
**Petroleum and natural gas industries —
Drilling and production equipment —**

**Part 1:
Electric submersible pump systems
for artificial lift**

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*Industries du pétrole et du gaz naturel — Équipement de forage et
de production —
Partie 1: Systèmes électriques de pompes submersibles pour
l'ascension artificielle*

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Contents

	Page
Foreword	vi
Introduction	vii
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	2
4 Symbols and abbreviated terms	13
5 Functional specification	16
5.1 General.....	16
5.2 Component type.....	16
5.3 Functional requirements.....	16
5.3.1 General.....	16
5.3.2 Application parameters.....	16
5.3.3 Environmental compatibility.....	18
5.3.4 Compatibility with related well equipment and services.....	19
5.4 User/purchaser selections.....	20
5.4.1 General.....	20
5.4.2 Design validation.....	20
5.4.3 Component functional evaluation.....	20
5.4.4 Quality grades.....	20
5.4.5 Shipping, handling, and storage.....	21
5.4.6 Additional documentation or requirements.....	21
6 Technical specification	21
6.1 General.....	21
6.2 Design criteria.....	22
6.2.1 General.....	22
6.2.2 Design documentation.....	22
6.2.3 Materials.....	22
6.2.4 Dimensional information.....	25
6.2.5 Component and assembled system design verification.....	26
6.2.6 Component design validation.....	26
6.2.7 Component functional evaluation requirements.....	26
6.2.8 Assembled system functional evaluation.....	26
6.2.9 Design changes.....	26
6.3 Technical specification — All components.....	26
6.3.1 Technical characteristics.....	26
6.3.2 Performance rating.....	27
6.4 Technical specification — Bolt-on discharge.....	27
6.4.1 General.....	27
6.4.2 Technical characteristics for the discharge.....	27
6.4.3 Performance ratings.....	27
6.4.4 Scaling of design validation.....	27
6.5 Technical specification — Pump and gas handler.....	27
6.5.1 General.....	27
6.5.2 Technical characteristics for the pump and gas handler.....	27
6.5.3 Performance ratings.....	28
6.5.4 Scaling of design validation.....	28
6.6 Technical specification — Bolt-on intake.....	28
6.6.1 General.....	28
6.6.2 Technical characteristics for the intake.....	28
6.6.3 Performance ratings.....	28
6.6.4 Scaling of design validation.....	28
6.7 Technical specification — Mechanical gas separators.....	29

6.7.1	General.....	29
6.7.2	Technical characteristics.....	29
6.7.3	Performance ratings.....	29
6.7.4	Scaling of design validation.....	29
6.8	Technical specification — Seal chamber sections.....	29
6.8.1	General.....	29
6.8.2	Technical characteristics.....	29
6.8.3	Performance ratings.....	29
6.8.4	Scaling of design validation.....	30
6.8.5	Horsepower requirement.....	30
6.9	Technical specification — Motors.....	30
6.9.1	General.....	30
6.9.2	Technical characteristics.....	30
6.9.3	Performance ratings.....	30
6.9.4	Scaling of design validation.....	31
6.10	Technical specifications — Power and motor lead extension cable.....	31
6.10.1	General.....	31
6.10.2	Technical characteristics.....	31
6.10.3	Performance ratings.....	31
6.10.4	Scaling of design validation.....	31
6.11	Technical specifications — Pothead.....	32
6.11.1	General.....	32
6.11.2	Technical characteristics.....	32
6.11.3	Performance ratings.....	32
6.11.4	Scaling of design validation.....	32
6.12	Assembled ESP system.....	32
6.12.1	General.....	32
6.12.2	Technical characteristics.....	33
6.12.3	System capabilities.....	33
7	Supplier/manufacturer requirements.....	34
7.1	General.....	34
7.2	Documentation and data control.....	34
7.2.1	General.....	34
7.2.2	Delivery documentation.....	34
7.2.3	Operator's manual.....	35
7.2.4	Certificate of compliance.....	35
7.2.5	Component data sheet.....	35
7.3	Component identification.....	38
7.3.1	Permanent identification.....	38
7.3.2	Semi-permanent identification.....	38
7.4	Quality.....	39
7.4.1	General.....	39
7.4.2	Quality grade requirements.....	39
7.5	Raw materials.....	40
7.6	Additional processes applied to components.....	41
7.6.1	Documentation.....	41
7.6.2	Coatings and surface treatments.....	41
7.6.3	Welding.....	41
7.6.4	Heat treating.....	41
7.7	Traceability.....	41
7.8	Calibration systems.....	42
7.9	Examination and inspection.....	42
7.9.1	General.....	42
7.9.2	Weld.....	42
7.9.3	Component and subcomponent dimensional inspection.....	43
7.9.4	Construction features.....	43
7.10	Manufacturing non-conformance.....	44
7.11	Component functional testing.....	44

8	Repair/redress	44
9	Shipping, handling, and storage	44
	9.1 General.....	44
	9.2 Storage.....	45
	Annex A (normative) Design validation performance rating requirements by component	46
	Annex B (normative) Requirements for determining performance ratings as an assembled system	74
	Annex C (normative) Functional evaluation: single component	77
	Annex D (normative) Cable reference information	85
	Annex E (informative) Functional evaluation guideline — Assembled ESP system	91
	Annex F (informative) Establishing recommended operating range (ROR) of ESP system	93
	Annex G (informative) Example user/purchaser ESP functional specification form	95
	Annex H (informative) Considerations for use of 3-phase low and medium voltage adjustable speed drives for ESP applications	99
	Annex I (informative) Analysis after ESP use	105
	Annex J (informative) Downhole monitoring of ESP assembly	117
	Annex K (informative) Information on permanent magnet motors for ESP applications	119
	Bibliography	121

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see the following URL: [Foreword — Supplementary information](#).

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 67, *Materials, equipment and offshore structures for petroleum, petrochemical and natural gas industries*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Drilling and production equipment*.

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Introduction

This part of ISO 15551 has been developed by users/purchasers and suppliers/manufacturers of electric submersible pumps and is intended for use in the petroleum and natural gas industry worldwide. This part of ISO 15551 provides requirements and information to both parties in the selection, manufacturing, testing, and use of electric submersible pumps as defined in the scope. Further, this part of ISO 15551 addresses supplier requirements, which set the minimum parameters for claiming conformity with this International Standard.

This part of ISO 15551 provides grades of requirements for design validation, quality control, and functional evaluations allowing the user/purchaser to select each for a specific application. There are two grades of design validation, three grades of quality control, and up to three grades of functional testing, depending on the component. Design validation grade V2 is restricted to legacy products, and the highest grade is V1. Quality control grade 3 is the standard grade and grades 2 and 1 provide additional requirements. Of the three functional evaluation grades, the lowest grade is the standard grade and higher grades provide additional requirements. The user/purchaser can specify requirements supplemental to these grades.

Users of this International Standard are informed that requirements above those outlined in this International Standard can be needed for individual applications. This International Standard is not intended to inhibit a supplier/manufacturer from offering, or the user/purchaser from accepting, alternative equipment or engineering solutions. This can be particularly applicable where there is innovative or developing technology.

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Petroleum and natural gas industries — Drilling and production equipment —

Part 1: Electric submersible pump systems for artificial lift

1 Scope

This part of ISO 15551 provides requirements for the design, design verification and validation, manufacturing and data control, performance ratings, functional evaluations, handling, and storage of tubing-deployed electrical submersible pump (ESP) systems as defined herein. This part of ISO 15551 is applicable to those components meeting the definition of centrifugal pumps including gas handling devices, discharge heads, seal chamber sections, intake systems, mechanical gas separators, induction motors (herein motor), shaft couplings, motor lead extension, pothead, and power cables, as defined herein. Components supplied under the requirements of this part of ISO 15551 exclude previously used subcomponents. Additionally, this International Standard provides requirements for assembled ESP systems.

This part of ISO 15551 includes normative annexes addressing design validation performance rating requirements by component, requirements for determining ratings as an assembled system, functional evaluation: single component and cable reference information.

This part of ISO 15551 includes informative annexes addressing functional evaluation guidelines for assembled ESP systems, establishing recommended operating range (ROR) of the ESP system, example user/purchaser ESP functional specification form, considerations for the use of 3-phase low and medium voltage adjustable speed drives for ESP applications, analysis after ESP use, downhole monitoring of ESP assembly operation, and information on permanent magnet motors for ESP applications.

Equipment not covered by this part of ISO 15551 includes wireline and coiled tubing-deployed ESP systems, motor and pump shrouds, electric penetrators and feed-through systems, cable clamps and banding, centralizers, intake screens, passive gas separators, by-pass tools, check and bleeder valves, component adaptors, capillary lines, electric surface equipment, downhole permanent magnet motors, and non-conventionally configured ESP systems such as inverted systems. Repair and redress equipment requirements are not covered in this part of ISO 15551.

The terminologies used within this part of ISO 15551 are; “ESP assembly” for a system of products combined into an operational machine, “component” for individual products such as, pumps or seal chamber sections, and “subcomponent” for individual parts or subassemblies that are used in the construction of an individual component.

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.

ISO 9712, *Non-destructive testing — Qualification and certification of NDT personnel*

ISO 29001, *Petroleum, petrochemical and natural gas industries — Sector-specific quality management systems — Requirements for product and service supply*

API RP 11S2, *Electric Submersible Pump Testing*

API RP 11S7, *Recommended Practice of Application and Testing of Electric Submersible Pump Seal Chamber Section*

API RP 11S8, *Practice on Electric Submersible Pump System Vibrations*

ASTM B3, *Standard Specification for Soft or Annealed Copper Wire*

ASTM B8, *Standard Specification for Concentric-Lay-Stranded Copper Conductors, Hard, Medium-Hard, or Soft*

ASTM B33, *Standard Specification for Tin Coated Soft or Annealed Copper Wire for Electrical Purposes*

ASTM B189, *Standard Specification for Lead-Coated and Lead-Alloy-Coated Soft Copper Wire for Electrical Purposes*

ASTM B193, *Standard Test Method for Resistivity of Electrical Conductor Materials*

ASTM B258, *Standard Specification for Standard Nominal Diameters and Cross-Sectional Areas of AWG Sizes of Solid Round Wires Used as Electrical Conductors*

ASTM B496, *Standard Specification for Compact-Round Concentric-Lay-Stranded Copper Conductors*

ASTM D471, *Rubber Property — Effect of Liquids, Test Method for*

ASTM E8, *Standard Test Methods for Tension Testing of Metallic Materials*

NEMA WC 53, *Standard Test Methods for Extruded Dielectric Power, Control, Instrumentation and Portable Cables for Test*

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3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following definitions shall apply. For quality system related terms used in this document and not defined below, see ISO 29001.

3.1 adapter

device used to connect components that are not directly compatible

3.2 adjustable speed drive

device which controls an electric motor's speed by manipulating the power frequency being supplied to the motor

Note 1 to entry: The term "adjustable speed drive" is interchangeable with other common industry names for this device such as "variable frequency drive" or "variable speed drive".

3.3 ampacity

maximum current that can pass through a power cable without exceeding its temperature limit for a specific operating environment

3.4 ampacity coefficient

temperature rise of the power cable divided by the square of the amperage for a specific operating environment

3.5 armor

outer covering to the power cable that can provide protection from mechanical damage and provides mechanical constraint against swelling or expansion of underlying materials on exposure to well fluids

3.6**assembled ESP system**

assembly of downhole equipment which includes some or all components as identified in this part of ISO 15551

3.7**auxiliary equipment**

equipment or components that are outside the scope of this part of ISO 15551 and are typically selected and/or installed by the user/purchaser

EXAMPLE Cable protectors, motor shrouds, by-pass tools, and electrical penetrators.

3.8**axial stage type**

type of stage with inlet and exit flow path essentially parallel to the shaft axis

3.9**bag****bladder****bellows**

flexible subcomponent of a seal chamber section that functions as a positive barrier that isolates the wellbore production fluid from the motor fluid

3.10**bag chamber****bladder chamber****bellows chamber**

chamber which houses the bag/bladder/bellows

3.11**barrier**

subcomponent of an ESP power cable that can be applied over the insulated conductors and provides fluid protection, hoop strength, or both

3.12**best efficiency point****BEP**

pump performance values at the flow rate where the pump efficiency is highest

3.13**bleeder valve**

valve placed above a check valve for the purpose of reducing pressure or draining the fluid from within the production tubing

3.14**braid**

supplementary layer of material used to provide mechanical performance characteristics to the power cable system such as hoop strength for gas decompression

3.15**bubble point**

pressure at which gas begins to break out of under-saturated oil/fluid and form a free gas phase

3.16**by-pass tool**

device that is installed into the wellbore along with the ESP assembly that divides the tubing system to permit the installation of additional tubing string parallel to the ESP

3.17**cable band**

metal band which is used to secure ESP power cable to production tubing

3.18

cable clamp

device, usually of rigid material, for strengthening or supporting power cable to production tubing

3.19

capillary line

independent tubing string commonly used for hydraulic control of safety valves and sliding sleeves or for chemical injection

Note 1 to entry: This device is also commonly referred to as a chemical injection line or control line.

3.20

casing

pipe extending from the surface and intended to line the walls of a drilled well

3.21

casing size

nominal casing outside diameter (od), mass (weight), inside diameter (id), and/or drift diameter as specified in ISO 11960

3.22

centralizers

device used to keep the ESP assembly or other downhole equipment in the centre of the tubing, casing, or wellbore

3.23

centrifugal pump

component of an ESP system that uses rotating impeller(s) to impart kinetic energy (velocity) by centrifugal force to a fluid and stationary diffusers to convert the kinetic energy to potential energy (pressure)

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3.24

chamber

subcomponent of the seal chamber section

ISO 15551-1:2015

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3.25

check valve

device that allows one-directional flow of fluid when a differential pressure exists

3.26

coefficient of determination

statistic used to determine the strength of a fit between a mathematical model and a set of observed data values

Note 1 to entry: The coefficient of determination is typically calculated using the following equation:

$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - y_i)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y}_i)^2}$$

3.27

coiled tubing

pipe typically supplied and installed in one continuous length and wound onto a reel or spool

3.28

coiled tubing deployed ESP

ESP system which is deployed into the wellbore using coiled tubing rather than by other deployment means such as jointed tubing or wireline

3.29**common hardware**

hardware that does not require traceability and is included as part of an ESP component

EXAMPLE Bolts, washers, screws, and snap rings.

3.30**compact stranded cable**

electrical conductor configuration in which a multiple-strand conductor has been compacted to reduce its circumference while maintaining conductor area

3.31**compression pump construction**

configuration where the impeller is fixed to the shaft to prevent axial movement

3.32**conductor**

subcomponent of the power cable that functions to conduct electrical power

3.33**conductor shield**

layer adjacent to the conductor to distribute voltage stress evenly over the surface of the conductor

3.34**configuration**

component designation that identifies the end connection designs for attaching additional components in series

EXAMPLE Upper tandem, lower tandem, middle/centre tandem, and single tandem.

3.35**contraction capacity**

volume that a chamber or set of parallel chambers can draw in due to temperature and pressure cycles without allowing wellbore fluid ingress through the chamber or causing damage

3.36**coupling**

device which connects the shafts of ESP components

3.37**deployment method****conveyance method**

method used to deploy the ESP downhole equipment to its setting location

3.38**design validation**

process of proving a design by testing to demonstrate conformity of the product to design requirements

3.39**design verification**

process of examining the premise of a given design by calculation, comparison, or investigation, to substantiate conformity with specified requirements

3.40**deviation survey**

measurement of a borehole's trajectory over the wellbore length for the purposes of ESP design and application

3.41**diffuser**

stationary stage segment of a centrifugal pump which converts the pumped fluid velocity (kinetic energy) to a pressure (potential energy)

3.42

discharge head

component on the output end of the pump for connecting to the production tubing

3.43

dogleg severity

total angular inclination and azimuth in the wellbore, casing or liner, calculated over a standard length such as degrees per 30 metres, or degrees per 100 feet

3.44

effective diameter

theoretical minimum diameter through which the assembled ESP system passes including installation of all required ESP ancillary equipment

3.45

efficiency

output work divided by input work

3.46

elastomer

polymer with the property of viscoelasticity (elasticity), generally having a low Young's modulus and a high yield strain

3.47

electric penetrator

electrical connector that functions to transition power cable and/or instrument wires through a sealing barrier

EXAMPLE Wellhead, wellbore packer, ESP pod, or canister.

3.48

electric surface control equipment

electrical equipment used to control the operation of the ESP assembly commonly referred to as an adjustable speed drive or switchboard

3.49

electromagnetic region

region of an induction motor relative to the cylindrical boundary defined by the outside diameter of the stator laminations, and the axial length which encompasses all the coiled wire of the stator

3.50

feed-through system

fixture which allows the passage of electricity from one side of a barrier to another while maintaining a seal of gas or liquid through the barrier

3.51

floating pump construction

configuration where the impeller is not fixed to the shaft to permit limited axial movement

3.52

flowing pressure

pressure in the wellbore at a specific vertical depth at a specific flow rate

3.53

functional evaluation

test(s) performed to confirm ESP component operation or assembled ESP system operation as per design

Note 1 to entry: Occasionally referred to as factory acceptance test in case of ESP component and as string test in case of assembled ESP system.

3.54**gas handler**

component of an ESP system that conditions multiphase flow, without gas separation, to decrease the degradation of pump performance

3.55**gas-oil ratio****produced gas-oil ratio**

volumetric ratio of gas to oil at standard conditions

3.56**gas separator**

component of an ESP system that mechanically separates a portion of the free gas from the wellbore fluids prior to the fluids entering the pump or gas handler

3.57**head curve**

amount of head generated by the pump as a function of flow rate for a specific speed

3.58**housing pressure rating**

value of the maximum allowable difference of internal less external pressure

3.59**impeller**

stage segment rotated by the shaft which adds kinetic energy (velocity) to the fluid being pumped

3.60**inclination**

angle, measured in degrees, by which the wellbore or survey-instrumented axis varies from a true vertical line

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3.61**induction motor**

component of an ESP system where alternating current power input is transformed to mechanical torque by means of electromagnetic induction

Note 1 to entry: Also referred to as an asynchronous or squirrel cage motor.

3.62**intake**

subcomponent of a pump which provides a flow path to the first impeller, constructed either integral to the pump or bolted-on to the pump

3.63**intake screen**

attachment to the pump intake used to filter solid particles from the produced fluid to protect the internal components of the pump

3.64**insulation**

isolates the electrical potential between conductors and other conducting materials and minimizes leakage current from the conductors

3.65**inversion point**

water cut percentage at which the emulsion viscosity is at its maximum

3.66**inverted system**

ESP system configured with the pump on the bottom and motor on the top