

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

IEC 61000-4-2

Edition 1.2
2001-04

Edition 1:1995 consolidated with amendments 1:1998 and 2:2000

BASIC EMC PUBLICATION

Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) –

Part 4-2: Testing and measurement techniques – Electrostatic discharge immunity test

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*This **English-language** version is derived from the original **bilingual** publication by leaving out all French-language pages. Missing page numbers correspond to the French-language pages.*



Reference number
IEC 61000-4-2:1995+A1:1998+A2:2000(E)

Publication numbering

As from 1 January 1997 all IEC publications are issued with a designation in the 60000 series. For example, IEC 34-1 is now referred to as IEC 60034-1.

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Commission Electrotechnique Internationale
International Electrotechnical Commission
Международная Электротехническая Комиссия

PRICE CODE

CM

For price, see current catalogue

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

ELECTROMAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY (EMC) –

Part 4-2: Testing and measurement techniques – Electrostatic discharge immunity test

FOREWORD

- 1) The IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of the 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, the IEC publishes International Standards. 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. The 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 the 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 National Committees.
- 3) The documents produced have the form of recommendations for international use and are published in the form of standards, technical specifications, technical reports or guides and they are accepted by the National Committees in that sense.
- 4) In order to promote international unification, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC International Standards transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional standards. Any divergence between the IEC Standard and the corresponding national or regional standard shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) The IEC provides no marking procedure to indicate its approval and cannot be rendered responsible for any equipment declared to be in conformity with one of its standards.
- 6) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this International Standard may be the subject of patent rights. The IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard IEC 61000-4-2 has been prepared by subcommittee 77B: High-frequency phenomena, of IEC technical committee 77: Electromagnetic compatibility.

It forms section 2 of part 4 of IEC 61000. It has the status of a basic EMC publication in accordance with IEC Guide 107.

It is based on the IEC 60801-2 (second edition: 1991): *Electromagnetic compatibility for industrial process measurement and control equipment – Part 2: Electrostatic discharge requirements*, prepared by IEC technical committee 65: Industrial-process measurement and control.

According to a recommendation of ACEC at its meeting of December 1989, the scope of this standard has been extended to all kinds of electrical and electronic equipment. For this purpose it has been decided to transfer the 60801 series of publications to the 61000-4 series: *EMC testing and measurement techniques*, of technical committee 77.

No technical changes, only editorial amendments, have been made with this transfer and reference to IEC 60801-2 (1991) or IEC 61000-4-2 is equivalent.

This consolidated version of IEC 61000-4-2 consists of the first edition (1995) [documents 77B(CO)21 and 77B/145/RVD], its amendment 1 (1998) [documents 77B/216/FDIS and 77B/226/RVD] and amendment 2 (2000) [documents 77B/291+292/FDIS and 77B/298+299/RVD].

The technical content is therefore identical to the base edition and its amendments and has been prepared for user convenience.

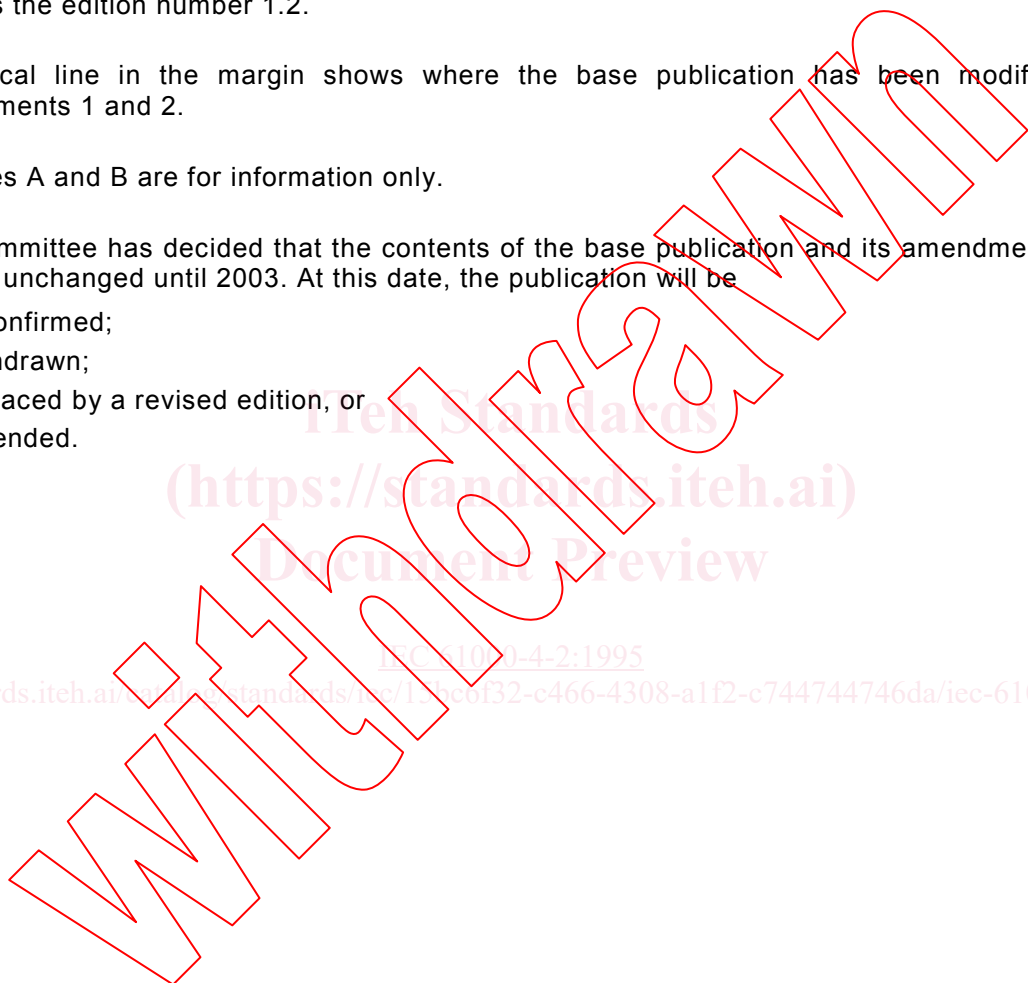
It bears the edition number 1.2.

A vertical line in the margin shows where the base publication has been modified by amendments 1 and 2.

Annexes A and B are for information only.

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendments will remain unchanged until 2003. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed;
- withdrawn;
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.



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INTRODUCTION

IEC 61000-4 is a part of the IEC 61000 series, according to the following structure:

Part 1: General

General consideration (introduction, fundamental principles)

Definitions, terminology

Part 2: Environment

Description of the environment

Classification of the environment

Compatibility levels

Part 3: Limits

Emission limits

Immunity limits (in so far as they do not fall under the responsibility of the product committees)

Part 4: Testing and measurement techniques

Measurement techniques

Testing techniques

Part 5: Installation and mitigation guidelines

Installation guidelines

Mitigation methods and devices

Part 9: Miscellaneous

Each part is further subdivided into sections which are to be published either as international standards or as technical reports.

These sections of IEC 61000-4 will be published in chronological order and numbered accordingly.

This section is an international standard which gives immunity requirements and test procedures related to "electrostatic discharge".

ELECTROMAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY (EMC) –

Part 4-2: Testing and measurement techniques – Electrostatic discharge immunity test

1 Scope

This International Standard relates to the immunity requirements and test methods for electrical and electronic equipment subjected to static electricity discharges, from operators directly, and to adjacent objects. It additionally defines ranges of test levels which relate to different environmental and installation conditions and establishes test procedures.

The object of this standard is to establish a common and reproducible basis for evaluating the performance of electrical and electronic equipment when subjected to electrostatic discharges. In addition, it includes electrostatic discharges which may occur from personnel to objects near vital equipment.

This standard defines:

- typical waveform of the discharge current;
- range of test levels;
- test equipment;
- test set-up;
- test procedure.

This standard gives specifications for test performed in "laboratories" and "post-installation tests" performed on equipment in the final installation.

This standard does not intend to specify the tests to be applied to particular apparatus or systems. Its main aim is to give a general basic reference to all concerned product committees of the IEC. The product committees (or users and manufacturers of equipment) remain responsible for the appropriate choice of the tests and the severity level to be applied to their equipment.

In order not to impede the task of coordination and standardization, the product committees or users and manufacturers are strongly recommended to consider (in their future work or revision of old standards) the adoption of the relevant immunity tests specified in this standard.

2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this section of IEC 61000-4. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All normative documents are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this section of IEC 61000-4 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the normative documents indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

IEC 60050(161):1990, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Chapter 161: Electromagnetic compatibility*

IEC 60068-1:1988, *Environmental testing – Part 1: General and guidance*

3 General

This standard relates to equipment, systems, subsystems and peripherals which may be involved in static electricity discharges owing to environmental and installation conditions, such as low relative humidity, use of low-conductivity (artificial-fibre) carpets, vinyl garments, etc., which may exist in allocations classified in standards relevant to electrical and electronic equipment (for more detailed information, see clause A.1 of annex A).

The tests described in this standard are considered to be a first step in the direction of commonly used tests for the qualitative evaluation of the performance of all electrical and electronic equipment as referred to in clause 1.

NOTE From the technical point of view the precise term for the phenomenon would be "static electricity discharge". However, the term "electrostatic discharge" (ESD) is widely used in the technical world and in technical literature. Therefore, it has been decided to retain the term ESD in the title of this standard.

4 Definitions

For the purpose of this section of IEC 61000-4, the following definitions and terms apply and are applicable to the restricted field of electrostatic discharge; not all of them are included in IEC 60050(161) [IEV].

4.1 degradation (of performance)

an undesired departure in the operational performance of any device, equipment or system from its intended performance. [IEV 161-01-19]

NOTE The term "degradation" can apply to temporary or permanent failure.

4.2 electromagnetic compatibility (EMC)

the ability of an equipment or system to function satisfactorily in its electromagnetic environment without introducing intolerable electromagnetic disturbances to anything in that environment. [IEV 161-01-07]

4.3

antistatic material

material exhibiting properties which minimize charge generation when rubbed against or separated from the same or other similar materials

4.4

energy storage capacitor

the capacitor of the ESD-generator representing the capacity of a human body charged to the test voltage value. This may be provided as a discrete component, or a distributed capacitance

4.5

ESD

electrostatic discharge (see 4.10)

4.6

EUT

equipment under test

4.7

ground reference plane (GRP)

a flat conductive surface whose potential is used as a common reference. [IEV 161-04-36]

4.8

coupling plane

a metal sheet or plate, to which discharges are applied to simulate electrostatic discharge to objects adjacent to the EUT. HCP: Horizontal Coupling Plane; VCP: Vertical Coupling Plane

4.9

holding time

interval of time within which the decrease of the test voltage due to leakage, prior to the discharge, is not greater than 10 %

4.10

electrostatic discharge, ESD

a transfer of electric charge between bodies of different electrostatic potential in proximity or through direct contact. [IEV 161-01-22]

4.11

immunity (to a disturbance)

the ability of a device, equipment or system to perform without degradation in the presence of an electromagnetic disturbance. [IEV 161-01-20]

4.12

contact discharge method

a method of testing, in which the electrode of the test generator is held in contact with the EUT, and the discharge actuated by the discharge switch within the generator

4.13

air discharge method

a method of testing, in which the charged electrode of the test generator is brought close to the EUT, and the discharge actuated by a spark to the EUT

4.14

direct application

application of the discharge directly to the EUT

4.15

indirect application

application of the discharge to a coupling plane in the vicinity of the EUT, and simulation of personnel discharge to objects which are adjacent to the EUT

5 Test levels

The preferential range of test levels for the ESD test is given in table 1.

Testing shall also be satisfied at the lower levels given in table 1.

Details concerning the various parameters which may influence the voltage level to which the human body may be charged are given in clause A.2 of annex A. Clause A.4 also contains examples of the application of the test levels related to environmental (installation) classes.

Contact discharge is the preferred test method. Air discharges shall be used where contact discharge cannot be applied. Voltages for each test method are given in tables 1a and 1b. The voltages shown are different for each method due to the differing methods of test. It is not intended to imply that the test severity is equivalent between test methods.

Further information is given in clauses A.3, A.4 and A.5 of annex A.

Table 1 – Test levels

1a – Contact discharge		1b – Air discharge	
Level	Test voltage kV	Level	Test voltage kV
1	2	1	2
2	4	2	4
3	6	3	8
4	8	4	15
x ¹⁾	Special	x ¹⁾	Special

¹⁾ "x" is an open level. The level has to be specified in the dedicated equipment specification. If higher voltages than those shown are specified, special test equipment may be needed.

6 Test generator

The test generator consists, in its main parts, of:

- charging resistor R_c ;
- energy-storage capacitor C_s ;
- distributed capacitance C_d ;
- discharge resistor R_d ;
- voltage indicator;
- discharge switch;
- interchangeable tips of the discharge electrode (see figure 4);
- discharge return cable;
- power supply unit.

A simplified diagram of the ESD generator is given in figure 1. Constructional details are not given.

The generator shall meet the requirements given in 6.1 and 6.2.

6.1 Characteristics and performance of the ESD generator

Specifications

- energy storage capacitance ($C_s + C_d$): 150 pF \pm 10 %;
- discharge resistance (R_d): 330 Ω \pm 10 %;
- charging resistance (R_c): between 50 M Ω and 100 M Ω ;
- output voltage (see note 1): up to 8 kV (nominal) for contact discharge;
up to 15 kV (nominal) for air discharge;
- tolerance of the output voltage indication: \pm 5 %;
- polarity of the output voltage: positive and negative (switchable);
- holding time: at least 5 s;
- discharge mode of operation (see note 2): single discharge (time between successive discharges at least 1 s);
- waveshape of the discharge current: see 6.2.

NOTE 1 Open circuit voltage measured at the energy storage capacitor.

NOTE 2 The generator should be able to generate at a repetition rate of at least 20 discharges per second for exploratory purposes only.

The generator shall be provided with means of preventing unintended radiated or conducted emissions, either of pulse or continuous type, so as not to disturb the EUT or auxiliary test equipment by parasitic effects.

The energy storage capacitor, the discharge resistor, and the discharge switch shall be placed as close as possible to the discharge electrode.

The dimensions of the discharge tips are given in figure 4.