteries which have their dimensions specified according to Figures 1 ~~and 2~~ to 7 of IEC 60086-2:- and which have the cylindrical side of the battery insulated from the terminals.

##### 4.1.3.4 Cap and case

This type of terminal is used for batteries which have their dimensions specified according to Figures ~~3 and 4~~ 8, 9, 10, 14, 15 and 16 of IEC 60086-2:-, but in which the cylindrical side of the battery forms part of the positive terminal.

##### 4.1.3.5 Screw terminals

This contact consists of a threaded rod in combination with either a metal or insulated metal nut.

##### 4.1.3.6 Flat contacts

These are essentially flat metal surfaces adapted to make electrical contact by suitable contact mechanisms bearing against them.

##### 4.1.3.7 Flat or spiral springs

These contacts comprise flat metal strips or spirally wound wires which are in a form that provides pressure contact.

##### 4.1.3.8 Plug-in-sockets

These are made up of a suitable assembly of metal contacts, mounted in an insulated housing or holding device and adapted to receive corresponding pins of a mating plug.