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Environmental testing - Part 3-11: Supporting documentation and guidance - Calculation of uncertainty of conditions in climatic test chambers

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Essais d'environnement - Partie 3-11: Documentation d'accompagnement et guide - Calcul de l'incertitude des conditions en chambres d'essais climatiques

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Environmental testing

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104/1039/CDV

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IEC TC 104: ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS, CLASSIFICATION AND METHODS OF TEST							
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Sweden		Mr Henrik Lagerström					
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☐ SUBMITTED FOR CENELEC PARALLEL VOTING ☐ NOT SUBMITTED FOR CENELEC F							
Attention IEC-CENELEC parallel vo	ting Len S1	andard	S				
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The CENELEC members are invited to vote through the CENELEC online voting system.							
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TITLE:							
Environmental testing - Part 3-11: Supporting documentation and guidance - Calculation of uncertainty of conditions in climatic test chambers							
PROPOSED STABILITY DATE: 2027							
Note from TC/SC officers:							

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Environmental conditions, classification and methods of test.

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING -

Part 3-11: Supporting documentation and guidance — Developing a

climatic sequential test

FOREWORD

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FDIS Report on voting XX/XX/RVD

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

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- 95 amended.

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97 I	NTRODUCTION
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The IEC 60068-2 series includes a variety of single and combined climatic condition tests. Some of these tests can give cumulative effects or hysteretic effects, causing the unit-under-test deteriorates, making it more vulnerable to the follow-up tests. Thus, the determination of test sequence can have significant influence to the conclusion of a test.

This part of IEC 60068 provides guidance for developing a climatic sequential test for a certain type of product (electrical, electromechanical or electronic equipment and devices, as well as their subassemblies, constituent parts and components). It is written for technicians, engineers and managers in environment testing, and for those who need to understand the results of sequential climatic environment tests.

With the increasing importance of the IEC Quality Assessment System for Electronic Components (IECQ), it has become necessary to define the test sequence more precisely than could be done in clause 7 of IEC 60068-1, in order to provide a satisfactory reproducibility of the test. This International Standard describes in detail a composite test specifying a "climatic sequence" for specimens of products, and it includes guidance in informative annexes for specification writers and those performing the test.

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Scope

This part of IEC 60068-3 describes a generic process for developing a climatic sequential test 120 programme by sequencing the test methods selected from IEC 60068-2 series. The generic 121 process comprises a systematic approach to the development of a sequential environmental 122 test programme. The process is applicable to electrical product, and can be customized 123 according to specific product requirements and applications. The process is designed for use 124 by both product suppliers and purchasers. The full process is particularly relevant to electrical 125 products, which would include products containing any components or material that have the 126 potential to degrade, as a consequence of environmental exposure. 127

Normative references 2

There are no normative references in this document. 129

Terms and definitions 3

- For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply. 131
- ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following 132 addresses: 133
- 134 IEC Electropedia: available at http://www.electropedia.org/
 - ISO Online browsing platform: available at http://www.iso.org/obp
- 3.1 136

cumulative effects

permanently remained consequences of environmental conditions imposed on a product after 138 the environmental exposures are removed

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hysteretic effects 141

gradually attenuated consequences of an environmental condition after the environmental

exposure are removed 143

3.3 144

Life Cycle Environmental Profile 145

LCEP 146

design and test decision baseline document outlining real-world environmental conditions that 147

- a product or component will experience during usage-related events (e.g., transportation, 148
- storage, operational usage, maintenance) from its release/ manufacturing to the end of its 149
- useful life 150

Background 4

Environmental exposure sequence in life cycle

When exposed to environmental conditions, products will be influenced by the surrounding environment. The influence is related to the environmental severity, the mechanism of environment effect to the product and the initial state. To provide confidence that a product is capable of surviving and operating in the environmental conditions which will encounter during its life cycle, it is necessary to evaluate the product against those conditions. As far as practicable, such evaluations need to consider all environmental conditions and their sequence the product can experience during its life cycle. An environmental test programme should, as far as practicable, replicate the usage environment and expose the product to the environmental conditions so that the product would experience from the point of manufacture to the end of its life. The environmental conditions that exist during storage, transportation, handling and operation should be contained.

See IEC 60721-1, IEC 60721-2 and IEC 60721-3 for the classification of environmental conditions.

4.2 Failure mechanism under a sequential test

The environmental worthiness assessment of products is generally conducted by serial laboratory environmental tests according to a specified environmental test programme. See IEC 60721-4 for guidance for the correlation and transformation of environmental condition classes to the environmental tests. While a specimen is exposed to one environmental test, its state changes somehow. The changes can be some permanent damages due to the previous environment exposed onto the specimen, or some remaining effects by the previous environmental exposure, which will disappear gradually in a long duration.

When an environmental test programme is to be specified for a particular product, the sequence in which tests are carried out is important. That is because damage or effect, initiated by the previous environmental test, will not probably become apparent or significant, until another is applied. Specifically, a product can survive from an environmental test programme if the test is carried out in one particular order, but fail if carry out the test in another order. Therefore, the order in which environmental tests are undertaken, should ideally reflect the order in which they appear in the life cycle. In practice, it is usually not possible to exactly reproduce every aspect of a product life cycle, as environmental exposure can vary, especially during operational conditions.

5 Introduction to the Process

5.1 General

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- The process to develop a climatic environmental test sequence, as set out in this document, is considered in three stages:
- a) Stage 1: review environmental requirements of products and compile a provisional sequence;
- b) Stage 2: establish critical environments, based upon knowledge and refine sequence;
- c) Stage 3: prepare a technically reliable, cost-effective sequential test programme.

191 5.2 Stage 1: review environmental requirements and compile a provisional test 192 sequence

Stage 1 of the process, considers the product usage requirements to establish a provisional environmental sequence. Generally, the requirements of specific concerns are; the product life 68-3-11-2024 cycle, usually contained within the technical requirement, as well as the product environmental requirements. Together these can be used to generate a provisional list of environmental requirements and sequence. At this stage, the environmental sequence will comprise a list of environmental conditions arising from each phase of the product life cycle. This provisional environmental sequence will be extensive, with many similar environmental conditions appearing within a number of different phases, of the life cycle.

5.3 Stage 2: establish critical environments and refine sequence

Stage 2 of the process, refines the provisional environmental sequence to eliminate unnecessary repetition of environmental conditions, as well as consider the effects of the sequence and of potential product failure modes. The elimination of unnecessary repetition of environmental conditions is achieved by consideration of the operational state. For example, the environmental conditions occurring when the product is packaged and non-operational, have the potential to be merged.

208 It is possible for coincident environmental conditions to have an effect on the product, which is

- greater than the case if they are applied separately. In such cases, the coincident environmental
- conditions sometimes have a synergistic effect. If the synergistic effect is likely to be significant
- for a particular product, consideration should be given to undertaking combined environmental
- 212 testing.
- In parallel, consideration of the potential failure modes of the product, should allow a sequential
- order of the environmental conditions to be established. For example, if temperature variation
- testing degrades seals and joints, allowing moisture around to pass through these seals and

joints when the product is exposed to a damp heat condition, the temperature variation test should be done before the humidity test. Conversely, when moisture penetrates into electrical box during the humidity test, a following low temperature test can cause the test sample to condense or freeze inside. It is for this reason that recursive and iterative philosophy (so called "shake it, bake it and shake it again") to refine test sequence is generally the keyword throughout the whole process to develop a test programme. Stage 2 of the process, also considers the environmental conditions which need to be considered as part of a sequential programme and those than can be considered separately, as non-sequential tests.

5.4 Stage 3: prepare sequential test programme

Stage 3 of the process considers the environmental sequence generated by the preceding stages and then generates a technically reliable, cost-effective test programme. Having identified the appropriate sequences of environments these can be converted into a test programme. This should also consider the need to include appropriate functional testing of the product during and after the testing as well as the need for any post-test destructive or non-destructive inspection. In certain cases, greater technical credibility and cost effectiveness can be achieved by modifying the sequence, to allow more effective use and time. Although, such modifications should not override the order identified in Stage 2, some adjustments can still be achieved.

5.5 Overall process

The overall process is illustrated in Table 1 and is discussed in detail hereinafter.

Table 1 – The process to develop an environmental test sequence

Stage	Task	Sub-Task	
	review equirements and compile a provisional test sequence	evaluate life cycle	
1		evaluate environmental requirements	
		compile provisional lists of critical environments	
	establish critical environments, based upon knowledge of product and refine test sequence	consideration of the operational state of the product	
		identification of potential failure modes	
2		review sensitivity of the product to sequential environmental conditions	
2		identify need for combined testing, and refine test programme	
		consideration of sequential and non-sequential testing	
lards iteh ai/c:	prepare a sequential test programme	review programme for technical credibility and cost effectiveness	

6 Stage 1: review requirements and compile provisional test sequence

6.1 Evaluate product life cycle

Consideration of the product life cycle should have occurred as part of the exercise to generate the environmental requirements document. The environmental requirements document should reflect the predominant phases of the life cycle. However, a product life cycle can contain multiple iterations of some events, such as the product has the potential to be transported several times in its entire life. As a consequence, even a well-constructed environmental requirements document should be considered alongside the life cycle, when identifying all the sequential conditions the particular equipment experiences.

The product life cycle can also be used to identify whether changes in logistics and operational usage will occur in the future. For example, one type of transport vehicle can be replaced by another. Even when information of future potential environmental conditions is not known, identifying the possibility permits the management of potential consequences. It is also necessary to consider a worst-case usage to future proof against unknown usage requirements.

6.2 Evaluate environmental requirements

6.2.1 Identify major phases

The information in the environmental requirements document can be presented in several ways.
Whichever approach is used, the logistical and operational requirements should be broken down