

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

Printed electronics –  
Part 101: Terminology – Vocabulary

**STANDARD PREVIEW**  
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IEC 62899-101:2019

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INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

## PRINTED ELECTRONICS –

## Part 101: Terminology – Vocabulary

## FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 62899-101 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 119: Printed Electronics.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

| FDIS         | Report on voting |
|--------------|------------------|
| 119/279/FDIS | 119/285/RVD      |

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

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

A list of all parts in the IEC 62899 series, published under the general title *Printed electronics*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document 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- withdrawn,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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## INTRODUCTION

Due to the trend towards a globalized, technological and connected society, there is a rising demand for a new breed of technologies enabling low-priced, flexible and new-concept products. Some conventional technologies (including silicon-based microelectronics) have reached their limits due to their high fabrication costs and environmental issues. Armed with new printing technologies and innovative materials, printed electronics has recently emerged as a promising environmentally friendly alternative route for producing electronic products at low cost and with new possibilities of such creative technologies as flexible electronics. Currently, this technology is beginning to be used in the manufacturing of products such as sensors, photovoltaic devices, signage, RFID, batteries, lighting devices, and some parts of display devices, where cost, flexibility and recycling are critical issues.

For successful industrialization of printed electronics, not only the reliability and repeatability in equipment and processes should be provided under global standardization, but also the harmonization of terminology and definitions is a key element for a successful transition of printed electronics to the market.

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# PRINTED ELECTRONICS –

## Part 101: Terminology – Vocabulary

### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 62899 defines terms used in the field of printed electronics, addressing topics including, but not limited to, materials, printing processes, and print characterization. It focuses on terms that are of particular importance to printed devices. Therefore, terms that are already defined in relation to conventional electronics materials, processes, devices, components or systems that can be used in the field of printed electronics without alteration are not included in this document. Similarly, established terms and definitions in relation to printing technology that apply to the field of printed electronics are not included.

Definitions in this document are the primary reference for printed electronics terminology.

### 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

### 3 Terms and definitions

(standards.iteh.ai)

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

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

#### 3.1

##### 1-d qualification feature

feature that is qualified by single directional parameters

#### 3.2

##### 2-d qualification feature

feature that is qualified by area-based qualification parameters

#### 3.3

##### 4-probe measurement

method to measure the resistance of a material while eliminating lead and contact resistance from the measurement result by employing separate pairs of current-carrying and voltage-sensing electrodes

#### 3.4

##### annealing

<metals> treatment that alters the microstructure of a metal, causing changes in properties such as strength and hardness, in order to induce ductility and to relieve internal stresses

**3.5****annealing**

<polymers and plastics> treatment that alters the microstructure of a polymer or plastics, causing changes in properties in order to improve strength and hardness, to reduce internal stresses related to the polymer or plastics structure

**3.6****annealing**

<printed functional material> treatment that can be used to enhance the electrical performance (i.e., to reduce the electrical resistance) of a printed functional material

**3.7****arc plasma heating**

arc heating utilizing disposable graphite electrodes which generate an arc plasma between the material and electrode, thus transferring the energy to the material

Note 1 to entry: Arc plasma heating captures the arc plasma with a nozzle or gas flow. It can offer higher orientation and higher temperature than does normal arc heating.

**3.8****area gain**

area of the actual feature that lies outside the nominal feature contour

**3.9****area loss**

non-printed area of the nominal feature

**3.10****basic pattern**

set of two-dimensional figures for inspecting the reproducibility of printed patterns, consisting of the evaluation pattern and alignment marks used for accurate positioning of the substrate with respect to the printing apparatus

**3.11****bending radius**

radius of the curved area in the sample

**3.12****bending test**

deformation test by application of external stress perpendicular to the plane of a printed element

**3.13****blade coating**

use of a metal blade offset from the substrate to deposit a material onto the substrate

**3.14****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, modified – Note omitted.]

**3.15****chip**

<glass substrates> form of damage in which a small piece of glass has come off the glass surface, for example as a result of impact from a hard object

### 3.16

#### **conductive film**

substrate (sheet or roll) coated with a conductive layer

### 3.17

#### **conductive ink**

fluid in which chemical precursors, polymers, or particles are dissolved or dispersed

Note 1 to entry: Conductive ink becomes an electrically conductive layer after post treatment.

### 3.18

#### **conductive layer**

film-like electrically conductive body made of conductive ink which is printed or coated on a substrate, followed as necessary by post treatment such as heating

### 3.19

#### **conductive material**

ingredient of a printing or coating material, which itself is electrically conductive or becomes electrically conductive by post treatment such as heating

### 3.20

#### **contact heating**

heating process during which a hot object comes in direct contact with materials

### 3.21

#### **contact printing**

printing process that transfers an image from a suitable medium to base materials

### 3.22

#### **corner rounding**

deviation of an actual feature corner from its nominal shape

### 3.23

#### **crack**

<glass substrates> line on the surface of a substrate (e.g. glass) along which it has split without breaking apart

### 3.24

#### **critical dimension**

dimension of a geometrical feature (width of interconnect line, contacts, trenches, etc.) which can be formed during electronic device/circuit manufacturing and can be of interest for further qualification

### 3.25

#### **cross direction**

direction at right angles to the machine direction of a substrate

### 3.26

#### **cross-sectional qualification feature**

feature which can be qualified by cross-sectional qualification parameters

### 3.27

#### **curing**

process during which volatile components evaporate and/or materials undergo chemical reactions to form a continuous bulk material

**3.28****cylinder printing**

image transfer process in which a substrate and silk screen are indexed across the surface of a rotating cylinder

Note 1 to entry: When printing sheet substrates, the sheet is fixed to the surface of a cylindrical suction roller, and the sheet is printed as the cylinder rotates. The screen mask is the same format as that used for flatbed printing.

**3.29****dielectric heating**

microwave heating

HF heating

electric heating in which the heat is generated in dielectric and semiconducting loads, under the action of high frequency electric field of a frequency range from 1 MHz to 300 MHz

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-841:2004, 841-28-01, modified – the two terms "microwave heating" and "HF heating" have been added.]

**3.30****dielectric strength**

maximum electric field an electrically insulating material can sustain without experiencing failure of its insulating properties

Note 1 to entry: Dielectric strength is determined by measuring the minimum applied voltage that results in breakdown (breakdown voltage) and dividing it by the electrode separation distance at the moment of breakdown. Due to possible changes in specimen thickness during the measurement of dielectric strength, alternatively the breakdown voltage and the initial thickness may be specified.

**3.31****dispersion**

<inks for printed electronics> system consisting of two or more phases one of which is continuous and at least one other is finely dispersed

[SOURCE: ISO 862:1984, 17]

**3.32****double-flash mode**

mode of inkjet drop analysis where LED or high-power light is quickly flashed twice per jetting event, thereby capturing the same individual drop in two different locations within the camera field of view

**3.33****drop analysis**

<inkjet printing> method of visualizing or quantifying the motion, trajectory or substrate impact of droplets ejected from an inkjet print head

**3.34****drop analysis system**

<inkjet printing> imaging-based equipment that can visualize or quantify the motion of inkjet droplets

**3.35****drop delivery speed**

total distance between the inkjet print-head nozzle plate and the substrate, divided by the time interval between jet triggering and drop arrival