SC 31G/IEC 60079-11 (2011), sixth edition/I-SH 01

EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

Part 11: Equipment protection by intrinsic safety "i"

INTERPRETATION SHEET 1

This interpretation sheet has been prepared by subcommittee 31G: Equipment for explosive atmospheres – Equipment protection by intrinsic safety "i", of IEC technical committee 31.

The text of this interpretation sheet is based on the following documents:

ISH	Report on voting
31G/235/ISH	31G/238/RVISH

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

Following decision No 16 of the TC 31 meeting in Melbourne in 2011, the issuing of an Interpretation Sheet for IEC 60079-11:2011 (6th edition) was requested, in order to clarify the significance of the changes with respect to the 5th edition.

Question

What are the minor editorial, extensions, and major technical changes of the 6th edition with respect to the 5th edition?

Answer

The following table shows the significance of the changes.

The significance of the changes between IEC Standard, IEC 60079-11, Edition 5, 2006-07 and IEC 60079-11, Edition 6, 2011-06 are as listed below

Significance of changes with respect to IEC 60079-11:2006

		Type		
Significant Changes	**Clause**	**Minor and editorial changes**	**Extension**	**Major technical changes**
General: Changes to remove specific clause references to other IEC 60079 standards	General	x		
Scope: Expansion to include Group III	1		x	
Scope: Table 1 updated to include references to both IEC 60079-0 Edition 5 and Edition 6	1		x	
Normative references: Deletion of IEC 60079-27, and addition of IEC 61158-2 and IEC 62013-1	2	x		
Terms and definitions: Commonly used definitions moved to IEC 60079-0. Energy limitation definitions moved from IEC 60079-0.New definitions added	3	x		
Spark ignition compliance: Group III ignition requirements added	5.5		x	
Temperature for small components for Group I and Group II: Relocated to IEC 60079-0	5.6.2	x		
Intrinsically safe apparatus and component temperature for Group III	5.6.5		x	
Enclosures for Group I or Group II apparatus	6.1.2	x		
Apparatus complying with Annex F	6.1.2.3 c)	x		
Enclosures for Group III apparatus	6.1.3		x	
Requirements for connections and accessories for IS apparatus when located in the non-hazardous area	6.2.5			C1
Separation of conductive parts	6.3.2	x		
Encapsulation	6.6.1	x		
Encapsulation used for the exclusion of explosive atmospheres	6.6.2			C2
Primary and secondary cells and batteries	7.4.1		x	
Battery construction	7.4.2		x	
Level of Protection “ic”	8.1	x		
Filter capacitors	8.6.2		x	
Wiring, printed circuit board tracks, and connections	8.8 c)	x		
FISCO apparatus	9.2		x	
Handlights and caplights	9.3		x	
Circuits with both inductance and capacitance	10.1.5.2	x		
Electrolyte leakage test for cells and batteries	10.5.2	x		
Spark ignition and surface temperature of cells and batteries	10.5.3	x		
Determination of the acceptability of fuses requiring encapsulation	10.6.2		x	
Optical isolators tests	10.11		x	
Marking	12.1	x		
Encapsulation	Annex D			C2
Fieldbus intrinsically safe concept (FISCO) – Apparatus requirements	Annex G		x	
Ignition testing of semiconductor limiting power supply circuits	Annex H		x	

Explanation of the Types of Significant Changes:

A) Definitions

1. Minor and editorial changes:

- Clarification
- Decrease of technical requirements
- Minor technical change
- Editorial corrections

These are changes which modify requirements in an editorial or a minor technical way. They include changes of the wording to clarify technical requirements without any technical change, or a reduction in level of existing requirement.

2. Extension: Addition of technical options

These are changes which add new or modify existing technical requirements, in a way that new options are given, but without increasing requirements for equipment that was fully compliant with the previous standard. Therefore, these will not have to be considered for products in conformity with the preceding edition.

3. Major technical changes:

- addition of technical requirements
- increase of technical requirements

These are changes to technical requirements (addition, increase of the level or removal) made in a way that a product in conformity with the preceding edition will not always be able to fulfil the requirements given in the later edition. These changes have to be considered for products in conformity with the preceding edition. For these changes additional information is provided in clause B) below.

NOTE These changes represent current technological knowledge. However, these changes should not normally have an influence on equipment already placed on the market.

B) Information about the background of 'Major technical changes'

C1 – Requirements for external connections, other than battery charging connections, that are designed for use only when an explosive gas or dust atmosphere is not present, for example when in a non-hazardous area or when a gas-free permit is in force, have been added.

C2 – The requirements for encapsulation referenced in 6.6.2 and detailed in Annex D have been changed in terms of the thickness to the free surface and are extended related to moulding. Annex D is changed from informative to normative.