



SLOVENSKI STANDARD
oSIST prEN IEC 60691:2022
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Termični taljivi vložki - Zahteve in navodilo za uporabo

Thermal-links - Requirements and application guide

Temperatursicherungen - Anforderungen und Anwendungshinweise

Protecteurs thermiques - Exigences et guide d'application

Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: prEN IEC 60691:2022

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TITLE:

Thermal-links - Requirements and application guide

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The markup of changes indicate the revision compared to the CD document (32C/579A/CD).

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**THERMAL-LINKS –
REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION GUIDE**
FOREWORD

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This Consolidated version of IEC 60691 bears the edition number 4.1. It consists of the fourth edition (2015-10) [documents 32C/512/FDIS and 32C/515/RVD] and its corrigendum (2016-08), and its amendment 1 (2019-01) [documents 32C/548/FDIS and 32C/559/RVD]. The technical content is identical to the base edition and its amendment.

In this Redline version, a vertical line in the margin shows where the technical content is modified by amendment 1. Additions are in green text, deletions are in strikethrough red text. A separate Final version with all changes accepted is available in this publication.

138 International Standard IEC 60691 has been prepared by subcommittee 32C: Miniature fuses,
139 of IEC technical committee 32: Fuses.

140 This fifth edition constitutes a technical revision.

141 This fifth edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the
142 previous edition:

143 a) requirements for thermal-link packaged assemblies;

144 b) renew the requirements and definitions for T_h -test;

145 This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

146 The basis for this standard is the harmonization of the USA national standard, UL 1020, fifth
147 edition (withdrawn 2003), and IEC 60691:1993, together with its Amendment 1:1995 and
148 Amendment 2:2000.

149 The following differing practices of a less permanent nature exist in the country indicated
150 below:

151 – Annex C is required to be declared in the USA;

152 – Annex E is required in the USA, if applicable;

153 – Annex F is required to be declared in the USA.

154 In this standard, the following type is used:

155 – *compliance statements: in italic type.*

156 The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendment will
157 remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under
158 "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the
159 publication will be

- 160 • reconfirmed,
- 161 • withdrawn,
- 162 • replaced by a revised edition, or
- 163 • amended.

164

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166

INTRODUCTION

167 Thermal-links, defined as non-resettable devices functioning once only without refunctioning,
168 are widely applied for the thermal protection of equipment in which, under fault (abnormal)
169 conditions, one or more parts may reach hazardous temperatures.

170 As these devices have several aspects in common with miniature fuse-links and are used for
171 obtaining a comparable degree of protection, this standard has endeavoured to lay down a
172 number of basic requirements for such devices.

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THERMAL-LINKS – REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION GUIDE

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180 **1 Scope**

181 This International Standard is applicable to thermal-links intended for incorporation in
182 electrical appliances, electronic equipment and component parts thereof, normally intended
183 for use indoors, in order to protect them against excessive temperatures under abnormal
184 conditions.

185 NOTE 1 The equipment is not designed to generate heat.

186 NOTE 2 The effectiveness of the protection against excessive temperatures logically depends upon the position
187 and method of mounting of the thermal-link, as well as upon the current which it is carrying.

188 This standard may be applicable to thermal-links for use under conditions other than indoors,
189 provided that the climatic and other circumstances in the immediate surroundings of such
190 thermal-links are comparable with those in this standard.

191 This standard may be applicable to thermal-links in their simplest forms (e.g. melting strips or
192 wires), provided that molten materials expelled during function cannot adversely interfere with
193 the safe use of the equipment, especially in the case of hand-held or portable equipment,
194 irrespective of its position.

195 Annex H of this standard is applicable to thermal-link packaged assemblies where the
196 thermal-link(s) has already been approved to this standard but packaged in a metallic or non-
197 metallic housing and provided with terminals/wiring leads.

198 This standard is applicable to thermal-links with a rated voltage not exceeding 690 V AC or
199 DC and a rated current not exceeding 63 A.

200 The objectives of this standard are:

- 201 a) to establish uniform requirements for thermal-links,
- 202 b) to define methods of test,
- 203 c) to provide useful information for the application of thermal-links in equipment.

204 This standard is not applicable to thermal-links used under extreme conditions such as
205 corrosive or explosive atmospheres.

206 This standard is not applicable to thermal-links to be used in circuits on a.c. with a frequency
207 lower than 45 Hz or higher than 62 Hz.

208 **2 Normative references**

209 The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and
210 are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For
211 undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any
212 amendments) applies.

213 IEC 60065:2014, *Audio, video and similar electronic apparatus – Safety requirements*

- 214 IEC 60112:2003, *Method for the determination of the proof and the comparative tracking*
 215 *indices of solid insulating materials*
 216 IEC 60112:2003/AMD1:2009
- 217 IEC 60127-2:2014, *Miniature fuses – Part 2: Cartridge fuse-links*
- 218 IEC 60216-5:2008, *Electrical insulating materials – Thermal endurance properties – Part 5:*
 219 *Determination of relative thermal endurance index (RTE) of an insulating material*
- 220 IEC 60664-1:2007, *Insulation coordination for equipment within low-voltage systems – Part 1:*
 221 *Principles, requirements and tests*
- 222 IEC 60695-2-12:2010, *Fire hazard testing – Part 2-12: Glowing/hot-wire based test methods –*
 223 *Glow-wire flammability index (GWFI) test method for materials*
 224 IEC 60695-2-12:2010/AMD1:2014
- 225 IEC 60695-2-13:2010, *Fire hazard testing – Part 2-13: Glowing/hot-wire based test methods –*
 226 *Glow-wire ignition temperature (GWIT) test method for materials*
 227 IEC 60695-2-13:2010/AMD1:2014
- 228 IEC 60695-10-2:2014, *Fire hazard testing – Part 10-2: Abnormal heat – Ball pressure test*
 229 *method*
- 230 IEC 60695-11-10:2013, *Fire hazard testing – Part 11-10: Test flames – 50 W horizontal and*
 231 *vertical flame test methods*
- 232 IEC 60730-1:2015, *Automatic electrical controls – Part 1: General requirements*
- 233 IEC 61210:2010, *Connecting devices – Flat quick-connect terminations for electrical copper*
 234 *conductors – Safety requirements*

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235 3 Terms and definitions

236 For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

237 3.1

238 clearance

239 shortest distance in air between two conductive parts

240 3.2

241 creepage distance

242 shortest distance along the surface of insulating material between two conductive parts

243 3.3

244 holding temperature

245 T_h

246 maximum ambient temperature of the thermal-link at which it will not change its state of
 247 conductivity during a specified time at a specified rated current

248 3.4

249 homogeneous series

250 series of thermal-links having the same external dimensions and common overall construction,
 251 deviating from each other only in such characteristics (including ratings) that, for a given test,
 252 the testing of one or a reduced number of particular thermal-links of that series shall be taken
 253 as representative for all the thermal-links of the series

254 **3.5**
255 **interrupting current**
256 I_b
257 value of the current that the thermal-link is capable of interrupting at rated voltage and under
258 specified circuit conditions

259 **3.6**
260 **maximum temperature limit**
261 T_m
262 temperature of the thermal-link stated by the manufacturer, up to which the mechanical and
263 electrical properties of the thermal-link, having changed its state of conductivity, will not be
264 impaired for a given time

265 **3.7**
266 **pilot duty**
267 rating assigned to a switching device that controls the coil of another electro-mechanical
268 device such as a solenoid, relay or contactor

269 **3.8**
270 **portable equipment**
271 equipment which is moved while in operation or which can easily be moved from one place to
272 another while connected to the supply

273 **3.9**
274 **rated current**
275 I_r
276 current used to classify a thermal-link

277 **3.10**
278 **rated functioning temperature**
279 T_f
280 temperature of the thermal-link which causes it to change its state of conductivity with a
281 detection current up to 10 mA as the only load

282 **3.11**
283 **rated voltage**
284 U_r
285 voltage used to classify a thermal-link

286 **3.12**
287 **thermal element**
288 metallic or non-metallic fusible material that is part of a thermal-link and is responsive to
289 temperature by a change of state such as from solid to liquid at the temperature for which it is
290 calibrated

291 **3.13**
292 **thermal-link**
293 non-resettable device incorporating a thermal element, which will open a circuit once only
294 when exposed for a sufficient length of time to a temperature in excess of that for which it has
295 been designed

296 **3.14**
297 **transient overload current**
298 I_p
299 direct current pulse train which the thermal-link is able to withstand without impairing its
300 characteristics

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301 3.15**302 extended holding temperature****303 T_{h-100}**

304 maximum temperature at which a thermal-link can be maintained while conducting the rated
305 current at the rated voltage for a period of 100 weeks which will not cause the thermal-link to
306 open circuit in accordance with extended holding temperature evaluation

307 Note 1 to entry: This is a rating for user consideration during the investigation of the end product.

308 Note 2 to entry: Annex D specifies the extended holding temperature evaluation.

309 3.16**310 conductive heat ageing test****311 CHAT****312 test to evaluate a thermal-link for use in an appliance**

313 Note 1 to entry: If it performs satisfactorily, the thermal-link will be assigned a CHAT rating. This rating is for end-
314 product user consideration during the investigation of the end-use product.

315 Note 2 to entry: Annex C specifies the conductive heat ageing test.

316 4 General requirements

317 **4.1** Adequate protection of the equipment against excessive temperatures not only
318 depends upon the properties of the thermal-link but also to a large extent upon the mounting
319 of the thermal-link in the equipment. Therefore, in addition to good engineering practice, the
320 requirements of the application guide in Annex A shall be considered.

321 **4.2** Thermal-links shall have adequate electrical and mechanical strength and shall be
322 constructed so as to withstand all conditions of handling likely to be encountered during
323 mounting and normal use, when used within the requirements of this standard.

324 **4.3** When a thermal-link changes its state of conductivity, no arc or flame shall be
325 maintained, nor material expelled, that might impair the surrounding area or otherwise create
326 a risk of electric shock or fire. In addition, there shall be no emission of substances (e.g.
327 gases, liquids, dust, mist, vapour) which could cause a hazard.

328 For thermal-links using melting strips or wires, care should be taken to prevent molten
329 material from short-circuiting or bridging creepage distances and clearances in air, so as to
330 reduce the risk of impairing the insulation system of the equipment.

331 After it has functioned, the thermal-link shall not be damaged when subjected to temperatures
332 not exceeding T_m , in such a way that the safety of the equipment with regard to risk of electric
333 shock hazard and electrical breakdown is impaired. The thermal-link shall not reclose after it has
334 operated.

335 **4.4** For requirements for thermal-link packaged assemblies, see Annex H.

336 5 General notes on tests

337 **5.1** The test conditions are as follows.

338 **5.1.1** Unless otherwise specified, only tests that are not required to be performed inside an
339 environmental chamber and/or test oven shall be carried out under the following atmospheric
340 conditions:

- 341 – temperature: 15 °C to 35 °C,
- 342 – relative humidity: 25 % to 75 %,

343 – air pressure: $8,6 \times 10^4$ Pa to $1,06 \times 10^5$ Pa.

344 The required atmospheric conditions during testing can be controlled when carrying out the
345 tests and during the duration of the tests. The required atmospheric conditions do not have to
346 be maintained in a test laboratory when tests are not performed.

347 **5.1.2** Where the conditions given in 5.1.1 have a significant influence, they shall be kept
348 substantially constant during the tests.

349 **5.1.3** If the temperature limits given in 5.1.1 are too wide for certain tests, these shall be
350 repeated, in case of doubt, at a temperature of (23 ± 1) °C.

351 **5.2** In every test report, the ambient temperature shall be stated. If the standard conditions
352 for relative humidity or pressure are not fulfilled during the tests, a note to this effect shall be
353 added to the report.

354 **5.3** If the result of a test is influenced, to an appreciable extent, by the position and method
355 of mounting of the specimen, the most unfavourable condition shall be chosen for the relevant
356 tests and recorded.

357 **5.4** If a thermal-link has been specifically designed for use in a special type of equipment
358 and cannot be tested separately, the tests of this standard shall be performed in that
359 equipment or in the relevant part of it, or similar.

360 **5.5** When testing a homogeneous series of thermal-links, all the tests shall be applied to
361 thermal-links with the lowest and highest T_r . Thermal-links with intermediate rated functioning
362 temperatures need only be subjected to tests according to 10.3, 11.3, 11.4 and 11.5.

363 **5.6** The number of specimens is as follows.

364 **5.6.1** The total number of specimens required is 48. Out of a total of 48 specimens, 15 are
365 kept as spares in case some of the tests have to be repeated. Out of a total of 48 specimens,
366 33 are divided into 11 groups assigned by alphabetical letters from A to K. Each group
367 consists of three specimens. Tests shall be performed in the order indicated in Table 1 but, if
368 so required, tests may be repeated, for example the test on marking (see Clause 7).
369 Additional specimens may be needed according to Note 2 of Table 1.

370 For optional tests, additional specimens should be required as per the applicable annexes.

371 **5.6.2** If, in any of the tests carried out in accordance with any relevant test clause, a failure
372 is reported, the cause of the failure will be identified and corrective action taken. Based on the
373 failure analysis report and the corrective action, as a minimum, the test sequence shall be
374 repeated on twice the number of revised specimens, and no further failures are allowed.

375 If no corrective actions are necessary, the test should be repeated with double the same size
376 and no further deviation is allowed.

377 **5.6.3** For requirements for thermal-link packaged assemblies, see Annex H

378 **5.7** The conductive heat ageing test of Annex C is applicable when declared by the
379 manufacturer.

380 The conductive heat ageing test may be omitted if the thermal-link is constructed without
381 contacts.

382 **NOTE** In the USA the conductive heat ageing test is required to be declared.