
Elektrostatika - 4-4. del: Standardne preskusne metode za posebne aplikacije - Elektrostatična razvrstitev prožnih vmesnih vsebnikov (FIBC)

Electrostatics - Part 4-4: Standard test methods for specific applications - Electrostatic classification of flexible intermediate bulk containers (FIBC)

Elektrostatik - Teil 4-4: Normprüfverfahren für spezielle Anwendungen - Einordnung flexibler Schüttgutbehälter (FIBC) in elektrostatischer Hinsicht

Electrostatique - Partie 4-4: Méthodes d'essai normalisées pour des applications spécifiques - Classification électrostatique des grands récipients pour vrac souples (GRVS)

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| 55.180.99 | Drugi standardi v zvezi z distribucijo blaga s prevozom | Other standards related to freight distribution of goods |

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English version

Electrostatics -
Part 4-4: Standard test methods for specific applications -
Electrostatic classification of flexible intermediate bulk containers (FIBC)
(IEC 61340-4-4:2012)

Electrostatique -
Partie 4-4: Méthodes d'essai normalisées
pour des applications spécifiques -
Classification électrostatique des grands
récipients pour vrac souples (GRVS)
(CEI 61340-4-4:2012)

Elektrostatik -
Teil 4-4: Normprüfverfahren für spezielle
Anwendungen -
Einordnung flexibler Schüttgutbehälter
(FIBC) in elektrostatischer Hinsicht
(IEC 61340-4-4:2012)

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European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

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Foreword

The text of document 101/346/FDIS, future edition 2 of IEC 61340-4-4, prepared by IEC TC 101, "Electrostatics" was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN 61340-4-4:2012.

The following dates are fixed:

- latest date by which the document has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2012-11-22
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the document have to be withdrawn (dow) 2015-02-22

This document supersedes EN 61340-4-4:2005.

EN 61340-4-4:2012 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to EN 61340-4-4:2005:

- a) Adoption of a type classification system for FIBC based on four types: A, B, C and D.
- b) Guidance for safe use of FIBC in relation to hazardous areas and hazardous zones defined in EN 60079-10-1 and EN 60079-10-2 is added.
- c) Resistance to groundable points and electrical breakdown voltage measurements on FIBC shall be measured at low humidity only.
- d) Requirements for labelling FIBC are changed to improve clarity and ease of recognition by end users.
- e) Classification, performance requirements and guidance for safe use of inner liners in combination with FIBC are added.
- f) An informative annex giving guidance on test methods for quality control and inspection testing is added.

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Endorsement notice

The text of the International Standard IEC 61340-4-4:2012 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

In the official version, for Bibliography, the following note has to be added for the standard indicated:

IEC 61340-2-1 NOTE Harmonized as EN 61340-2-1.

Annex ZA (normative)

Normative references to international publications with their corresponding European publications

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.

NOTE When an international publication has been modified by common modifications, indicated by (mod), the relevant EN/HD applies.

| <u>Publication</u> | <u>Year</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>EN/HD</u> | <u>Year</u> |
|--------------------|---------------|--|---------------|-------------|
| IEC 60079-10-1 | - | Explosive atmospheres - Part 10-1: Classification of areas - Explosive gas atmospheres | EN 60079-10-1 | - |
| IEC 60079-10-2 | - | Explosive atmospheres - Part 10-2: Classification of areas - Combustible dust atmospheres | EN 60079-10-2 | - |
| IEC 60243-1 | 1998 | Electrical strength of insulating materials - Test methods - Part 1: Tests at power frequencies | EN 60243-1 | 1998 |
| IEC 60243-2 | - | Electric strength of insulating materials - Test methods - Part 2: Additional requirements for tests using direct voltage | EN 60243-2 | - |
| IEC 60417 | Data- base | Graphical symbols for use on equipment | - | - |
| IEC 61241-2-3 | - | Electrical apparatus for use in the presence of - combustible dust - Part 2: Test methods - Section 3: Method for determining minimum ignition energy of dust/air mixtures | - | - |
| IEC 61340-2-3 | - | Electrostatics - Part 2-3: Methods of test for determining the resistance and resistivity of solid planar materials used to avoid electrostatic charge accumulation | EN 61340-2-3 | - |
| ISO 7000 | 2004 | Graphical symbols for use on equipment - Index and synopsis | - | - |
| ISO 21898 | - | Packaging - Flexible intermediate bulk containers (FIBCs) for non-dangerous goods | EN ISO 21898 | - |
| ASTM E582 | - | Standard test method for minimum ignition energy and quenching distance in gaseous mixtures | - | - |

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Electrostatics – iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW
Part 4-4: Standard test methods for specific applications – Electrostatic
classification of flexible intermediate bulk containers (FIBC)

Électrostatique –
Partie 4-4: Méthodes d'essai normalisées pour des applications spécifiques –
Classification électrostatique des grands récipients pour vrac souples (GRVS)

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

ELECTROSTATICS –

**Part 4-4: Standard test methods for specific applications –
Electrostatic classification of flexible intermediate bulk containers (FIBC)**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61340-4-4 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 101: Electrostatics, in cooperation with ISO subcommittee 3: Performance requirements and tests for means of packaging, packages and unit loads, of ISO technical committee 122: Packaging.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition, published in 2005, and constitutes a technical revision.

The main changes with respect to the first edition are listed below:

- a) Adoption of a type classification system for FIBC based on four types: A, B, C and D.
- b) Guidance for safe use of FIBC in relation to hazardous areas and hazardous zones defined in IEC 60079-10-1 and IEC 60079-10-2 is added.
- c) Resistance to groundable points and electrical breakdown voltage measurements on FIBC shall be measured at low humidity only.

- d) Requirements for labelling FIBC are changed to improve clarity and ease of recognition by end users.
- e) Classification, performance requirements and guidance for safe use of inner liners in combination with FIBC are added.
- f) An informative annex giving guidance on test methods for quality control and inspection testing is added.

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

| FDIS | Report on voting |
|--------------|------------------|
| 101/346/FDIS | 101/353/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 the parts in the IEC 61340 series, published under the general title *Electrostatics*, 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 web site under "http://webstore.iec.ch" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed,
 - withdrawn,
 - replaced by a revised edition, or
 - amended.
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IMPORTANT – The 'colour inside' logo on the cover page of this publication indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this document using a colour printer.

INTRODUCTION

Flexible intermediate bulk containers (FIBC) are widely used for the storage, transportation and handling of powdered, flaked or granular material. Typically, they are constructed from woven polypropylene fabric in the form of cubic bags of about 1 m³ volume, although they can vary in shape and in size from 0,25 m³ to 3 m³. The fabric used may be a single layer, a multi-layer laminate, or a coated fabric. Untreated polypropylene is an electrical insulator, as is often the case with the products placed in FIBC. There is ample opportunity for the generation of electrostatic charge during filling and emptying operations and in unprotected FIBC high levels of charge can quickly build up. In such cases, electrostatic discharges are inevitable and can be a severe problem when FIBC are used in hazardous explosive atmospheres.

A hazardous explosive atmosphere can be generated when handling fine powders that create dust clouds or thin layers of powder, both of which can be ignited by electrostatic discharges. A hazardous explosive atmosphere can also be generated when using gases or volatile solvents. In these industrial situations there is clearly a need to eliminate incendive electrostatic discharges.

As with any industrial equipment, a thorough risk assessment should always be conducted before using FIBC in potentially hazardous situations. This part of IEC 61340 describes a system of classification, test methods, performance and design requirements and safe use procedures that can be used by manufacturers, specifiers and end-users as part of a risk assessment of any FIBC intended for use within a hazardous explosive atmosphere. However, it does not include procedures for evaluating the specific risks of electrostatic discharges arising from products within FIBC, e.g. cone discharges, from personnel or from equipment used near FIBC. Information on risks associated with cone discharges is given in Annex E.

CAUTION: The test methods specified in this standard involve the use of high voltage power supplies and flammable gases that may present hazards if handled incorrectly, particularly by unqualified or inexperienced personnel. Users of this standard are encouraged to carry out proper risk assessments and pay due regard to local regulations before undertaking any of the test procedures.

ELECTROSTATICS –

Part 4-4: Standard test methods for specific applications – Electrostatic classification of flexible intermediate bulk containers (FIBC)

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61340 specifies requirements for flexible intermediate bulk containers (FIBC) between 0,25 m³ and 3 m³ in volume, intended for use in hazardous explosive atmospheres. The explosive atmosphere may be created by the contents in the FIBC or may exist outside the FIBC.

The requirements include:

- classification and labelling of FIBC;
- classification of inner liners;
- specification of test methods for each type of FIBC and inner liner;
- design and performance requirements for FIBC and inner liners;
- safe use of FIBC (including those with inner liners) within different zones defined for explosion endangered environments, described for areas where combustible dusts are, or may be, present (IEC 60079-10-2), and for explosive gas atmospheres (IEC 60079-10-1);
- procedures for type qualification and certification of FIBC, including the safe use of inner liners.

NOTE 1 Guidance on test methods that may be used for manufacturing quality control is given in Annex C.

The requirements of this standard are applicable to all types of FIBC and inner liners, tested as manufactured, prior to use and intended for use in hazardous explosive atmospheres: Zones 1 and 2 (Groups IIA and IIB only) and Zones 21 and 22 (see Annex D for classification of hazardous areas and explosion groups). For some types of FIBC, the requirements of this standard apply only to use in hazardous explosive atmospheres with minimum ignition energy of 0,14 mJ or greater and where charging currents do not exceed 3,0 µA.

NOTE 2 0,14 mJ is the minimum ignition energy of a typical Group IIB gas or vapour. Although more sensitive materials exist, 0,14 mJ is the lowest minimum ignition energy of any material that is likely to be present when FIBC are emptied. 3,0 µA is the highest charging current likely to be found in common industrial processes. This combination of minimum ignition energy and charging current represents the most severe conditions that might be expected in practice.

Compliance with the requirements specified in this standard does not necessarily ensure that hazardous electrostatic discharges, e.g. cone discharges, will not be generated by the contents in FIBC. Information on the risks associated with cone discharges is given in Annex E.

Compliance with the requirements of this standard does not mitigate the need for full risk assessment. For example, metal and other conductive powders and toner powders may require additional precautions to prevent hazardous discharges from the powders.

NOTE 3 In the examples mentioned in the paragraph above, additional precautions may be necessary in the case of metal or other conductive powder because if the powder is isolated and becomes charged, incendiary sparks may occur, and in the case of toner powders, incendiary discharges may occur during rapid filling and emptying operations. Future IEC/TS 60079-32 [1]¹ gives guidance on additional precautions that may be necessary.

¹ Figures in square brackets refer to the bibliography.