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Environmental testing - Part 2-1: Tests - Test a: Cold

Umgebungseinflüsse - Teil 2-1: Prüfverfahren - Prüfung A: Kälte

Essais d'environnement - Partie 2-1: Essais - Essai a: Froid

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PROPOSED HORIZONTAL STANDARD:



Other TC/SCs are requested to indicate their interest, if any, in this CDV to the secretary.

FUNCTIONS CONCERNED:

☐ EMC

☐ ENVIRONMENT

☐ QUALITY ASSURANCE

☐ SAFETY

☒ SUBMITTED FOR CENELEC PARALLEL VOTING

☐ NOT SUBMITTED FOR CENELEC PARALLEL VOTING

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TITLE:

Environmental testing - Part 2-1: Tests - Test A: Cold

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ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING –**Part 2-1: Tests – Test A: Cold****FOREWORD**

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International Standard IEC 60068-2-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 104: Environmental conditions, classification and methods of test.

This seventh edition cancels and replaces the sixth edition published in 2007.

The major changes with regard to the previous edition concern:

- a) Revision of the introduction and scope;
- b) Including new figures and symbols for clarification purposes;
- c) Clarification of the test procedure for ascertaining high or low air velocity in the test chamber;
- d) Clarification of the requirements for measuring points around, on or in specimens;
- e) Reintroducing the nomogram procedure for the correction of the conditioning temperature when testing with high air velocity (Test Ad and Test Ae);
- f) Revision of the temperature tolerances of the test;
- g) Revision of standardized requirements for the relevant specification and test report;
- h) Including the advantages and disadvantages of the testing procedures.

136 The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting

137

138 Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on
139 voting indicated in the above table.

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

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

143 The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the
144 maintenance result date indicated on the IEC web site under "http://webstore.iec.ch" in the data
145 related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- 146 • reconfirmed,
147 • withdrawn,
148 • replaced by a revised edition, or
149 • amended.

150

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151

INTRODUCTION

152 The working ranges and performance of equipment and machinery can be significantly affected
153 or limited by ambient temperatures. The degree of this influence may depend on temperature
154 distributions of the environment as well as temperatures on components of the device itself. In
155 order to determine the existing degree of influence and to ensure that the device is suitably
156 designed for its ambient conditions, tests are carried out with cold and/or dry heat (IEC 60068-
157 2-2). During the test, it is to be taken into account whether the tested device itself emits heat
158 or not.

159 Reducing the air flow within the test chamber may be required to reduce the air velocity at heat-
160 dissipating specimens. This can be achieved by using air baffles or adjusting the air flow of the
161 test chamber. If the reduction of air velocity is not practical or possible due to the required test
162 conditions, this document provides an alternative test procedure without the need for adjustable
163 air flow as well as guidance on selecting the applicable test procedure.

164

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ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING –

Part 2-1: Tests – Test A: Cold

1 Scope

This document specifies temperature tests at low temperatures, generally referred to as “cold tests”, that are applicable to non-heat-dissipating and heat-dissipating specimens, to determine the ability of components, equipment, or other articles to be used, transported or stored at low temperature.

This document is applicable to energized as well as not energized specimens, that normally achieve temperature stability during the test. The specimens can be packed or unpacked in the test.

This document does not specify tests to determine the impact of temperature changes on specimens.

2 Normative references

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

IEC 60068-5-2, *Environmental testing – Part 5: Guide to drafting of test methods – Terms and definitions*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the definitions given in IEC 60068-1 and IEC 60068-5-2, as well as the following definitions, apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

3.1

low air velocity

velocity of conditioning airflow within a working space which is sufficient to maintain conditions but low enough so that the temperature at any point on the test specimen is not reduced by more than 5 K by the influence of the circulation of the air

3.2

high air velocity

velocity of conditioning airflow within a working space, which in order to maintain conditions, also reduces the temperature at the relevant point or points on the test specimen by more than 5 K by the influence of the circulation of the air

202 **4 Symbols**

T_A	low conditioning temperature
$T_{A'}$	corrected low conditioning temperature (nomogram procedure)
T_{STD}	temperature of standard atmospheric conditions for measurement and test (15 °C to 35 °C)
T_{Ca}	measured ambient temperature in the vicinity of the specimen, either in the test chamber or the laboratory air, without forced convection (see 5.2)
T_{Cb}	measured test chamber temperature with forced convection (see 5.2)
T_S	temperature of the energized specimen at the specified conditioning temperature
T_{Sa}	temperature of the energized specimen at the temperature of standard atmospheric conditions without forced convection (see 5.2)
T_{Sb}	temperature of the energized specimen at the temperature of standard atmospheric conditions with forced convection (see 5.2)
ΔT_S	temperature difference between the energized specimen and the air
$\Delta T_{Sa/b}$	temperature difference between the energized specimen without forced convection (T_{Sa}) and with forced convection (T_{Sb}) at the temperature of standard atmospheric conditions
dT_R	temperature change rate
t_s	stabilization time of specimen temperature before exposure to the low conditioning temperature
t_{s0}	stabilization time of specimen temperature after energizing
t_1	exposure time of the specimen to the low conditioning temperature

203 **5 Application of tests for non-heat-dissipating specimens versus tests for**
204 **heat-dissipating specimens**205 **5.1 General**

206 This test is subdivided as follows:

- 207 – Test Ab, Cold for non-heat-dissipating specimens;
- 208 – Test Ad, Cold for heat-dissipating specimens that are energized after initial temperature
209 stabilization;
- 210 – Test Ae: Cold for heat-dissipating specimens that are energized throughout the test.

211 A specimen, while energized, is considered to be heat-dissipating only if the hottest point on its
212 surface or any other relevant point, measured in free air conditions (i.e., with low air velocity
213 circulation), is more than 5 K above the ambient temperature of the surrounding atmosphere
214 after temperature stability has been reached (see 3.11 of IEC 60068-1).

215 NOTE 1 In some cases, for example for test specimens with air-permeable housings, the relevant measuring points
216 can be located inside the external housing.

217 Tests of heat-dissipating and non-heat-dissipating specimens generally differ in the air velocity
218 applied. Non-heat-dissipating specimens are typically tested at high air velocity to reduce the
219 time required to reach temperature stability. Heat-dissipating specimens are generally tested
220 at low air velocity to allow for the formation of local hotspots similar to those that would appear

221 in installed applications. Annex A gives an overview of the relevant test conditions and shows
 222 the relationship of suffixes between Test A: Cold and Test B: Dry heat.

223 Testing with low air velocity may not apply to heat-dissipating specimens with an external
 224 housing and built-in fan, provided that the representative measuring point is located at a point
 225 inside the external housing which is not affected by external air movement. It should be ensured
 226 that the induced air movement does not interfere with the operation of the built-in fan, if not
 227 specified otherwise.

228 NOTE 2 The induced air movement can have an influence on the operation of a built-in fan if both air movements
 229 act either in the same or opposite direction.

230 Where it is not feasible to test heat-dissipating specimens with low air velocity, e.g., due to the
 231 required test conditions, Annex B gives an alternative procedure for testing with high air
 232 velocity.

233 The relevant specification shall state which test procedure shall be applied. The advantages
 234 and disadvantages of both test procedures should be considered when specifying the intended
 235 test. For more information on these advantages and disadvantages, see Annex C.

236 When the relevant specification calls for a storage or transportation test or does not specify an
 237 applied load during the test, Test Ab applies.

238 **5.2 Ascertaining high or low air velocity in the test chamber**

239 To ascertain, whether high or low air velocity prevails in the test chamber, the cooling effect of
 240 the air movement on the specimen shall be determined. Therefore, the specimen's temperature
 241 shall be measured with and without forced convection by the test chamber's fan. Both
 242 temperatures shall be compared in accordance with the following procedure. It is recommended
 243 to ascertain the prevailing air velocity in the test chamber for every specimen, since the
 244 occurring cooling effect can vary for different specimens.

245 Under standard atmospheric conditions for measurements and test (see IEC 60068-1) with an
 246 air velocity <0,2 m/s, achieved without forced convection, the heat-dissipating specimen shall
 247 be switched on or electrically loaded as specified for the low temperature at which the test is to
 248 be carried out.

249 When temperature stability of the specimen has been reached, the temperature of a
 250 representative point around or on the specimen and the ambient temperature T_{Ca} shall be
 251 measured using a suitable monitoring device. Either the hottest point or any point of particular
 252 interest on the specimen may be used as representative point for measuring the temperature
 253 of the energized specimen T_{Sa} without forced convection.

254 NOTE 1 To determine the representative point, an infrared camera can be helpful.

255 The temperature rise that occurs at each point shall then be noted. This measurement may be
 256 done in an open test chamber (e.g. with an opened door or a lifted test space enclosure, if
 257 applicable) or outside of the test chamber to prevent an improper temperature rise of the
 258 surrounding air.

259 NOTE 2 The operation of a heat-dissipating specimen in a closed and switched-off test chamber leads to a
 260 temperature rise within the test space. In a small test chamber or with a large heat load, the temperature rise can
 261 influence the measurement result.

262 NOTE 3 The temperature T_{Ca} is the temperature in the vicinity of the specimen during the measurement without
 263 forced convection. It can be the temperature in the test chamber or the temperature of the laboratory air, depending
 264 on where the test was done.

265 The specimen is then introduced into the test chamber, if applicable, and the test chamber is
 266 switched on. The temperature is set to the previously recorded temperature T_{Ca} .