

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Protection against lightning –  
Part 2: Risk management**

**Protection contre la foudre –  
Partie 2: Évaluation des risques**

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## PROTECTION AGAINST LIGHTNING –

### Part 2: Risk management

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IEC 62305-2 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 81: Lightning protection. It is an International Standard.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition, published in 2010. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) The concept of a single risk, to combine loss of human life and loss due to fire, has been introduced.
- b) The concept of frequency of damage that can impair the availability of the internal systems within the structure has been introduced.

- c) The lightning ground strike-point density  $N_{SG}$  has been introduced replacing the lightning flash density  $N_G$  in the evaluation of expected average annual number of dangerous events.
- d) Reduction of a few risk components can be achieved by the use of preventive temporary measures activated by means of a thunderstorm warning system (TWS) compliant with IEC 62793. The risk of direct strike to people in open areas has been introduced, considering the reduction of that risk using a TWS.

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

Draft	Report on voting
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Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/publications](http://www.iec.ch/publications).

A list of all parts in the IEC 62305 series, published under the general title *Protection against lightning*, can be found on the IEC website.

The following differing practices of a less permanent nature exist in the countries indicated below.

In Germany, the value of  $r_p = 1$  applies for all cases. For the risk components  $R_B$ ,  $R_C$ ,  $R_M$ ,  $R_V$ ,  $R_W$  and  $R_Z$   $P_{TWS} = 1$  is assumed. For LF1 and LF2 the highest values given in Table C.2 should be used.

In Greece, the value of  $P_{TWS} = 1$  for all cases is assumed.

In Italy, calculating both the risk of loss of human life, RL1 in Equation (7), and the risk of loss due to physical damages, RL2 in Equation (8), and comparing each risk with the tolerable risk is required. Protection is achieved when both risks, RL1 and RL2, are less than the tolerable value.

In the Netherlands and South Africa, Annex D and Annex E should not be applied for usual studies.

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## INTRODUCTION

Lightning flashes to earth can be hazardous to structures and to lines supplying the structure.

These hazards can result in:

- damage to the structure and to its contents,
- failure of associated electrical and electronic systems,
- injury to living beings in or close to the structure.

Consequential effects of the damage and failures can be extended to the surroundings of the structure or can involve its environment. Moreover, regardless of the extent of loss, the availability of the structure and its internal systems can be unacceptably impaired if the frequency of damage is high.

To reduce the frequency of damage and the loss due to lightning, protection measures can be required. Whether they are necessary, and to what extent, should be determined by frequency of damage and risk assessment.

NOTE 1 The decision to provide lightning protection can be taken regardless of the outcome of frequency of damage or risk assessment where there is a desire that there be no avoidable damages.

NOTE 2 IEC 60364-4-44 [1]<sup>1</sup> always requires the installation of a surge protective device (SPD) at the power line entrance in the structure when the consequence caused by overvoltages affects:

- care of human life, e.g. safety services, medical care facilities,
- public services and cultural heritage, e.g. loss of public services, IT centres, museums,
- commercial or industrial activity, e.g. hotels, banks, industries, commercial markets, farms.

The frequency of damage, defined in this document as the annual number of damages in a structure due to lightning flashes, depends on:

- the annual number of lightning flashes influencing the structure;

– the probability of damaging events by one of the influencing lightning flashes.

The risk, defined in this document as the probable average annual loss in a structure due to lightning flashes, depends on:

- the frequency of damage;
- the mean extent of consequential loss.

Lightning flashes influencing the structure can be divided into

- flashes terminating on the structure,
- flashes terminating near the structure, directly to connected lines (power, telecommunication lines) or near the lines.

Flashes to the structure or a connected line can cause physical damage and life hazards. Flashes near the structure or line as well as flashes to the structure or line can cause failure of electrical and electronic systems due to overvoltages resulting from resistive and inductive coupling of these systems with the lightning current.

Moreover, failures caused by lightning overvoltages in users' installations and in power supply lines can also generate voltage switching overvoltages in the installations.

NOTE 3 Malfunctioning of electrical and electronic systems is not covered by the IEC 62305 series. Reference is made to IEC 61000-4-5 [2].

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<sup>1</sup> Numbers in square brackets refer to the Bibliography.

The number of lightning flashes influencing the structure depends on the dimensions, the characteristics of the structure and the connected lines, on the environmental characteristics of the structure and the lines, as well as on lightning ground strike-point density in the region where the structure and the lines are located. Guidance on the assessment of the number of lightning flashes influencing the structure is given in Annex A.

The probability of damage depends on the structure, the resistibility of equipment located on the structure, the connected lines, and the lightning current characteristics, as well as on the type and efficiency of the protection measures applied. Guidance on the assessment of probability of damage is given in Annex B.

The annual mean extent of the consequential loss depends on the extent of damage and the consequential effects which can occur as a result of a lightning flash. Guidance on the assessment of consequential loss is given in Annex C.

The effect of protection measures results from the characteristics of each protection measure and can reduce the damage probabilities.

NOTE 4 It is assumed that protective provisions are realized in the necessary quality.

The protection measures are intended to comply with the IEC 62305 series, the IEC 61643 series and IEC 62793, as applicable.

NOTE 5 For complex structures (such as petrochemical plants, large industrial plants) the factors reported in the annexes of this document can require more detailed evaluation of the characteristics of the structure.

National or local regulations can provide guidance or minimum requirements on the application of this document. This includes fixing the values for the tolerable risk  $R_T$  and the tolerable frequency of damage  $F_T$ , and the calculation rules and parameter values given in Annex A, Annex B, Annex C and Annex E.

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