
Optični spojni elementi in pasivne komponente - Osnovni preskusni in merilni postopki - 3-45. del: Preiskave in meritve - Slabljenje naključno spojenih večvlakenskih konektorjev

Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components - Basic test and measurement procedures - Part 3-45: Examinations and measurements - Attenuation of random mated multi-fibre connectors

Lichtwellenleiter - Verbindungselemente und passive Bauteile - Grundlegende Prüf- und Messverfahren - Teil 3-45: Untersuchungen und Messungen - Dämpfung von zufällig gesteckten Mehrfasersteckverbindern

Dispositifs d'interconnexion et composants passifs à fibres optiques - Méthodes fondamentales d'essais et de mesures - Partie 3-45: Examens et mesures - Affaiblissement dû à l'accouplement de connecteurs quelconques multifibres

45-2022

Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: prEN IEC 61300-3-45:2022

ICS:

33.180.20	Povezovalne naprave za optična vlakna	Fibre optic interconnecting devices
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oSIST prEN IEC 61300-3-45:2022 **en**

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86B/4569/CDV

COMMITTEE DRAFT FOR VOTE (CDV)

PROJECT NUMBER:
IEC 61300-3-45 ED2

DATE OF CIRCULATION:
2022-01-28

CLOSING DATE FOR VOTING:
2022-04-22

SUPERSEDES DOCUMENTS:
86B/4359/CD, 86B/4415A/CC

IEC SC 86B : FIBRE OPTIC INTERCONNECTING DEVICES AND PASSIVE COMPONENTS	
SECRETARIAT: Japan	SECRETARY: Mr Shigeru Tomita
OF INTEREST TO THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:	PROPOSED HORIZONTAL STANDARD: <input type="checkbox"/> Other TC/SCs are requested to indicate their interest, if any, in this CDV to the secretary.
FUNCTIONS CONCERNED: <input type="checkbox"/> EMC <input type="checkbox"/> ENVIRONMENT <input type="checkbox"/> QUALITY ASSURANCE <input type="checkbox"/> SAFETY	
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TITLE:

Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components - Basic test and measurement procedures - Part 3-45: Examinations and measurements - Attenuation of random mated multi-fibre connectors

PROPOSED STABILITY DATE: 2032

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**FIBRE OPTIC INTERCONNECTING DEVICES
AND PASSIVE COMPONENTS –
BASIC TEST AND MEASUREMENT PROCEDURES –****Part 3-45: Examinations and measurements -
Attenuation of random mated multi-fibre connectors**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61300-3-45 Ed. 2.0 has been prepared by subcommittee 86B: Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components, of IEC technical committee 86: Fibre optics.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2011. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) Addition of sample size for >12 fibre connector measurement
- b) Inclusion of guidance for multimode measurement

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

FDIS	Report on voting
XX/XX/FDIS	XX/XX/RVD

97

98 Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the
99 report on voting indicated in the above table.

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

101 The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the
102 stability date indicated on the IEC website under "http://webstore.iec.ch" in the data related to
103 the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- 104 • reconfirmed,
- 105 • withdrawn,
- 106 • replaced by a revised edition, or
- 107 • amended.

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108 **FIBRE OPTIC INTERCONNECTING DEVICES AND PASSIVE COMPONENTS**
109 **–BASIC TEST AND MEASUREMENT PROCEDURES –**

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Part 3-45: Examinations and measurements -
Attenuation of random mated multi-fibre connectors

114 **1 Scope**

115 The purpose of this part of IEC 61300 is to describe the procedure required to measure the
116 statistical distribution and mean attenuation for random mated optical connectors with physical
117 contact (PC) and angled physical contact (APC) polished multi-fibre rectangular ferrules as
118 defined in the IEC 61754 series. This measurement method is applicable to cable assemblies.

119 **2 Normative references**

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

124 IEC 61300-1, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and*
125 *measurement procedures – Part 1: General and guidance*

126 IEC 61300-3-1, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and*
127 *measurement procedures – Part 3-1: Examinations and measurements – Visual examination*

128 IEC 61300-3-35, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components - Basic test and*
129 *measurement procedures - Part 3-35: Examinations and measurements - Visual inspection of*
130 *fibre optic connectors and fibre-stub transceivers*

131 IEC 61754 (all parts), *Fibre optic connector interfaces*

132 IEC 63267-2-2, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components - Connector optical*
133 *interfaces - Part 2-2: Connection of 50 µm core diameter multimode physically contacting fibres*
134 *- Non-angled for reference connector application, at wavelength of 850 nm using selected A1-*
135 *OM2 to A1-OM5 fibre only*

136 **3 Terms and definitions**

137 No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

138 ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following
139 addresses:

- 140 • IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
141 • ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

142 **4 General description**143 **4.1 Test methods**

144 Two test methods are described for measuring the attenuation of random mated optical
145 connectors. Both provide an estimate of the expected average performance that a group of
146 cable assemblies (including an adaptor, if applicable) will exhibit when used in an optical system.

147 The device under test (DUT) is a cable assembly with on one side a plug with pins (pinned plug)
 148 and on the other side a plug without pins (unpinned plug). The cable assemblies, and any
 149 adaptors, shall be chosen at random to ensure that the measurements provide a statistically
 150 unbiased estimate.

151 Method 1 describes the procedure using a sample of cable assemblies and adaptors specified
 152 in Table 1. In this case the pinned plugs are used as “reference” plugs and the unpinned plugs
 153 are tested against them sequentially. The results, based on the number of measurements
 154 specified in Table 1, are recorded in the test matrix shown in Figures 3 to 5.

155 Method 2 describes a procedure for the measurement of a sample of cable assemblies specified
 156 in Table 2. Three cable assemblies are selected from the sample as “reference” cable
 157 assemblies. Firstly, the pinned plugs of the “reference” cable assemblies are used as reference
 158 and the unpinned plugs of the other test cable assemblies are tested against them sequentially.
 159 Then the unpinned plugs of the “reference” cable assemblies are used as reference and the
 160 pinned plugs of the other test cable assemblies are tested. This produces the number of
 161 measurements specified in Table 2 and the results are recorded in the test matrix shown in
 162 Figures 10 to 12.

163 Method 1 is intended to be part of a design approval exercise that may involve one or more
 164 suppliers. It is recognised that the number of measurements required by Method 1 may be
 165 excessive for day-to-day routine checking of either in-house or supplier produced products. In
 166 this case, once approval is achieved, Method 2 would be relied on to maintain process control
 167 as an alternative option. However, in the event of a dispute, Method 1 shall act as the reference
 168 measurement method.

169 NOTE In this measurement method, the terms “reference” plug or “reference” cord are used to define those
 170 components chosen at random from the sample, against which a number of comparative measurements are made.
 171 It is not intended that the terms imply specially chosen or manufactured components, such as those used, for example,
 172 in screen testing.

173 **Table 1 – Sample size for Method 1**

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Connectors (n-fibre connector)	Sample sizes		
	Cords and adaptors	Measurements	Fibres
2-fibre connector	15	210	420
4-fibre connector	12	132	528
8-fibre connector	10	90	720
10-fibre connector	10	90	900
12-fibre connector	10	90	1080
>12-fibre connector	10	90	90*n

174

175 **Table 2 – Sample size for Method 2**

Connectors (n-fibre connector)	Sample sizes					
	Cords			Adaptors	Measurements	Fibres
	Total	Reference	Test			
2-fibre connector	12	3	9	3	54	108
4-fibre connector	8	3	5	3	30	120
8-fibre connector	6	3	3	3	18	144
10-fibre connector	6	3	3	3	18	150
12-fibre connector	6	3	3	3	18	216
>12-fibre connector	6	3	3	3	18	18*n

176

177 **4.2 Precautions**

178 The following test requirements shall be met.

- 179 a) Precautions shall be taken to ensure that the cladding modes do not affect the measurement.
180 Cladding modes shall be stripped as a function of the fibre coating. For multimode
181 measurement the recommended length of the DUT is 4 to 5 meters.
- 182 b) Precautions shall be taken to ensure that the position of the fibres in the test remains fixed
183 between the reference cord measurement and the corresponding test cord measurements
184 to avoid changes in attenuation due to bending losses.
- 185 c) The stability performance of the test equipment shall be $\leq 0,05$ dB or 10 % of the attenuation
186 to be measured, whichever is the lower value. The stability shall be maintained over the
187 measurement time and operational temperature range. The required measurement
188 resolution shall be 0,01 dB for both multimode and single-mode.
- 189 d) To achieve consistent results, inspect all connectors and adaptors prior to the setup of the
190 measurement system and if contaminated clean them. During measurement steps, inspect
191 all connectors and adaptors except those in the unchanged connections and if contaminated
192 clean them before mating. Visual examination shall be undertaken in accordance with IEC
193 61300-3-1 and IEC 61300-3-35.

194 NOTE A cladding mode stripper usually comprises a material having a refractive index equal to or greater than that
195 of the fibre cladding.

196 **5 Apparatus**197 **5.1 Launch conditions and light source (LS)**

198 The source unit consists of an optical emitter, the associated drive electronics and fibre pigtail
199 (if any). Preferred source conditions are given in Table 3. The stability of the single-mode fibre
200 source at 23 °C shall be $\pm 0,01$ dB over the duration of the measurement. The stability of the
201 multimode fibre source at 23 °C shall be $\pm 0,05$ dB over the duration of the measurement. The
202 source output power shall be ≥ 20 dB above the minimum measurable power level.

203

Table 3 – Preferred source conditions

No.	Type	Central wavelength nm	Spectral width (RMS) nm	Source type
S1	Multimode	660 \pm 30	≥ 10	Monochromator or LED
S2	Multimode	780 \pm 30	≥ 10	Monochromator or LED
S3	Multimode	850 \pm 30	≥ 10	Monochromator or LED
S4	Multimode	1 300 \pm 30	≥ 10	Monochromator or LED
S5	Single-mode	1 310 \pm 30	To be reported	Laser diode monochromator or LED
S6	Single-mode	1 550 \pm 30	To be reported	Laser diode monochromator or LED
S7	Single-mode	1 625 \pm 30	To be reported	Laser diode monochromator or LED

NOTE 1 It is recognized that some components, e.g. for CWDM, can require the use of other source types such as tunable lasers. It is therefore recommended in these cases that the preferred source characteristics are specified on the basis of the component to be measured.

NOTE 2 Central wavelength and spectral width are defined in IEC 61280-1-3.

204

205 The launch condition shall be specified in accordance with IEC 61300-1. In case the specified
206 launch condition is not obtained by the original light from the source, appropriate apparatus for
207 launch condition control (E) shall be used.

208 The interference of modes from a coherent source will create speckle patterns in multimode
209 fibres. These speckle patterns give rise to speckle or modal noise and are observed as power
210 fluctuations, since their characteristic times are longer than the resolution time of the detector.
211 As a result, it cannot achieve stable launch conditions using coherent sources for multimode
212 measurements. Consequently, lasers, including optical time domain reflectometer (OTDR)
213 sources, should be avoided in favour of LEDs or other incoherent sources for measuring
214 multimode components.

215 5.2 Detector (D)

216 The detector consists of an optical detector, the means to connect to it and associated
217 electronics. The connection to the detector will be an adaptor that accepts a connector plug of
218 the appropriate design. The detector shall capture all light emitted by the connector plug.

219 In addition to meeting the stability and resolution requirements, the detector shall have the
220 following characteristics:

221 – Linearity of multimode, $\leq \pm 0,25$ dB (over -5 dBm up to -60 dBm);

222 – Linearity of single-mode, $\leq \pm 0,1$ dB (over -5 dBm up to -60 dBm).

223 The detector linearity should be referenced to a power level of -23 dBm at the operational
224 wavelength.

225 Where the connection to the detector is broken between the reference cord measurement and
226 the corresponding test cord measurements, the measurement repeatability shall be within 0,05
227 dB or 10 % of the attenuation to be measured, whichever is the lower value. A large sensitive
228 area detector may be used to achieve this.

229 The precise characteristics of the detector shall be compatible with the measurement
230 requirements. The dynamic range of the detector shall be capable of measuring the power level
231 exiting from the device under test (DUT) at the wavelength being measured.

232 6 Procedure

233 6.1 Method 1

234 a) Randomly select the sample number of cable assemblies specified in Table 1. Sequentially
235 label the plugs under test as shown in Figures 3 to 5.

236 b) Randomly select the sample size of adaptors as specified in Table 1. Sequentially label the
237 adaptors under test as shown in Figures 3 to 5.

238 c) Set up the measurement system as shown in Figure 1, with cord 1 as the “reference” cord
239 and with plug 1 (pinned) as the “reference” plug. Measure power P_{1-1} to P_{1-n} for all fibres in
240 the cord. For multimode measurement, tight tolerance fibre and tight tolerance plug as
241 specified in Annex A shall be used for the launch plug. The launch condition at the launch
242 plug shall comply with IEC 61300-1.