



**SLOVENSKI STANDARD  
SIST EN IEC 63129:2020**

**01-september-2020**

---

**Določitev značilnosti vklopnega toka pri izdelkih za razsvetljavo (IEC 63129:2020)**

Determination of inrush current characteristics of lighting products (IEC 63129:2020)

Bestimmung der Eigenschaften des Einschaltstroms von Beleuchtungsprodukten (IEC 63129:2020)

Détermination des caractéristiques du courant d'appel des produits d'éclairage (IEC 63129:2020)

**ITeH STANDARD PREVIEW  
(standards.iteh.ai)**

**Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: EN IEC 63129:2020**

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8937eb01-658f-418a-9f5a-f39460775569/sist-en-iec-63129-2020>

---

**ICS:**

29.140.99

Drugi standardi v zvezi z  
žarnicami

Other standards related to  
lamps

**SIST EN IEC 63129:2020**

**en**

**iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW**  
**(standards.iteh.ai)**

[SIST EN IEC 63129:2020](#)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8937eb01-658f-418a-9f5a-f39460775569/sist-en-iec-63129-2020>

EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN IEC 63129

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

June 2020

ICS 29.140.01; 29.140.99

English Version

## Determination of inrush current characteristics of lighting products (IEC 63129:2020)

Détermination des caractéristiques du courant d'appel des produits d'éclairage  
(IEC 63129:2020)

Bestimmung der Eigenschaften des Einschaltstroms von Beleuchtungsprodukten  
(IEC 63129:2020)

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2020-05-26. CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CENELEC members are the national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.



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

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

**EN IEC 63129:2020 (E)****European foreword**

The text of document 34/636/CDV, future edition 1 of IEC 63129, prepared by IEC/TC 34 "Lamps and related equipment" was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN IEC 63129:2020.

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) 2021-02-26
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the document have to be withdrawn (dow) 2023-05-26

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CENELEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

**iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW**  
**Endorsement notice**  
**(standards.iteh.ai)**

The text of the International Standard IEC 63129:2020 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 60669-1      NOTE      Harmonized as EN 60669-1



IEC 63129

Edition 1.0 2020-04

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Determination of inrush current characteristics of lighting products**

**Détermination des caractéristiques du courant d'appel des produits d'éclairage**

[SIST EN IEC 63129:2020](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8937eb01-658f-418a-9f5a-f39460775569/sist-en-iec-63129-2020)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8937eb01-658f-418a-9f5a-f39460775569/sist-en-iec-63129-2020>

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

COMMISSION  
ELECTROTECHNIQUE  
INTERNATIONALE

ICS 29.140.01; 29.140.99

ISBN 978-2-8322-8205-2

**Warning! Make sure that you obtained this publication from an authorized distributor.  
Attention! Veuillez vous assurer que vous avez obtenu cette publication via un distributeur agréé.**

## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	3
INTRODUCTION.....	5
1 Scope.....	6
2 Normative references .....	6
3 Terms and definitions .....	6
4 Symbols and abbreviated terms.....	8
5 General notes on measurements .....	8
6 Inrush current measurements .....	8
7 DC method (default method).....	10
7.1 Measurement setup .....	10
7.2 Determining the value of the adjustment resistance .....	11
7.2.1 Determining the value of $R_{adj,1}$ .....	11
7.2.2 Determining the value of $R_{adj,k}$ .....	12
7.3 Measurement and calculation of the inrush current characteristics .....	13
7.3.1 Inrush current characteristics for a single DUT ( $k = 1$ ) .....	13
7.3.2 Inrush current characteristics for multiple DUTs.....	14
8 Alternative AC method.....	14
8.1 General.....	14
8.2 Determining the value of the adjustment resistance .....	15
8.2.1 Determining the value of $R_{adj,1}$ .....	15
8.2.2 Determining the value of $R_{adj,k}$ .....	16
8.3 Measurement and calculation of the inrush current characteristics .....	16
8.3.1 Measuring and calculating the inrush current for a single DUT.....	16
8.3.2 Measuring and calculating the inrush current for multiple DUTs .....	16
9 Additional alternative methods.....	17
Annex A (informative) Application of inrush current characteristics .....	18
A.1 General.....	18
A.2 Matching of DUT inrush current characteristics with switch or MCB specifications .....	18
Bibliography.....	19
Figure 1 – Determination of the inrush current pulse durations $t_{H10}$ and $t_{H50}$ .....	9
Figure 2 – Measurement setup for the DC method (default method).....	10
Figure 3 – Switching unit.....	11
Figure 4 – Typical current rise and voltage decrease as a function of time after loading $C_1$ (step c)) followed by turning on the switching unit (step e)) as described under step f) .....	12
Figure 5 – Determination of $I_{max}$ (ignoring the current peaks for $t < 100 \mu s$ ).....	14
Figure 6 – Measurement setup for the AC method (alternative method) .....	15
Figure 7 – Addition of $m$ DUTs to the measurement circuit (both DC and AC methods) .....	17

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

## DETERMINATION OF INRUSH CURRENT CHARACTERISTICS OF LIGHTING PRODUCTS

### FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
- 2) The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard IEC 63129 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 34: Lamps and related equipment.

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

CDV	Report on voting
34/636/CDV	34/679/RVC

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.

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.

**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.**

## **iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW (standards.iteh.ai)**

[SIST EN IEC 63129:2020](#)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8937eb01-658f-418a-9f5a-f39460775569/sist-en-iec-63129-2020>



## INTRODUCTION

Inrush current is the transient current drawn by an electrical device after it is switched on via an independent mains switch, the maximum amplitude of which is often much higher than in steady state during normal operation. Inrush current occurs because of charging capacitances during power up of a device.

Quantities such as peak inrush current and inrush current pulse duration are key parameters to characterize the inrush current, which are important to consider when selecting the switchgear of a lighting installation. This information is indispensable for electric installation planners, lighting designers and installers to be able to guarantee compatibility of a lighting system with other installation components like switches and overcurrent protection devices.

Careful selection of overcurrent protection devices, like circuit breakers, is important when dealing with high inrush currents. The overcurrent protection should react quickly to overload or short circuit but should not interrupt the circuit when an inrush current flows (i.e. false tripping). Another unwanted adverse effect that could occur when inrush current is not considered is welding of contacts of mechanical or electromechanical switches (manual or automatic).

The aim of this document is to determine the peak inrush current and the inrush current pulse duration of one or multiple lighting products of the same type.

This can serve as valuable information for installers in making the correct selection of components like switches and overcurrent protection devices in an installation or conversely for determination of the maximum number of lighting products of the same type that can be applied in an installation with switches and overcurrent protection devices (see Annex A).

The resulting functional compatibility between switchgear and lighting products in an installation is the main rationale for this document.

The rated voltage of lighting products which can be tested with this document is limited to 230 V AC only. Future inclusion of other voltages (for example 100 V AC, 120 V AC, 200 V AC, 277 V AC, 347 V AC) is not excluded.

# DETERMINATION OF INRUSH CURRENT CHARACTERISTICS OF LIGHTING PRODUCTS

## 1 Scope

This document describes a method, based on measurements combined with calculations, to determine specific characteristics of the inrush current of single and/or multiple lighting products of the same type. Lighting products include the following:

- light sources with integrated controlgear,
- controlgear,
- luminaires.

The inrush current characteristics that are determined are

- the peak inrush current,
- the inrush current pulse duration.

This document applies to lighting products connected to low-voltage 230 V AC 50/60 Hz electrical supply networks.

NOTE In Clause 6 it is stated that the methodology applies reference values for the reference (line) inductance and the reference (short circuit) peak current which reflect the typical situation in a 230 V AC installation.

## 2 Normative references

SIST EN IEC 63129:2020

[https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8937eb01-658f-418a-9f5a-](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/8937eb01-658f-418a-9f5a-39460775569/sist-en-iec-63129-2020)

There are no normative references in this document.

## 3 Terms and definitions

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

#### bidirectional diode thyristor

##### DIAC

two-terminal thyristor having substantially the same switching behaviour in the first and third quadrants of the current-voltage characteristic

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-521:2002, 521-04-66]

### 3.2

#### bidirectional triode thyristor

##### TRIAC

three-terminal thyristor having substantially the same switching behaviour in the first and third quadrants of the current-voltage characteristic

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-521:2002, 521-04-67]

**3.3****circuit-breaker**

mechanical switching device, capable of making, carrying and breaking currents under normal circuit conditions and also making, carrying for a specified duration and breaking currents under specified abnormal circuit conditions such as those of short circuit

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-441:2000, 441-14-20]

**3.4****control gear****controlgear**

<for an electric light source> unit inserted between the power supply (IEV 151-13-75) and at least one light source, which serves to supply the light source(s) with its (their) rated voltage or rated current, and which can consist of one or more separate components

Note 1 to entry: The control gear can include means for igniting, dimming, correcting the power factor and suppressing radio interference, and further control functions.

Note 2 to entry: The control gear consists of a power supply (IEV 151-13-76) and a control unit.

Note 3 to entry: The control gear can be partly or totally integrated in the light source.

Note 4 to entry: The terms "control gear" and "controlgear" are interchangeable. In IEC standards, the term "controlgear" is commonly used.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-845:—, 845-28-048]

**3.5** **$I_{\text{inrush}}$** **inrush current**

transient current associated with energizing of electrical apparatus or components

EXAMPLE Lighting products, transformers, cables, reactors.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-448:1995, 448-11-30, modified – In the definition, "electrical apparatus or components" replaces "transformer, cables, reactors, etc." now given as examples.]

**3.6** **$t_{\text{Hx}}$** **inrush current pulse duration**

time period over which the value of the inrush current is larger than  $x$  % of the peak inrush current

Note 1 to entry: See also Figure 1.

Note 2 to entry: Any RF noise should be disregarded.

Note 3 to entry: By this definition, the inrush current pulse duration  $t_{\text{H50}}$  is the full width at half maximum (FWHM) of the current pulse.

Note 4 to entry: In this document values of  $x = 10$  and  $x = 50$  are used.

**3.7** **$I_{\text{peak}}$** **peak inrush current**

maximum of the absolute value of the inrush current

Note 1 to entry: The peak inrush current is typically reached when switch-on happens at the point in time that the mains voltage is at its peak.

Note 2 to entry: See also Figure 1.

Note 3 to entry: Any RF noise should be disregarded.