



SLOVENSKI STANDARD
oSIST prEN IEC 60068-2-86:2023
01-julij-2023

**Okoljsko preskušanje - 2-86. del: Preskusi - Preskus Fx: Preskušanje z večkratnim
vzbujanjem in večosnim udarjanjem in vibriranjem ter navodilo**

Environmental Testing - Part 2-86: Tests-Test Fx: Multi-Exciter and Multi-Axis Shock and
Vibration Testing and Guidance

iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW
(standards.iteh.ai)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/286-2-86-2023/bbd0-cd2245140016/osist-pr-en-iec-60068-2-86-2023>
oSIST prEN IEC 60068-2-86:2023
Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: **prEN IEC 60068-2-86:2023**

ICS:

19.040 Preskušanje v zvezi z Environmental testing
 okoljem

oSIST prEN IEC 60068-2-86:2023 **en**



104/980/CDV

COMMITTEE DRAFT FOR VOTE (CDV)

PROJECT NUMBER:

IEC 60068-2-86 ED1

DATE OF CIRCULATION:

2023-04-28

CLOSING DATE FOR VOTING:

2023-07-21

SUPERSEDES DOCUMENTS:

104/942/CD, 104/962A/CC

IEC TC 104 : ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS, CLASSIFICATION AND METHODS OF TEST	
SECRETARIAT: Sweden	SECRETARY: Mr Henrik Lagerström
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENVIRONMENT <input type="checkbox"/> QUALITY ASSURANCE <input type="checkbox"/> SAFETY	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUBMITTED FOR CENELEC PARALLEL VOTING Attention IEC-CENELEC parallel voting The attention of IEC National Committees, members of CENELEC, is drawn to the fact that this Committee Draft for Vote (CDV) is submitted for parallel voting. The CENELEC members are invited to vote through the CENELEC online voting system.	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT SUBMITTED FOR CENELEC PARALLEL VOTING

This document is still under study and subject to change. It should not be used for reference purposes.

Recipients of this document are invited to submit, with their comments, notification of

- any relevant patent rights of which they are aware and to provide supporting documentation,
- any relevant "in some countries" clauses to be included should this proposal proceed. Recipients are reminded that the enquiry stage is the final stage for submitting "in some countries" clauses. See AC/22/2007.

TITLE:

Environmental Testing - Part 2-86: Tests-Test Fx: Multi-Exciter and Multi-Axis Shock and Vibration Testing and Guidance

PROPOSED STABILITY DATE: 2026

NOTE FROM TC/SC OFFICERS:

Copyright © 2023 International Electrotechnical Commission, IEC. All rights reserved. It is permitted to download this electronic file, to make a copy and to print out the content for the sole purpose of preparing National Committee positions. You may not copy or "mirror" the file or printed version of the document, or any part of it, for any other purpose without permission in writing from IEC.

CONTENTS

1		
2	Contents.....	2
3	1 Scope.....	6
4	2 Normative References	7
5	3 Terms and Definitions	7
6	3.1 Multi-Exciter Single-Axis (MESA).....	7
7	3.2 Multi-Exciter Multi-Axis (MEMA).....	7
8	3.3 Single-Input/Single-Output (SISO).....	7
9	3.4 Single-Input/Multiple-Output (SIMO).....	8
10	3.5 Multiple-Input Single-Output (MISO).....	8
11	3.6 Multiple-Input Multiple-Output (MIMO).....	8
12	4 Background	8
13	4.1 General.....	8
14	4.2 Multi-axis and/or multi-exciter testing to achieve an improved distribution of	
15	dynamic responses	8
16	4.3 Multi-exciter testing for large equipment	9
17	4.4 Multi-axis testing for reliability growth	9
18	4.5 Multi-axis testing to reduce test durations	9
19	5 Test Apparatus and Control Strategy.....	10
20	6 Test Severities and Tolerances	10
21	6.1 Test Severities	10
22	6.2 Tolerances	10
23	6.3 Excitations Outside the Specified Test Frequency Range	10
24	6.4 Cross-axis Motions.....	11
25	7 Mounting of Specimen and Installation of Measurement Systems	11
26	8 Precursor Testing	11
27	9 Dynamic Characterisation	11
28	10 Pre-Conditioning.....	12
29	11 Initial Measurement and Functional Performance Test	12
30	12 Low Level Excitation for Equalisation Prior to Testing	12
31	13 Testing	12
32	14 Intermediate Measurement and Functional Performance	12
33	15 Recovery	12
34	16 Final Measurement and Functional Performance and Dynamic Characterisation	12
35	17 Test Verification	13
36	18 Information to be Specified in the Relevant Specification	13
37	19 Information to be Given in the Test Report	14
38	<u>Annex A</u> Guidance on Multi-axis and Multi-exciter Test Control Systems	15
39	<u>Annex B</u> Additional Testing Guidance	19
40	<u>Annex C</u> Guidance on the Application of Multi-axis / Multi-vibrator Tests	23
41	<u>Annex D</u> Guidance on The Use of Measured Data for Multi-axis / Multi-vibrator Tests	29
42	<u>Annex E</u> Guidance on The Selection of Test Tolerances	30
43	Bibliography	32
44		
45		

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING

Part 2-86: Tests, Test Fx: Vibration – Multi-exciter and Multi-axis Method

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 60068-2-86 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 104: Environmental conditions, classification, and methods of test.

This edition is new and no previous editions are replaced.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
xxx	xxx

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.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60068 series, published under the general title *Environmental testing*, can be found on the IEC website.

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.

98

99

iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW (standards.iteh.ai)

[oSIST prEN IEC 60068-2-86:2023](https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/5ee214ca-dc98-4dc2-bbd0-cd2243f406fc/osist-pren-iec-60068-2-86-2023)

<https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/5ee214ca-dc98-4dc2-bbd0-cd2243f406fc/osist-pren-iec-60068-2-86-2023>

100

INTRODUCTION

101 This document provides a test procedure for use with multi-exciter and multi-axis vibration test
102 systems. The vibration test is intended for general application to components, equipment, and
103 other products, hereinafter referred to as “specimens”, that may be subjected to dynamic
104 environments that could arise during an equipment life cycle. Although this document is mainly
105 intended for vibration testing the procedure can also be applied to certain types of shock and
106 transient tests.

107 The test procedure set out in this document is applicable where a specimen is required to
108 demonstrate its adequacy to resist specified vibration, shock and transient conditions, without
109 unacceptable degradation of functional or structural performance. The test procedure has
110 significant similarity to test procedures of other IEC 60068-2 documents and encompasses the
111 same range of vibration and shock excitation types.

112 This document is applicable to specimens which may be subjected to vibration, shock and transient
113 conditions resulting from transportation and/or operational environments, for example in aircraft,
114 space vehicles and land vehicles. It is primarily intended for unpackaged specimens. It is
115 applicable to specimens in their transportation container when the latter may be considered as
116 part of the specimen itself.

117 The test method and associated techniques addressed within this document are primarily intended
118 for use with multiple electrodynamic or servo-hydraulic vibration generators along with an
119 associated computer-based digital control system to control of the specimen excitations.

120 This document encompasses two testing approaches, commonly referred to as Multi-Exciter
121 Single-Axis (MESA), and Multi-Exciter Multi-Axis (MEMA). These are:

- 122 1) Utilising fixed base shakers either in a single axis or a selected combination of fixed X, Y, Z
123 configurations, also allowing for rotations dependent upon fixture coupling design.
- 124 2) Utilising multiple shakers attached directly to the specimen via flexible couplings or similar
125 methods. Here the shakers can be attached at any point and in any direction on the
126 specimen. This approach is quite similar to that used for modal testing but using
127 environmental test severities.

128 For the purpose of this document, the creator of the relevant testing specification, the test specifier,
129 is expected to select the procedure and the values of severity appropriate to the specimen and its
130 use. Precursor testing is included within the procedure of this document, as an option, to permit
131 the test specifier to establish the practicality of the test specification and severities with the
132 specimen. A separate specimen will usually need to be provisioned for such precursor testing.

133 The existing single axis, single vibrator test procedures within the IEC 60068-2 series can be used
134 with a wide range of different excitations, such as broad band random, random on random, sine
135 on random, swept sine, shock, and long-time history replication. Theoretically these different forms
136 of excitations, can also be applied using multi-axis and multi-exciter methods. However, suitable
137 techniques and commercially available test control software for some of these types of testing are
138 not necessarily currently commonly available. For this reason, the procedure of this document is
139 currently primarily intended for broad band random and time history replication as facilities to
140 undertake these types of tests are commonly available. With that said, the procedure of this
141 document may be adapted, by the user, for other forms of excitation and some advice is provided.
142 Although primarily intended for electromechanical specimens, this document is not restricted to them
143 and may be used in other fields where desired.

144

145

ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING –

146

Part 2-86: Tests – Test Fx: Vibration – Multi-exciter and Multi-axis Method

147

1 Scope

148 This document provides a test procedure for use with multi-exciter and multi-axis vibration test
149 systems. The vibration test is intended for general application to components, equipment, and
150 other products, hereinafter referred to as “specimens”, that may be subjected to dynamic
151 environments that could arise during an equipment life cycle. Although this document is mainly
152 intended for vibration testing the procedure can also be applied to certain types of shock and
153 transient tests.

154 The test procedure set out in this document is applicable where a specimen is required to
155 demonstrate its adequacy to resist specified vibration, shock and transient conditions, without
156 unacceptable degradation of functional or structural performance. The test procedure has
157 significant similarity to test procedures of other IEC 60068-2 documents and encompasses the
158 same range of vibration and shock excitation types.

159 This document is applicable to specimens which may be subjected to vibration, shock and transient
160 conditions resulting from transportation and/or operational environments, for example in aircraft,
161 space vehicles and land vehicles. It is primarily intended for unpackaged specimens. It is
162 applicable to specimens in their transportation container when the latter may be considered as
163 part of the specimen itself.

164 The test method and associated techniques addressed within this document are primarily intended
165 for use with multiple electrodynamic or servo-hydraulic vibration generators along with an
166 associated computer-based digital control system to control of the specimen excitations.

167 This document encompasses two testing approaches, commonly referred to as Multi-Exciter
168 Single-Axis (MESA), and Multi-Exciter Multi-Axis (MEMA). These are:

169 a) Utilising fixed base shakers either in a single axis or a selected combination of fixed X, Y, Z
170 configurations, also allowing for rotations dependent upon fixture coupling design.

171 b) Utilising multiple shakers attached directly to the specimen via flexible couplings or similar
172 methods. Here the shakers can be attached at any point and in any direction on the
173 specimen. This approach is quite similar to that used for modal testing but using
174 environmental test severities.

175 It is emphasised that MESA and MEMA testing currently requires a high degree of engineering
176 judgement and relevant experience, and both test specifier and tester should be fully aware of this
177 fact. Generally, MESA and MEMA testing requires greater resources to set up an appropriate test
178 but can potentially provide a more accurate outcome.

179 For the purpose of this document, the creator of the relevant testing specification, the test specifier,
180 is expected to select the procedure and the values of severity appropriate to the specimen and its
181 use. Precursor testing is included within the procedure of this document, as an option, to permit
182 the test specifier to establish the practicality of the test specification and severities with the
183 specimen. A separate specimen will usually need to be provisioned for such precursor testing.

184 The existing single axis, single vibrator test procedures within the IEC 60068-2 series can be used
185 with a wide range of different excitations, such as broad band random, random on random, sine
186 on random, swept sine, shock, and long-time history replication. Theoretically these different forms
187 of excitations, can also be applied using multi-axis and multi-exciter methods. However, suitable
188 techniques and commercially available test control software for some of these types of testing are
189 not necessarily currently commonly available. For this reason, the procedure of this document is
190 currently primarily intended for broad band random and time history replication as facilities to
191 undertake these types of tests are commonly available. With that said, the procedure of this
192 document may be adapted, by the user, for other forms of excitation and some advice is provided.
193 Traditionally, vibration and shock test severities are specified using acceleration as the control
194 parameter. However, this is not an essential pre-requisite of the procedure within this document.
195 For the purpose of this document vibration and shock test severities may be specified by the user
196 in the form of acceleration, velocity, displacement, or force. The need to include different control
197 parameters within this document arises because there is a greater likelihood when using multi-
198 exciter testing to specify mixed parameters for control purposes. In which case the vibration and

199 shock waveforms applied to the specimen will be controlled based upon the feedback from
 200 transducers measuring the appropriate parameter.
 201 Although primarily intended for electrotechnical specimens, this document is not restricted to them
 202 and may be used in other fields where desired.

203 **2 Normative References**

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

208 *ISO 2041, Vibration and shock – Vocabulary*

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

210 *IEC 60068-2-6, Environmental testing – Part 2-64: Tests – Test Fc: Vibration, (Sinusoidal)*

211 *IEC 60068-2-27, Environmental testing – Part 2-27: Tests – Test Ea and guidance: Shock*

212 *IEC 60068-2-57, Environmental testing - Part 2-57: Tests - Test Ff: Vibration - Time-history and*
 213 *sine-beat method*

214 *IEC 60068-2-64, Environmental testing – Part 2-64: Tests – Test Fh: Vibration, broadband random*
 215 *and guidance*

216 *IEC 60068-2-80, Environmental testing – Part 2-80: Tests – Test Fi: Vibration, Mixed Mode*

217 *IEC 60068-2-85, Environmental testing – Part 2-85: Tests – Test Fj: Vibration, Long time history*
 218 *replication*

219 **3 Terms and Definitions**

220 For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions defined in ISO 2041, IEC 60068-1,
 221 IEC 60068-2-6, IEC 60068-2-27, IEC 60068-2-57, IEC 60068-2-64, IEC 60068-2-80 and
 222 IEC 60068-2-85 shall apply. Where for convenience of the reader, a definition from one of those
 223 sources is included here, the derivation is indicated along with any departure from those definitions.
 224 ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following
 225 addresses:

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

228 The additional terms and definitions that follow are also applicable.

229 **3.1**

230 **Multi-Exciter Single-Axis** 231 **(MESA)**

232 method of applying vibration test waveforms using multiple vibration exciters but all applying the
 233 vibrations in a single specimen axis

234 **3.2**

235 **Multi-Exciter Multi-Axis** 236 **(MEMA)**

237 method of applying vibration test waveforms using multiple vibration exciters in two or more
 238 specimen axis

239 Note 1 to entry: The applied excitations may be in the translation axes, rotational axes or both
 240 translation and rotational axes.

241 **3.3**

242 **Single-Input/Single-Output** 243 **(SISO)**

244 method of applying vibration test waveforms using input of a single drive signal to an exciter system in a
 245 single-degree of freedom configuration and a single measured output from the test specimen or its fixing
 246 points in a single-degree of freedom configuration

247 Note 1 to entry: This is essentially a conventional single axis/exciter test arrangement using a
 248 single measured response for control purposes.

249 **3.4**
 250 **Single-Input/Multiple-Output**
 251 **(SIMO).**

252 method of applying vibration test waveforms using input of a single drive signal to an exciter system in a
 253 single degree of freedom configuration, and multiple measured outputs from the test specimen or its fixing
 254 points in a multi-degree of freedom configuration

255 Note 1 to entry: This is essentially an extension of a conventional single axis/exciter test arrangement
 256 but manipulating multiple measured responses for control purposes.”

257 **3.5**
 258 **Multiple-Input Single-Output**
 259 **(MISO).**

260 method of applying vibration test waveforms using input of multiple drive signals that are applied to the
 261 multiple exciters, to produce a single measured output from the test specimen or its fixing points

262 Note 1 to entry: Unless the multiple inputs are applying the identical waveform, this arrangement
 263 is often not possible as multi-exciter test control systems often require the number of outputs to
 264 match the number of inputs.

265 **3.6**
 266 **Multiple-Input Multiple-Output**
 267 **(MIMO).**

268 method of applying vibration test waveforms using input of multiple drive signals that are applied to the
 269 exciters, to produce multiple measured outputs from the test specimen or its fixing points

270 Note 1 to entry: Commonly, as a minimum, the number of inputs and outputs should be the same,
 271 but many systems used for multi-exciter control, allow the number of outputs to exceed the number
 272 of inputs. Commonly, multi-exciter and multi-axis test control systems operate as Multiple-Input
 273 Multiple-Output systems.

274 **4 Background**

275 **4.1 General**

276 The capability to undertake multi-exciter testing has been available for some time for seismic as
 277 well as durability / fatigue testing. Generally, such tests utilise excitations which occur at relatively
 278 low frequencies. It is only comparatively recently that capabilities have become commonly
 279 available to undertake multi-axis and/or multi-exciter tests, at frequencies necessary for general
 280 purpose vibration and shock testing.

281 The use of multi-axis and/or multi-exciter testing equipment [1] for certain types of vibration and
 282 shock testing is currently perceived as having advantage in a number of applications, some of
 283 which are set out below. This list should not be considered as exhaustive as applications for multi-
 284 axis and/or multi-exciter testing are still being identified. Broadly the advantages of multi-axis
 285 and/or multi-exciter testing include better vibration loading distribution, more realistic excitations,
 286 and the potential for test time reduction.

287 **4.2 Multi-axis and/or multi-exciter testing to achieve an improved distribution of**
 288 **dynamic responses**

289 Multi-axis and/or multi-exciter testing is in regular use for large and/or dynamically complex
 290 specimens, where there is a need to ensure that the dynamic response motions of the specimen
 291 are correctly achieved. In such cases multi-exciter testing can achieve a far more accurate
 292 distribution of dynamic responses than is possible with traditional vibration and shock testing
 293 methods. This is particularly the case when the specimen would experience, in-service, dynamic
 294 excitations from multiple excitation sources. An example of this would be a road vehicle where
 295 somewhat different dynamic excitations arise from each wheel.

296 Using multi-axis and/or multi-exciter testing to achieve an improved distribution of dynamic
 297 responses within a specimen, usually requires test severities which are derived from vibration or
 298 shock data, measured during actual life cycle conditions. The applied vibration or shock excitations
 299 are commonly controlled from measurements at multiple response locations. This is essentially a
 300 “controlled response” test control strategy. This is a fundamentally different control strategy, to
 301 that used for the majority of the single axis vibration and shock tests within IEC 60068-2. Those
 302 single axis tests are basically “controlled excitation” tests both applying and controlling the
 303 excitations to the specimen’s fixing points. Such a control strategy is not profoundly influenced by
 304 the dynamic responses of the specimen. Consequently, the test severities for such “controlled

305 excitation” tests can readily adopt “generic” severities as the severities are independent of the
306 dynamic responses of the specimen.

307 For some applications “generic” severities have advantage in that they may represent a wide range
308 of life cycles conditions. For example, the generic test severities for transportation encompass a
309 range of usage conditions and a variety of transportation platforms. The use of simple generic test
310 severities with multi-axis and/or multi-exciter testing may limit the ability to achieve an accurate
311 distribution of dynamic responses.

312 **4.3 Multi-exciter testing for large equipment**

313 Multi-exciter testing is sometimes used as a testing convenience, permitting the use of several
314 smaller exciters rather than a single much larger (and more expensive) exciter. In this case the
315 use of multi-exciter testing can permit the testing of equipment which otherwise would not be
316 practicable. As an example, four vibrators could be (electrically and mechanically) coupled
317 together to provide a facility to test very large specimens such as entire vehicles. If the waveforms
318 applied to each exciter are correlated, then such a setup is essentially that of a conventional single
319 axis test procedure and comparable test severities could be adopted. If the waveforms are not
320 correlated, then the procedure of this document would be more applicable. In such cases the test
321 severities may be defined either as applied excitations to the specimen fixing points or as specimen
322 responses. In either case, the testing arrangement means that the test will need to be controlled
323 using a “controlled response” strategy.

324 Although the use of generic test severities is a possibility when using this type of test approach,
325 the phase and amplitude relationship between the excitations will still need to be derived with
326 some knowledge of actual relationships. This is necessary as, without such knowledge, the
327 dynamic conditions experienced by the specimen may well be significantly increased and/or
328 decreased in an indeterminate way from that of a single axis test.

329 **4.4 Multi-axis testing for reliability growth**

330 Multi-axis testing has been perceived as having advantage for reliability growth testing of certain
331 types of electro-technical equipment. This is because the multi-axis dynamic responses produced
332 within the specimen are different, in many ways, to those produced during single axis testing. The
333 multi-axis dynamic responses produced are considered to exercise a greater number of potential
334 failure and degradations modes of the specimen than is possible with conventional single axis
335 testing. <https://standards.iteh.ai/catalog/standards/sist/5ee214ca-de98-4dc2-bbd0->

336 The test severities used for reliability growth testing are generally exaggerated (viz. greater than
337 those likely to be experienced in-service) and applied at the fixing points of the specimen. For this
338 specific purpose, the use of generic test severities may be appropriate. Nevertheless, the dynamic
339 responses within the specimen may not necessarily represent conditions which actually occur
340 during the specimen life cycle. For this reason, failures identified by such test are commonly the
341 subject of a reliability failure assessment, to ensure they could realistically occur during the
342 equipment’s life cycle.

343 **4.5 Multi-axis testing to reduce test durations**

344 Multi-axis testing has sometimes been proposed as a testing convenience for reducing the duration
345 of applied excitation. Simplistically, by applying excitations in all three-axis simultaneously, the
346 test duration can be reduced by a third from that of single axis tests undertaken in three axes
347 separately. It may also achieve savings in that only one test set up is required. However, these
348 savings may not necessarily be fully achieved as the multi-axis test set up may be more
349 complicated to achieve. When coupled with the purpose of achieving an improved distribution of
350 dynamic responses, such a saving may not always possible, as the use of more realistic severities
351 may also require them to be applied for longer durations.

352 There can also be a concern when multi-axis testing is used with generic severities to achieve a
353 test duration reduction. This is because the phase and amplitude relationship utilised between the
354 different excitation axes, will produce indeterminately increased and/or decreased dynamic
355 conditions with the specimen from those of three separate single axis tests. Commonly generic
356 severities are based upon long historic experience with the existing single axis test. As such it may
357 not be realistic to compare the outcome of multi-axis testing, undertaken with generic severities,
358 with the outcome of historic single axis tests.

359 **5 Test Apparatus and Control Strategy**

360 The use of any multi-exciter or multi-axis test system, capable of satisfying the test requirements,
361 is acceptable [1]. The capability of the excitation equipment and control facility to conduct the test,
362 as specified in the Relevant Specification, shall be verified prior to undertaking the test.

363 Guidance information on multi-exciter / multi-axis test control systems is provided in Annex A.
364 Guidance on the application of different control strategies is provided in Annex B. Guidance on the
365 use of different multi-exciter / multi-axis test configuration is provided in Annex C. Further general
366 guidance on multi-exciter and multi-axis testing can be found in [2], [3], [4] and [5].

367 **6 Test Severities and Tolerances**

368 **6.1 Test Severities**

369 The test severities utilised shall be those specified in the relevant specification. Unless specified
370 otherwise, the severities and other parameters necessary to undertake this test should be based
371 on the purpose for which it is being conducted and on the conditions the specimen is likely to
372 experience during its life cycle.

373 Guidance information on establishing severities for multi-exciter / multi-axis testing is provided in
374 Annex D.

375 **6.2 Tolerances**

376 The measured control responses shall not deviate from the specified requirements by more than
377 the test tolerances quoted in the relevant specification.

378 Unless specified otherwise the tolerance on:

- 379 1) Power Spectral Density values, of a Gaussian random vibration test, shall be within ± 3 dB
380 of the specified values.
- 381 2) Time history amplitudes, of a time history replication test, shall be within ± 20 % of the
382 highest amplitude of the specified waveform for at 90 % of the specified waveform duration.

383 The test tolerances shall not be used to modify the specified requirements.

384 Any deviation from the specified tolerances shall be agreed with the relevant test specifier and the
385 actual tolerances achieved, and reason for the deviation, stated in the test report. In order to
386 achieve such an agreement, it is recommended that the verification measurements set out in Annex
387 B should be made available to the relevant test specifier.

388 Guidance information on the selection of suitable tolerances for multi-exciter / multi-axis testing is
389 provided in Annex E.

390 **6.3 Excitations Outside the Specified Test Frequency Range**

391 Excitations outside the specified test frequency range shall be minimised and if required quantified.
392 The approach to be used to quantify excitations outside the specified test frequency range, if
393 required, shall be specified in the relevant specification. Guidance information on establishing
394 severities for multi-exciter / multi-axis testing is provided in Annex B.

395 Unless specified otherwise the out of test frequency range excitations shall be established as set
396 out below.

- 397 1) Random Vibration: For random vibration tests, including all the vibration tests, which have
398 broad band and narrowband random components, the out of test frequency range
399 responses shall be established up to 5000 Hz or 5 times the driving frequency, whichever
400 is the lesser. The out of test frequency range responses shall be established in accordance
401 with the procedure of IEC 60068-2-64, although it should be noted that the procedure of
402 IEC 60068-2-64 is specifically related to the use of acceleration as a control parameter.
- 403 2) Time History Replication: For time signal replication tests the out of test frequency range
404 responses shall be established up to 10000 Hz or 10 times the driving frequency, whichever
405 is the lesser. The out of test frequency range responses shall be established in accordance
406 with the procedure of IEC 60068-2-85.
- 407 3) Sinusoidal Tests: For sinusoidal vibration tests (fixed, swept and stepped) the signal
408 tolerance shall be established up to 5000 Hz or 5 times the driving frequency, whichever is
409 the lesser. This parameter applies whether the signal is acceleration, velocity, or