
**Implants for surgery — Active
implantable medical devices —**

**Part 6:
Particular requirements for active
implantable medical devices intended
to treat tachyarrhythmia (including
implantable defibrillators)**

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Implants chirurgicaux — Dispositifs médicaux implantables actifs —

*Partie 6: Exigences particulières pour les dispositifs médicaux
implantables actifs conçus pour traiter la tachyarythmie (y compris
les défibrillateurs implantables)*



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ISO 14708-6:2019

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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 of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

ISO 14708-6 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 150, *Implants for surgery*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Active implants*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 14708-6:2010), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows.

- addition of requirements for congestive heart failure devices;
- introduction of nomenclature for devices having more than two channels of pacing/sensing/defibrillation as shown in ISO 14117:2019, Annex N;
- inclusion of new temporary exposure criteria in [17.1](#) for outer surface temperatures exceeding 39 °C;
- revision of atmospheric pressure test requirements in [Clause 25](#) to align with requirements of ISO 14708-2;
- replacement of detailed requirements in [Clause 27](#) by reference to ISO 14117.

Other changes include updates to selected definitions and incorporation of new measurement equipment accuracy requirements.

A list of all parts in the ISO 14708 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

This document specifies particular requirements for *implantable cardioverter defibrillators* and the functions of active implantable medical devices intended to treat tachyarrhythmia, to provide basic assurance of safety for both patients and users.

An external defibrillator is a medical device used, in the emergency setting, to deliver a high-energy shock to the heart, by means of *electrodes* applied to the external chest wall, in patients suffering ventricular fibrillation (a rapid, disorganized and potentially lethal heart rhythm abnormality), to restore normal heart action. External defibrillators can also be used, in emergency or elective settings, to terminate other ventricular or atrial tachyarrhythmias by delivery of a high-energy shock, synchronized to the intrinsic cardiac rhythm, a procedure known as *cardioversion*. In patients known to be at risk of such arrhythmias, due to the occurrence of previous episodes or the presence of specific predisposing cardiac conditions, an *implantable cardioverter defibrillator* might be implanted to perform similar functions. The implantable device, which is much smaller than an external defibrillator, is contained within a sealed, encapsulating enclosure. It generates high voltage *pulses* from an enclosed, miniature, electrical battery. The *pulses* are transmitted to the heart by means of implanted, insulated conductors with *electrodes* (leads). The *implantable cardioverter defibrillator* can also incorporate other sensing and pacing functions, such as rate support for bradycardia and *antitachycardia pacing (ATP)* to terminate certain tachyarrhythmias without the need of a high-energy shock. The defibrillator can be adjusted non-invasively by means of an electronic device, known as a programmer.

In recent years, other active implantable cardiovascular devices have emerged, most notably devices that perform the function of improving cardiac output by optimizing ventricular synchrony, in addition to performing *ICD* functions.

Although these devices can deliver an additional therapy with respect to *ICD* devices, most of their requirements are similar so that, in most cases, the concepts that apply to *ICDs* also apply to *CRT-D* devices, and the appropriate way to test a *CRT-D* device is similar to the way *ICDs* are tested.

This document is relevant to all parts of active implantable medical devices intended to treat tachyarrhythmia other than pacing functions to control bradyarrhythmia or provide cardiac resynchronization. Typical examples are *implantable pulse generators*, leads, *adaptors*, *accessories*, programmers and the related software (bradyarrhythmia and cardiac resynchronization pacing functions are dealt with in ISO 14708-2).

The requirements of this document supplement or modify those of ISO 14708-1, *Implants for surgery — Active implantable medical devices — Part 1: General requirements for safety, marking and for information to be provided by the manufacturer*, hereinafter referred to as ISO 14708-1. The requirements of this document take priority over those of ISO 14708-1.

In this document, terms printed in italic letters are used as defined in [Clause 3](#). Where a defined term is used as a qualifier in another term, it is not printed in italic letters unless the concept thus qualified is also defined.

Information is also provided in [Annex A](#) that explains the relationship between ISO/TR 14283, *Implants for surgery — Essential principles of safety and performance*, ISO 14708-1 and this document.

Notes on this document are provided in [Annex B](#) for information.

[Annex C](#) describes a coding system that may be used to designate tachyarrhythmia therapy modes. All annexes are informative.

Implants for surgery — Active implantable medical devices —

Part 6:

Particular requirements for active implantable medical devices intended to treat tachyarrhythmia (including implantable defibrillators)

1 Scope

This document specifies requirements that are applicable to *implantable cardioverter defibrillators* and *CRT-Ds* and the functions of active implantable medical devices intended to treat tachyarrhythmia.

The tests that are specified in ISO 14708 are type tests and are to be carried out on samples of a device to show compliance.

This document was designed for tachyarrhythmia *pulse* generators used with either *endocardial leads* or *epicardial leads*. At the time of this edition, the authors recognized the emergence of technologies that do not use *endocardial* or *epicardial leads* for which adaptations of this part will be required. Such adaptations are left to the discretion of manufacturers incorporating these technologies.

This document is also applicable to some non-implantable parts and *accessories* of the devices (see Note 1).

The characteristics of the *implantable pulse generator* or *lead* shall be determined by either the appropriate method detailed in this document or by any other method demonstrated to have accuracy equal to, or better than, the method specified. In the case of dispute, the method detailed in this document shall apply.

Any aspect of an active implantable medical device intended to treat bradyarrhythmias or cardiac resynchronization is covered by ISO 14708-2.

NOTE 1 The device that is commonly referred to as an active implantable medical device can in fact be a single device, a combination of devices, or a combination of a device or devices and one or more *accessories*. Not all of these parts are required to be either partially or totally implantable, but there is a need to specify some requirements of non-implantable parts and *accessories* if they could affect the safety or performance of the implantable device.

NOTE 2 In this document, terms printed in italics are used as defined in [Clause 3](#). Where a defined term is used as a qualifier in another term, it is not printed in italics unless the concept thus qualified is also defined.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 5841-3:2013, *Implants for surgery — Cardiac pacemakers — Part 3: Low-profile connectors (IS-1) for implantable pacemakers*

ISO 11318:2002, *Cardiac defibrillators — Connector assembly DF-1 for implantable defibrillators — Dimensions and test requirements*

ISO 14117:2019, *Active implantable medical devices — Electromagnetic compatibility — EMC test protocols for implantable cardiac pacemakers and implantable cardioverter defibrillators*

ISO 14708-1:2014, *Implants for surgery — Active implantable medical devices — Part 1: General requirements for safety, marking and for information to be provided by the manufacturer*

ISO 14708-2:2019, *Implants for surgery — Active implantable medical devices — Part 2: Cardiac pacemakers*

IEC/TR 60878:2015, *Graphical symbols for electrical equipment in medical practice*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 14708-1 and the following apply.

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

— IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1 adaptor

special connector used between an otherwise incompatible *implantable pulse generator* and a lead

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.2]

3.2 implantable cardioverter defibrillator ICD

active implantable medical device comprising an *implantable pulse generator* and lead(s) that is intended to detect and correct tachycardias and fibrillation by application of *cardioversion/defibrillation pulse(s)* to the heart

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3.3 implantable pulse generator IPG

part of the active implantable medical device, including the power supply and electronic circuit that produces an electrical output

Note 1 to entry: For purposes of this document, the term *implantable pulse generator* describes any active implantable medical device that incorporates functions intended to treat tachyarrhythmias.

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.4, modified – “active implantable medical device” substituted for “pacemaker”, NOTE 1 to entry added]

3.4 sensitivity

minimum signal required to control consistently the function of the *implantable pulse generator*

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.8]

3.5 electrode

electrically conducting part (usually the termination of a lead), which is designed to form an interface with body tissue or body fluid

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.9]

3.6 endocardial lead

lead with an *electrode* designed to make contact with the endocardium, or inner surface of the heart

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.12]

3.7**epicardial lead**

lead with an *electrode* designed to make contact with the epicardium, or outer surface of the heart

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.13]

3.8**transvenous**

approach to the heart through the venous system

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.14]

3.9**insertion diameter**

<lead>minimum bore of a rigid cylindrical tube into which the lead (not including the connector) can be inserted

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.15]

3.10**lead pacing impedance**
 Z_p

impedance that is formed by the ratio of a voltage *pulse* to the resulting current

Note 1 to entry: The impedance is composed of the *electrode* to tissue interface and the lead impedance.

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.16]

3.11**model designation**

name and/or a combination of letters and numbers used by a manufacturer to distinguish, by function or type, one device from another

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.17]

3.12**serial number**

unique combination of letters and/or numbers, selected by the manufacturer, intended to distinguish a device from other devices with the same *model designation*

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.18]

3.13**pulse**

electrical output of an *implantable pulse generator* other than *CD pulse* intended to stimulate the myocardium

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.20, modified – added “other than *CD pulse*”.]

3.14**pulse amplitude**

amplitude of the *pulse*

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.21]

3.15**pulse duration**

duration of the *pulse*

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.22]

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3.16

pulse interval

interval between equivalent points of two consecutive *pulses*

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.23]

3.17

automatic sensitivity control

automatic adjustment of the *sensitivity* in response to available physiological signals

3.18

beginning of service

BOS

time at which an individual *implantable pulse generator* is first released by the manufacturer as fit for being placed on the market

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.35]

3.19

end of service

EOS

time at which the *prolonged service period* has elapsed and no further pacing function is specified nor can be expected

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2: 2019, 3.36]

3.20

prolonged service period

PSP

period beyond the *recommended replacement time* during which the *implantable pulse generator* continues to function as specified by the manufacturer

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.38, modified - deleted "to prolong basic bradyarrhythmia pacing"]

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3.21

power source indicator

means of indicating the electrical status of the power source during the *implantable pulse generator's* service life

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.39]

3.22

recommended replacement time

RRT

time at which the *power source indicator* reaches the value set by the manufacturer of the *implantable pulse generator* for its recommended replacement.

Note 1 to entry: This indicates entry into the *prolonged service period*

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.40]

3.23

antitachycardia pacing

ATP

cardiac pacing sequences intended to terminate re-entry tachycardias

3.24

ATP only device

implantable pulse generator capable of delivering rapid sequences of pacing *pulses* to terminate ventricular (VT) and atrial (AT) tachycardia and atrial fibrillation (AF)

3.25**cardioversion**

termination of atrial tachyarrhythmia or ventricular tachycardia by *pulse(s)* synchronized to cardiac events

3.26**cardioversion/defibrillation pulse****CD pulse**

high-energy monophasic, biphasic, or multiphasic *pulse* intended to restore normal rhythm by shocking the heart

3.27**capacitor formation**

any charge to maximum-programmed energy that dissipates off the capacitors (is not dumped) for at least 10 min

3.28**cardioversion/defibrillation lead****CD lead**

lead used to conduct a *CD pulse* from the *implantable pulse generator* to the heart

3.29**charge time**

the time required to charge the high-voltage capacitors to a specified *CD pulse energy*

3.30**delivered cardioversion/defibrillation pulse energy****delivered CD pulse energy**

total energy delivered to a standard load (50 Ω) by all phases of a *CD pulse*, measured according to [6.1.4](#)

3.31**defibrillation**

termination of fibrillation

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3.32**ICD output voltage**

peak voltage of the *cardioversion/defibrillation pulses*, measured according to [6.1.3](#)

3.33**terminal**

electrically separate conductive device connection

3.34**implantable cardiac resynchronization therapy/defibrillator device****CRT-D**

active implantable medical device intended to detect and correct tachycardias and fibrillation by application of *cardioversion/defibrillation pulses* to the heart, and to provide improved ventricular activation to optimize cardiac output, comprising an *implantable pulse generator* and leads

3.35**accessory**

article which, while not being a device, is intended specifically by the manufacturer to be used together with a device in accordance with the use of the device intended by the device manufacturer

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.1]

3.36

pacemaker

active implantable medical device intended to treat bradyarrhythmias, comprising an *implantable pulse generator* and lead(s)

[SOURCE: ISO 14708-2:2019, 3.3]

4 Symbols and abbreviated terms

The text in Clause 4 of ISO 14708-1:2014 applies.

NOTE See ISO 27185 for symbols to use when expressing information so as to reduce the need for multiple languages on packaging and in manuals.

5 General requirements for non-implantable parts

5.1 General requirements for non-implantable parts

The text in 5.1 of ISO 14708-1:2014 applies.

5.2 General requirements for software

The text in 5.2 of ISO 14708-1:2014 applies.

5.3 Usability of non-implantable parts

The text in 5.3 of ISO 14708-1:2014 applies.

5.4 Data security and protection from harm caused by unauthorized information tampering

The text in 5.4 of ISO 14708-1:2014 applies.

5.5 General requirements for risk management

The text in 5.5 of ISO 14708-1:2014 applies.

5.6 Misconnection of parts of the active implantable medical device

The text in 5.6 of ISO 14708-1:2014 applies.

6 Measurement of *implantable pulse generator* and lead characteristics

6.1 Measurement of *implantable pulse generator* characteristics

6.1.1 General considerations

The manufacturer shall ensure that measurement equipment accuracy is sufficient to support the stated tolerances for the parameters being measured within this clause and stated by the manufacturer in the accompanying documentation (see [28.8](#)).

The values of the electrical characteristics for the *implantable pulse generator* measured in accordance with the methods described in this clause shall be within the range of values stated by the manufacturer in the accompanying documentation (see [28.8.2](#)).

CAUTION — The tests in this subclause can employ the use of high voltage. Failure to use safe laboratory practices can result in severe electrical shock, resulting in personal injury or death to the persons handling the equipment or conducting the test. Also damage to electrical equipment is possible.

The measurements shall be made with the *implantable pulse generator* at a temperature of $37\text{ °C} \pm 2\text{ °C}$.

6.1.2 Measurement of the bradyarrhythmia characteristics

Measurement of the bradyarrhythmia and cardiac resynchronization characteristics of the *implantable pulse generator* shall be performed using the appropriate methods specified in 6.1 of ISO 14708-2:2019. The characteristics shall be measured with the tachyarrhythmia therapies inactivated.

6.1.3 Measurement of ICD output voltage

NOTE This clause does not apply to *ATP only devices*.

Procedure: Use an oscilloscope, with input impedance of nominal $1\text{ M}\Omega$, $\leq 30\text{ pF}$.

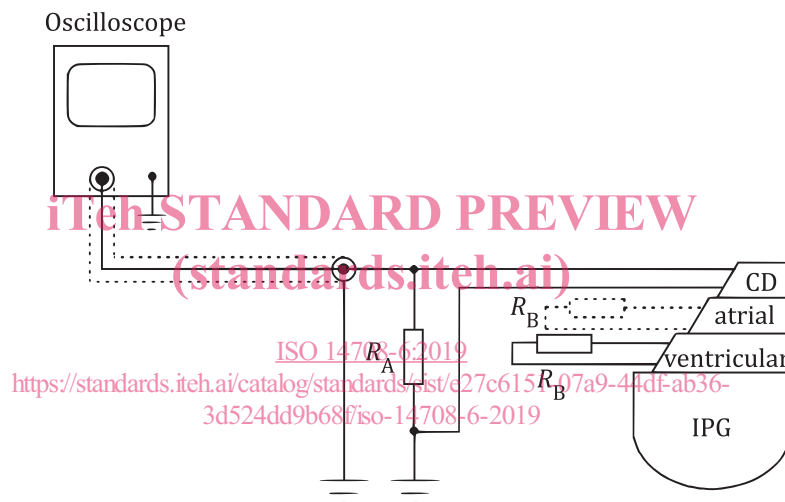


Figure 1 — Measurement of *CD* pulse characteristics

The *implantable pulse generator* shall be connected to the oscilloscope as shown in [Figure 1](#). terminals of the *implantable pulse generator* intended to deliver a *CD* pulse shall be connected to a low-inductance load of $50\ \Omega \pm 1\%$ (R_A). Other inputs/outputs shall be connected to loads of $500\ \Omega \pm 5\%$ (R_B). The oscilloscope shall be adjusted to display one phase of the *CD* pulse.

The *implantable pulse generator* shall be programmed to the maximum *CD* pulse energy setting.

The *ICD* output voltage (V_{\max}) shall be determined by recording the peak amplitude of the voltage across the resistor R_A (see [Figure 1](#) and [Figure 2](#)).

The procedure shall be repeated for each type of *CD* pulse (i.e. monophasic, biphasic waveform).

The entire procedure shall be repeated for the other required *CD* pulse energy settings [see [28.8.2 d\) 2](#)].

The results shall be expressed in volts (V) and shall be within the tolerance of disclosed data [see [28.8.2 d\) 2](#)].

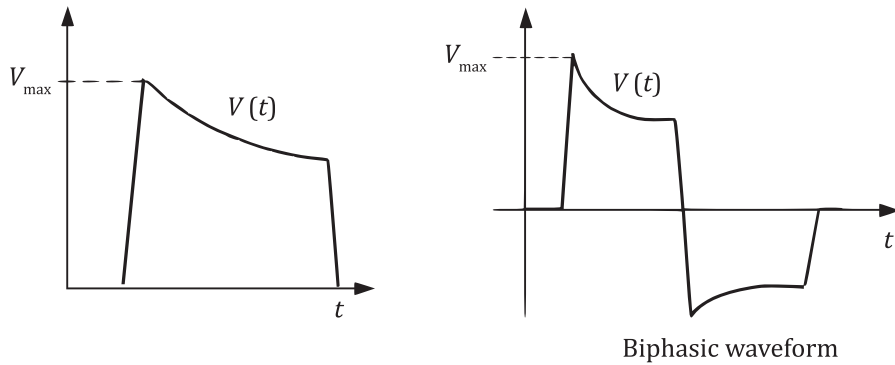


Figure 2 — Measurement of ICD output voltage

6.1.4 Measurement of delivered CD pulse energy

NOTE This clause does not apply to ATP only devices.

Procedure: Use the oscilloscope and measurement set-up specified in 6.1.3.

The oscilloscope shall be adjusted to display one CD pulse. The implantable pulse generator shall be programmed to deliver the maximum CD pulse energy setting.

The CD pulse shall be determined by recording the voltage waveform $V(t)$ (see Figure 2) across the resistor R_A (see Figure 1). The delivered CD pulse energy, W , shall be calculated by applying the formula:

$$W = \int_0^{T_p} \frac{V^2(t)}{R_A} dt$$

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where

- T_p = duration (all phases) of the CD pulse;
- $V(t)$ = instantaneous voltage;
- R_A = 50 Ω .

For devices with more than two output terminals, the delivered CD pulse energy (W) shall be determined by the sum of the energies delivered from each terminal, as measured by the manufacturer's disclosed method.

The entire procedure shall be repeated for the other required CD pulse energy settings [see 28.8.2 d) 2)].

The result shall be expressed in joules (J) and shall be within the tolerance of disclosed data [see 28.8.2 d) 2)].

6.1.5 Measurement of the antitachyarrhythmia pacing pulse amplitude

The low-voltage antitachyarrhythmia pacing pulse amplitude of an implantable pulse generator shall be measured with the device set in the as-shipped mode or as recommended by the manufacturer using the procedure in 6.1.2 of ISO 14708-2:2019 [see 28.8.2 d) 3)].

6.1.6 Measurement of the sensitivity of an implantable pulse generator with automatic sensitivity control

The lowest (most sensitive) sensing threshold for both positive and negative polarities shall be measured using a method as specified by the manufacturer [see 28.8.2 d) 4)].

6.1.7 Charge time

NOTE This clause does not apply to *ATP only devices*.

The values of typical *charge times* (when the capacitors are fully formed) for maximum *CD pulse energy* shall be disclosed at *BOS* and at *RRT*, as a minimum [see 28.8.2 d) 5)].

6.1.8 Capacitor formation (capacitor maintenance)

NOTE This clause does not apply to *ATP only devices*.

If applicable the manufacturer shall provide instructions for periodic *capacitor formation* to be performed at least in connection with patient follow-up sessions, unless the *implantable pulse generator* provides a feature of fully automatic *capacitor formation*.

6.2 Measurement of the electrical characteristic of a sensing/pacing lead

The values of the electrical characteristics of any sensing/pacing lead of the *implantable cardioverter defibrillator* measured in accordance with the appropriate method specified in 6.2 of ISO 14708-2 shall be within the range of values stated by the manufacturer in the accompanying documentation (see 28.8.3).

7 General arrangement of the packaging

7.1 The text in 7.1 of ISO 14708-1:2014 applies.

7.2 The text in 7.2 of ISO 14708-1:2014 applies.

7.3 The *implantable pulse generator* shall be shipped with the *antitachycardia pacing* and/or *cardioversion* and/or *defibrillation* inactivated.

Compliance is checked by inspection.

NOTE When *cardioversion* and/or *defibrillation* are inactivated the *implantable pulse generator* is not capable of delivering any *CD pulse(s)*.

8 General markings for active implantable medical devices

8.1 The text in 8.1 of ISO 14708-1:2014 applies.

8.2 The text in 8.2 of ISO 14708-1:2014 applies.

9 Markings on the sales packaging

9.1 The text in 9.1 of ISO 14708-1:2014 applies.

9.2 The text in 9.2 of ISO 14708-1:2014 applies.

9.3 The text in 9.3 of ISO 14708-1:2014 applies.