

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



**Safety of power converters for use in photovoltaic power systems –
Part 1: General requirements**

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	8
INTRODUCTION.....	10
1 Scope and object.....	11
1.1 Scope.....	11
1.1.1 Equipment included in scope	11
1.1.2 Equipment for which other requirements may apply	11
1.2 Object	11
1.2.1 Aspects included in scope	11
1.2.2 Aspects excluded from scope	12
2 Normative references	12
3 Terms and definitions	15
4 General testing requirements.....	25
4.1 General.....	25
4.2 General conditions for testing.....	25
4.2.1 Sequence of tests.....	25
4.2.2 Reference test conditions	25
4.3 Thermal testing	28
4.3.1 General	28
4.3.2 Maximum temperatures	28
4.4 Testing in single fault condition	31
4.4.1 General	31
4.4.2 Test conditions and duration for testing under fault conditions.....	31
4.4.3 Pass/fail criteria for testing under fault conditions.....	32
4.4.4 Single fault conditions to be applied	33
4.5 Humidity preconditioning	36
4.5.1 General	36
4.5.2 Conditions	36
4.6 Backfeed voltage protection	36
4.6.1 Backfeed tests under normal conditions.....	37
4.6.2 Backfeed tests under single-fault conditions	37
4.6.3 Compliance with backfeed tests.....	37
4.7 Electrical ratings tests	37
4.7.1 Input ratings	37
4.7.2 Output ratings.....	37
5 Marking and documentation.....	37
5.1 Marking.....	37
5.1.1 General	37
5.1.2 Durability of markings.....	38
5.1.3 Identification.....	38
5.1.4 Equipment ratings.....	38
5.1.5 Fuse identification	38
5.1.6 Terminals, connections and controls.....	39
5.1.7 Switches and circuit-breakers	39
5.1.8 Class II equipment.....	39
5.1.9 Terminal boxes for external connections.....	40
5.2 Warning markings	40

5.2.1	Visibility and legibility requirements for warning markings.....	40
5.2.2	Content for warning markings	40
5.2.3	Sonic hazard markings and instructions.....	41
5.2.4	Equipment with multiple sources of supply.....	41
5.2.5	Excessive touch current.....	41
5.3	Documentation	42
5.3.1	General	42
5.3.2	Information related to installation.....	42
5.3.3	Information related to operation.....	43
5.3.4	Information related to maintenance.....	44
6	Environmental requirements and conditions.....	44
6.1	Environmental categories and minimum environmental conditions	45
6.1.1	Outdoor	45
6.1.2	Indoor, unconditioned	45
6.1.3	Indoor, conditioned.....	45
6.2	Pollution degree	46
6.3	Ingress protection.....	47
6.4	UV exposure	47
6.5	Temperature and humidity.....	47
7	Protection against electric shock and energy hazards.....	47
7.1	General.....	47
7.2	Fault conditions.....	47
7.3	Protection against electric shock	48
7.3.1	General	48
7.3.2	Decisive voltage classification	48
7.3.3	Protective separation.....	52
7.3.4	Protection against direct contact.....	52
7.3.5	Protection in case of direct contact	57
7.3.6	Protection against indirect contact.....	60
7.3.7	Insulation including clearance and creepage distances.....	68
7.3.8	Residual Current Detection (RCD) or Monitoring (RCM) device compatibility	79
7.3.9	Protection against shock hazard due to stored energy	80
7.4	Protection against energy hazards	80
7.4.1	Determination of hazardous energy level.....	80
7.4.2	Operator access areas	81
7.4.3	Service access areas	81
7.5	Electrical tests related to shock hazard	81
7.5.1	Impulse voltage test (type test).....	81
7.5.2	Voltage test (dielectric strength test) (type test and routine test).....	83
7.5.3	Partial discharge test (type test or sample test)	87
7.5.4	Touch current measurement (type test)	88
7.5.5	Equipment with multiple sources of supply.....	89
8	Protection against mechanical hazards.....	89
8.1	General.....	89
8.2	Moving parts	90
8.2.1	Protection of service persons	90
8.3	Stability.....	90
8.4	Provisions for lifting and carrying.....	91

8.5	Wall mounting	91
8.6	Expelled parts	92
9	Protection against fire hazards	92
9.1	Resistance to fire	92
9.1.1	Reducing the risk of ignition and spread of flame.....	92
9.1.2	Conditions for a fire enclosure	93
9.1.3	Materials requirements for protection against fire hazard.....	93
9.1.4	Openings in fire enclosures	96
9.2	Limited power sources.....	100
9.2.1	General	100
9.2.2	Limited power source tests	100
9.3	Short-circuit and overcurrent protection.....	101
9.3.1	General	101
9.3.2	Number and location of overcurrent protective devices.....	101
9.3.3	Short-circuit co-ordination (backup protection).....	102
10	Protection against sonic pressure hazards.....	102
10.1	General.....	102
10.2	Sonic pressure and sound level.....	102
10.2.1	Hazardous noise levels.....	102
11	Protection against liquid hazards	103
11.1	Liquid containment, pressure and leakage.....	103
11.2	Fluid pressure and leakage	103
11.2.1	Maximum pressure	103
11.2.2	Leakage from parts.....	104
11.2.3	Overpressure safety device	104
11.3	Oil and grease.....	104
12	Chemical hazards.....	104
12.1	General.....	104
13	Physical requirements	105
13.1	Handles and manual controls	105
13.1.1	Adjustable controls	105
13.2	Securing of parts.....	105
13.3	Provisions for external connections	105
13.3.1	General	105
13.3.2	Connection to an a.c. mains supply	106
13.3.3	Wiring terminals for connection of external conductors	110
13.3.4	Supply wiring space.....	111
13.3.5	Wire bending space for wires 10 mm ² and greater	112
13.3.6	Disconnection from supply sources.....	112
13.3.7	Connectors, plugs and sockets	112
13.3.8	Direct plug-in equipment.....	113
13.4	Internal wiring and connections	113
13.4.1	General	113
13.4.2	Routing.....	113
13.4.3	Colour coding	113
13.4.4	Splices and connections	114
13.4.5	Interconnections between parts of the PCE	114
13.5	Openings in enclosures	114

13.5.1	Top and side openings	114
13.6	Polymeric materials	116
13.6.1	General	116
13.6.2	Polymers serving as enclosures or barriers preventing access to hazards	117
13.6.3	Polymers serving as solid insulation	117
13.6.4	UV resistance	118
13.7	Mechanical resistance to deflection, impact, or drop	118
13.7.1	General	118
13.7.2	250 N deflection test for metal enclosures	119
13.7.3	7 J impact test for polymeric enclosures	119
13.7.4	Drop test	119
13.8	Thickness requirements for metal enclosures	120
13.8.1	General	120
13.8.2	Cast metal	120
13.8.3	Sheet metal	120
14	Components	122
14.1	General	122
14.2	Motor overtemperature protection	124
14.3	Overtemperature protection devices	124
14.4	Fuse holders	124
14.5	Mains voltage selecting devices	124
14.6	Printed circuit boards	124
14.7	Circuits or components used as transient overvoltage limiting devices	125
14.8	Batteries	125
14.8.1	Battery enclosure ventilation	125
14.8.2	Battery mounting	126
14.8.3	Electrolyte spillage	126
14.8.4	Battery connections	127
14.8.5	Battery maintenance instructions	127
14.8.6	Battery accessibility and maintainability	127
15	Software and firmware performing safety functions	127
Annex A (normative)	Measurement of clearances and creepage distances	128
Annex B (normative)	Programmable equipment	133
Annex C (normative)	Symbols to be used in equipment markings	134
Annex D (informative)	Test probes for determining access	136
Annex E (informative)	RCDs	138
Annex F (informative)	Altitude correction for clearances	140
Annex G (informative)	Clearance and creepage distance determination for frequencies greater than 30 kHz	141
Annex H (informative)	Measuring instrument for touch current measurements (see 7.5.4)	144
Annex I (informative)	Examples of protection, insulation, and overvoltage category requirements for PCE	146
Annex J (normative)	Ultraviolet light conditioning test	150
Figure 1	– Functional summary of protective measures against electric shock	48
Figure 2	– Typical waveform for a.c. working voltage	51

Figure 3 – Typical waveform for d.c. working voltage	51
Figure 4 – Typical waveform for pulsating working voltage.....	52
Figure 5 – Examples for protection against direct contact for DVC-C circuits	56
Figure 6 – Protection by DCV A with protective separation.....	57
Figure 7 – Protection by means of protective impedance	58
Figure 8 – Protection by limitation of discharge energy	59
Figure 9 – Protection by means of voltage limitation	60
Figure 10 – Examples of protective bonding and earthing	61
Figure 11 – Protective bonding impedance test for separate unit with power fed from the PCE with overcurrent protection for the power cable	63
Figure 12 – Protective bonding impedance test for separate unit with accessible parts and with power fed from the PCE without overcurrent protection.....	64
Figure 13 – Voltage test procedures	85
Figure 14 – Fire enclosure bottom openings below an unenclosed or partially enclosed component.....	97
Figure 15 – Fire enclosure baffle construction.....	98
Figure 16 – Examples of cross-sections of designs of openings preventing vertical access	115
Figure 17 – Examples of louver design	115
Figure 18 – Enclosure openings.....	116
Figure 19 – Methods of compliance verification.....	123
Figure A.1 – Narrow groove	128
Figure A.2 – Wide groove	129
Figure A.3 – V-shaped groove	129
Figure A.4 – Rib.....	129
Figure A.5 – Uncemented joint with narrow groove	129
Figure A.6 – Uncemented joint with wide groove	130
Figure A.7 – Uncemented joint with narrow and wide grooves.....	130
Figure A.8 – Narrow recess	130
Figure A.9 – Wide recess.....	131
Figure A.10 – Intervening, unconnected conductive part	131
Figure A.11 – Distance for multilayer PWBs.....	132
Figure D.1 – Test finger	136
Figure D.2 – Test pin	137
Figure D.3 – Straight unjointed test finger.....	137
Figure E.1 – Flow chart leading to selection of the RCD/RCM type upstream of a PCE	138
Figure G.1 – Clearance distance determination for frequencies greater than 30 kHz.....	141
Figure G.2 – Creepage distance determination for frequencies greater than 30 kHz	142
Figure H.1 – Measuring instrument	144
Figure H.2 – Alternative measuring instrument.....	145
Figure I.1 – Transformer (basic) isolated PV inverter	147
Figure I.2 – Transformer (basic) isolated PV inverter with SPD to reduce impulse voltage for functional insulation.....	147
Figure I.3 – Isolated PV inverter with SPD to reduce impulse voltage for basic insulation	148

Figure I.4 – Transformer isolated auxiliary circuit with reinforced insulation	148
Figure I.5 – Transformerless PV inverter.....	149
Table 1 – Total temperature limits for transformers, inductors, and other coils and their insulation systems	30
Table 2 – Total temperature limits for materials and components where manufacturer's ratings and component standards do not exist (see 4.3.2.1)	30
Table 3 – Total touch temperature limits for accessible surfaces.....	31
Table 4 – Environmental categories, environmental conditions, and test requirements.....	45
Table 5 – Reduction of the pollution degree of internal environment through the use of additional protection	46
Table 6 – Summary of the limits of the decisive voltage classes	49
Table 7 – Examples of application of insulation and separation.....	50
Table 8 – Insulation between accessible unearthed parts and DVC-A or -B circuits adjacent to DVC-B or -C circuits	55
Table 9 – Values of accessible capacitance and charging voltage (threshold of pain)	59
Table 10 – Test duration for protective bonding test.....	65
Table 11 – External protective earthing conductor cross-section	66
Table 12 – Insulation voltage for low voltage circuits	71
Table 13 – Clearance distances.....	73
Table 14 – Creepage distances (mm).....	75
Table 15 – Impulse voltage test	82
Table 16 – Impulse test voltage	83
Table 17 – AC or DC test voltage for circuits connected directly to the mains	84
Table 18 – a.c. or d.c. test voltage for circuits not connected directly to the mains.....	84
Table 19 – Partial discharge test.....	88
Table 20 – Summary of material flammability requirements.....	96
Table 21 – Allowable openings in fire enclosure bottoms	98
Table 22 – Limits for inherently limited power sources	101
Table 23 – Limits for power sources not inherently limited	101
Table 24 – Sizes of conductors	108
Table 25 – Physical tests on power supply cords	109
Table 26 – Wire bending space from terminals to obstructions	112
Table 27 – Minimum property retention limits after UV exposure	118
Table 28 – Thickness of sheet metal for enclosures: Carbon steel or stainless steel.....	121
Table 29 – Thickness of sheet metal for enclosures: aluminium, copper or brass.....	122
Table A.1 – Value of X.....	128
Table C.1 – Symbols.....	134
Table F.1 – Correction factor for clearances at altitudes above 2 000 m (see 7.3.7.4.1).....	140
Table F.2 – Test voltages for verifying clearances at different altitudes.....	140
Table G.1 – Minimum values of clearances in air at atmospheric pressure for inhomogeneous field conditions (Table 1 of IEC 60664-4).....	142
Table G.2 – Minimum values of creepage distances for different frequency ranges (Table 2 of IEC 60664-4)	143

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**SAFETY OF POWER CONVERTERS FOR USE
IN PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER SYSTEMS –**

Part 1: General requirements

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FDIS	Report on voting
82/593/FDIS	82/597/RVD

Full information on the voting for approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

A list of all parts of IEC 62109 series, under the general title, *Safety of power converters for use in photovoltaic power systems*, can be found on the IEC website.

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

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INTRODUCTION

This Part of IEC 62109 specifies the safety requirements that are generally applicable to all equipment within its scope. For certain types of equipment, these requirements will be supplemented or modified by the special requirements of one or more subsequent parts (for example IEC 62109-2, IEC 62109-3, etc.) of the standard which must be read in conjunction with the Part 1 requirements.

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SAFETY OF POWER CONVERTERS FOR USE IN PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER SYSTEMS –

Part 1: General requirements

1 Scope and object

1.1 Scope

This part of IEC 62109 applies to the power conversion equipment (PCE) for use in Photovoltaic (PV) systems where a uniform technical level with respect to safety is necessary. This standard defines the minimum requirements for the design and manufacture of PCE for protection against electric shock, energy, fire, mechanical and other hazards.

This standard provides general requirements applicable to all types of PV PCE. There are additional parts of this standard that provide specific requirements for the different types of power converters, such as Part 2 - inverters. Additional parts may be published as new products and technologies are commercialised.

1.1.1 Equipment included in scope

This standard covers PCE connected to systems not exceeding maximum PV source circuit voltage of 1 500 V d.c. The equipment may also be connected to systems not exceeding 1 000 V a.c. at the a.c. mains circuits, non-mains a.c. load circuits, and to other DC source or load circuits such as batteries. This standard may be used for accessories for use with PCE, except where more appropriate standards exist.

Evaluation of PCE to this standard includes evaluation of all features and functions incorporated in or available for the PCE, or referred to in the documentation provided with the PCE, if such features or functions can affect compliance with the requirements of this standard.

1.1.2 Equipment for which other requirements may apply

This standard has not been written to address characteristics of power sources other than photovoltaic systems, such as wind turbines, fuel cells, rotating machine sources, etc.

NOTE 1 Requirements for other sources may be incorporated in the IEC 62109 series in the future.

Additional or other requirements are necessary for equipment intended for use in explosive atmospheres (see IEC 60079), aircraft, marine installations, electromedical applications (see IEC 60601) or at elevations above 2 000 m.

NOTE 2 Requirements are included for adjustment of clearance distances for higher elevations, but not for other factors related to elevation, such as thermal considerations

1.2 Object

1.2.1 Aspects included in scope

The purpose of the requirements of this part of IEC 62109 is to ensure that the design and methods of construction used provide adequate protection for the operator and the surrounding area against:

- a) electric shock and energy hazards;
- b) mechanical hazards;

- c) excessive temperature hazards;
- d) spread of fire from the equipment;
- e) chemical hazards;
- f) sonic pressure hazards;
- g) liberated fluids, gases and explosion hazards.

NOTE Servicing personnel are expected to have the necessary knowledge and skill to use reasonable care in dealing with hazards associated with the operation, repair and maintenance of this equipment. Based upon this premise, this standard provides only limited requirements (for example markings or guarding) intended to protect service personnel from hazards that may not be apparent even to trained personnel.

1.2.2 Aspects excluded from scope

Aspects not covered by this standard include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) functional reliability, performance or other properties of the equipment not related to safety;
- b) effectiveness of transport packaging;
- c) EMC requirements;
- d) installation requirements, which are covered by local and national installation codes.

NOTE This standard does provide requirements for PCE intended to ensure that the PCE can be installed in a safe manner, including requirements for installation instructions provided with the product.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60060-1, *High-voltage test techniques – Part 1: General definitions and test requirements*

IEC 60085, *Electrical insulation – Thermal evaluation and designation*

IEC 60112, *Method for the determination of the proof and the comparative tracking indices of solid insulating materials*

IEC 60216-1, *Electrical insulating materials – Properties of thermal endurance – Part 1: Ageing procedures and evaluation of test results*

IEC 60216-2, *Electrical insulating materials – Thermal endurance properties – Part 2: Determination of thermal endurance properties of electrical insulating materials – Choice of test criteria*

IEC 60216-3, *Electrical insulating materials – Thermal endurance properties – Part 3: Instructions for calculating thermal endurance characteristics*

IEC 60216-4-1, *Electrical insulating materials – Thermal endurance properties – Part 4-1: Ageing ovens – Section 1: Single-chamber ovens*

IEC 60216-5, *Electrical insulating materials – Thermal endurance properties – Part 5: Determination of relative thermal endurance index (RTE) of an insulating material*

IEC 60216-6, *Electrical insulating materials – Thermal endurance properties – Part 6: Determination of thermal endurance indices (TI and RTE) of an insulating material using the fixed time frame method*