

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Residual current operated circuit-breakers with integral overcurrent protection
for household and similar uses (RCBOs) -
Part 1: General rules**

**Interrupteurs automatiques à courant différentiel résiduel avec dispositif de
protection contre les surintensités incorporé pour usages domestiques et
analogues (DD) -
Partie 1: Règles générales**



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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	10
INTRODUCTION	12
1 Scope.....	13
2 Normative references.....	15
3 Terms and definitions.....	16
4 Classification	16
4.1 According to the supply conditions	16
4.1.1 RCBO operating correctly on the occurrence of residual current	16
4.1.2 RCBO with 2 or 4 current paths operating correctly on the occurrence of residual current within the voltage range of 1,1 U_e and 85 V	17
4.1.3 RCBO according to 4.1.2 fitted with a functional earth (FE) and able to continue to provide protection when supplied from just one phase and FE.....	17
4.1.4 RCBO with 3 current paths operating correctly on the occurrence of residual current within the voltage range of 1,1 U_e and 0,7 U_e	17
4.1.5 RCBO operating correctly on the occurrence of residual current within the voltage range 1,1 U_e and U_x	17
4.1.6 RCBO according to 4.1.5, however reclosing automatically after restoration of the supply voltage.....	17
4.2 According to the possibility of adjusting the residual operating current	17
4.3 According to their operation in response to the type of residual current	17
4.4 According to time-delay (in the presence of a residual current).....	18
4.5 According to the protection against external influences.....	18
4.6 According to the method of mounting	18
4.7 According to the method of connection	18
4.8 According to the type of terminals	18
4.9 According to the number of poles and current paths	18
4.10 According to the instantaneous tripping current.....	19
4.11 According to the I^2t characteristics.....	19
5 Characteristics of RCBOs.....	19
5.1 Summary of characteristics.....	19
5.2 Rated quantities and other characteristics.....	20
5.2.1 Rated voltages	20
5.2.2 Rated current (I_n)	20
5.2.3 Rated frequency	20
5.2.4 Rated short-circuit capacity (I_{cn})	20
5.2.5 Rated residual operating current ($I_{\Delta n}$)	20
5.2.6 Rated residual non-operating current ($I_{\Delta no}$)	21
5.2.7 Rated residual making and breaking capacity ($I_{\Delta m}$)	21
5.2.8 Void.....	21
5.2.9 Void.....	21
5.2.10 Operating characteristics in response to the type of residual current	21
5.2.11 RCBO type S.....	21
5.3 Standard and preferred values	21
5.3.1 Standard values of rated operational voltage (U_e)	21

5.3.2	Preferred values of rated current (I_n)	21
5.3.3	Standard values of rated residual operating current ($I_{\Delta n}$)	21
5.3.4	Standard value of residual non-operating current ($I_{\Delta no}$)	22
5.3.5	Preferred values of rated frequency	22
5.3.6	Standard values of rated impulse withstand voltage (U_{imp})	22
5.3.7	Standard limit values of break time and non-actuating time for RCBO of type AC and A	22
5.3.8	Void.....	22
5.3.9	Void.....	22
5.3.10	Void.....	22
5.3.11	Minimum value of the rated residual making and breaking capacity ($I_{\Delta m}$)	22
5.3.12	Void.....	22
5.3.13	Void.....	22
5.3.14	Values of rated short-circuit capacity	22
5.3.15	Standard ranges of overcurrent instantaneous tripping.....	23
6	Marking and other product information	23
7	Standard conditions for operation in service and for installation.....	24
7.1	Standard conditions	24
7.2	Conditions of installation	24
7.3	Pollution degree	24
8	Requirements for construction and operation	24
8.1	Mechanical design	24
8.1.1	General.....	24
8.1.2	Mechanism.....	25
8.1.3	Clearances, creepage distances and solid insulation	26
8.1.4	Screws, current-carrying parts and connections	27
8.1.5	Terminals for external conductors	28
8.1.6	Non-interchangeability.....	30
8.2	Protection against electric shock	30
8.3	Dielectric properties and isolating capability	31
8.4	Temperature-rise	31
8.4.1	General.....	31
8.4.2	Temperature-rise limits.....	31
8.4.3	Ambient air temperature	31
8.5	Operating characteristics.....	31
8.5.1	General.....	31
8.5.2	Operation in response to the type of residual current	31
8.5.3	Operation in presence of a residual current equal to or greater than $I_{\Delta n}$	32
8.5.4	Operation under overcurrent conditions	32
8.6	Mechanical and electrical endurance	33
8.7	Performance at short-circuit currents	33
8.8	Resistance to mechanical shock and impact	33
8.9	Resistance to heat.....	33
8.10	Resistance to abnormal heat and to fire	34
8.11	Test device	34
8.12	Void	34
8.13	Void	34

8.14	Behaviour of RCBOs in the event of current surges caused by impulse voltages.....	34
8.15	Reliability.....	35
8.16	Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC).....	35
8.17	Resistance to temporary overvoltages (TOV).....	35
9	Tests.....	35
9.1	General	35
9.2	Test conditions.....	35
9.3	Test of indelibility of marking	36
9.4	Test of reliability of screws, current-carrying parts and connections	37
9.5	Test of reliability of screw-type terminals for external copper conductors	37
9.6	Verification of protection against electric shock.....	39
9.7	Test of dielectric properties.....	39
9.7.1	Resistance to humidity	39
9.7.2	Insulation resistance of the main circuit.....	40
9.7.3	Dielectric strength of the main circuit	41
9.7.4	Insulation resistance and dielectric strength of auxiliary circuits.....	41
9.7.5	Secondary circuit of detection transformers	42
9.7.6	Capability of control circuits connected to the main circuit to withstand high DC voltages due to insulation measurements.....	42
9.7.7	Verification of impulse withstand voltages.....	42
9.8	Test of temperature-rise	44
9.8.1	Ambient air temperature	44
9.8.2	Test procedure	44
9.8.3	Measurement of the temperature of parts	45
9.8.4	Temperature-rise of a part	45
9.9	Verification of the operating characteristics	45
9.9.1	Verification of the operating characteristics under residual current conditions	45
9.9.2	Verification of the operating characteristic under overcurrent conditions	45
9.10	Verification of mechanical and electrical endurance	47
9.10.1	General test conditions.....	47
9.10.2	Test procedure	47
9.10.3	Condition of the RCBO after test	48
9.11	Short-circuit tests	48
9.11.1	General conditions for test.....	48
9.11.2	Test circuit for short-circuit performance.....	49
9.11.3	Values of test quantities	50
9.11.4	Tolerances on test quantities	50
9.11.5	Power factor of the test circuit.....	50
9.11.6	Measurement and verification of I^2t and of the peak current (I_p).....	50
9.11.7	Calibration of the test circuit.....	51
9.11.8	Interpretation of records	51
9.11.9	Condition of the RCBO for test	51
9.11.10	Behaviour of the RCBO during short-circuit tests.....	52
9.11.11	Test procedure	53
9.11.12	Verification of the RCBO after short-circuit test	56
9.11.13	Verification of the rated residual making and breaking capacity ($I_{\Delta m}$)	56
9.12	Verification of resistance to mechanical shock and impact	57

9.12.1	Mechanical shock	57
9.12.2	Mechanical impact	58
9.13	Test of resistance to heat	60
9.13.1	Test on complete RCBOs.....	60
9.13.2	Ball pressure test.....	61
9.14	Test of resistance to abnormal heat and to fire	62
9.15	Verification of the trip-free mechanism	63
9.16	Verification of the operation of the test device at the limits of rated operational voltage	63
9.17	Void	63
9.18	Void	63
9.19	Verification of the behaviour of RCBOs in the event of current surges caused by impulse voltages	63
9.19.1	Current surge test for all RCBOs (0,5 µs/100 kHz ring wave test).....	63
9.19.2	Verification of the behaviour at surge currents up to 3 000 A (8/20 µs surge current test).....	64
9.20	Verification of reliability	65
9.20.1	Climatic test	65
9.20.2	Test with temperature of 40 °C	66
9.21	Verification of withstand against ageing	67
9.22	Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC).....	67
9.23	Test of resistance to rusting.....	67
9.24	Verification of the behaviour of the RCBO under temporary overvoltage (TOV) conditions	68
9.24.1	General.....	68
9.24.2	TOV test for all RCBOs.....	68
9.24.3	Additional tests for RCBOs with a terminal intended to be connected to the PE	68
9.24.4	Verification after the tests	68
Annex A (normative)	Test sequence and number of samples to be submitted for certification purposes.....	99
Annex B (normative)	Determination of clearances and creepage distances.....	100
B.1	General	100
B.2	Creepage distances where more than one material is used	100
B.3	Creepage distances split by floating conductive part	100
B.4	Measurement of creepage distances and clearances.....	100
Annex C (normative)	Arrangement for the detection of the emission of ionized gases during short-circuit tests.....	105
Annex D (normative)	Routine tests	108
D.1	General	108
D.2	Tripping test.....	108
D.3	Dielectric strength test	108
D.4	Performance of the test device.....	108
Annex E (informative)	Methods for determination of short-circuit power-factor	109
E.1	General	109
E.2	Method I – Determination from DC components	109
E.3	Method II – Determination with pilot generator	110
Annex F (informative)	Co-ordination under short-circuit conditions between an RCBO and another short-circuit protective device (SCPD) associated in the same circuit.....	111
F.1	General	111

F.2	Overview	112
F.3	General requirements for the co-ordination of an RCBO with another SCPD	112
F.3.1	General consideration	112
F.3.2	Take-over current	112
F.3.3	Behaviour of C_1 in association with another SCPD	112
F.4	Type and characteristics of the associated SCPD	112
F.5	Verification of selectivity	113
F.6	Verification of back-up protection	113
F.6.1	Determination of the take-over current	113
F.6.2	Verification of back-up protection	114
F.6.3	Tests for verification of back-up protection	114
F.6.4	Results to be obtained	115
Annex G (normative)	Additional requirements and tests for RCBOs consisting of a circuit-breaker and a residual current unit designed for assembly on site	119
G.1	General	119
G.2	Marking and other product information	119
G.2.1	Manufacturer's name or trade mark	119
G.2.2	Marking	119
G.2.3	Instructions for assembly and operation	120
G.3	Constructional requirements	120
G.3.1	General	120
G.3.2	Degree of protection	120
G.3.3	Mechanical requirements	121
G.3.4	Electrical compatibility	121
G.4	Type tests and verifications	121
G.4.1	Tests on circuit-breakers	121
G.4.2	Tests on RC units	121
G.4.3	Tests on assembled circuit-breaker and RC unit (RCBO)	121
G.4.4	Verification of marking and constructional requirements of RCBOs	121
G.5	Routine tests on the RC unit	122
Annex H (informative)	Examples of terminal designs	123
Annex I (informative)	Correspondence between ISO and AWG copper conductors	126
Annex J (informative)	Follow-up testing program for RCBOs	127
J.1	General	127
J.2	Follow-up testing program	127
J.2.1	General	127
J.2.2	Quarterly follow-up testing program	127
J.2.3	Annual follow-up testing program	127
J.2.4	Sampling procedure	128
Bibliography		131
Figure 1	Standard test finger	81
Figure 2	Void	82
Figure 3	Void	82
Figure 4	Void	82
Figure 5	Typical diagram for all short circuit tests except for the verification of the suitability in IT systems	83
Figure 6	Typical diagram for the verification of the suitability in IT systems	84

Figure 7 – Detail of impedances Z , Z_1 and Z_2	84
Figure 8 – Mechanical shock test apparatus.....	85
Figure 9 – Mechanical impact test apparatus.....	86
Figure 10 – Striking element for pendulum impact test apparatus	87
Figure 11 – Mounting support for sample for mechanical impact test.....	88
Figure 12 – Example of mounting an unenclosed or flush-type RCBO for mechanical impact test.....	89
Figure 13 – Example of mounting of panel mounting type RCBO for the mechanical impact test.....	90
Figure 14 – Application of force for mechanical test of rail mounted RCBO.....	91
Figure 15 – Ball-pressure test apparatus.....	91
Figure 16 – Current ring wave 0,5 μ s/100 kHz.....	92
Figure 17 – Test circuit for the ring wave test on RCBOs	92
Figure 18 – Surge current impulse 8/20 μ s.....	93
Figure 19 – Test circuit for the surge current test of RCBOs.....	93
Figure 20 – Stabilizing period for reliability test.....	94
Figure 21 – Reliability test cycle.....	95
Figure 22 – Void.....	95
Figure 23 – Example of records for short-circuit tests.....	96
Figure 24 – Test circuit for the verification of the behaviour under temporary over voltage (TOV) conditions for RCBOs with a terminal intended to be connected to the PE	97
Figure 25 – Void.....	97
Figure 26 – Void.....	97
Figure 27 – Diagrammatic representation for glow-wire test	98
Figure B.1 – Measuring creepage distances and clearances: Example 1	101
Figure B.2 – Measuring creepage distances and clearances: Example 2	101
Figure B.3 – Measuring creepage distances and clearances: Example 3	101
Figure B.4 – Measuring creepage distances and clearances: Example 4	102
Figure B.5 – Measuring creepage distances and clearances: Example 5	102
Figure B.6 – Measuring creepage distances and clearances: Example 6	102
Figure B.7 – Measuring creepage distances and clearances: Example 7	103
Figure B.8 – Measuring creepage distances and clearances: Example 8	103
Figure B.9 – Measuring creepage distances and clearances: Example 9	103
Figure B.10 – Measuring creepage distances and clearances: Example 10.....	104
Figure B.11 – Measuring creepage distances and clearances: Example 11.....	104
Figure C.1 – Example of test arrangement	106
Figure C.2 – Grid.....	107
Figure C.3 – Grid circuit.....	107
Figure F.1 – Overcurrent co-ordination between an RCBO and a fuse or back-up protection by a fuse – Operating characteristics.....	116
Figure F.2 – Total selectivity.....	117
Figure F.3 – Back-up protection – Operating characteristics.....	118
Figure H.1 – Examples of pillar terminals	123

Figure H.2 – Examples of screw terminals and stud terminals	124
Figure H.3 – Examples of saddle terminals.....	125
Figure H.4 – Examples of lug terminals.....	125
Table 1 – Marking.....	69
Table 2 – Void.....	70
Table 3 – Void.....	70
Table 4 – Void.....	70
Table 5 – Void.....	70
Table 6 – Void.....	70
Table 7 – Void.....	70
Table 8 – Void.....	70
Table 9 – Void.....	70
Table 10 – Void.....	70
Table 11 – Standard limit values of break time and non-actuating time for alternating residual currents (RMS values) for type AC and A.....	70
Table 12 – Standard maximum values of break time for half-wave residual currents (RMS values) for type A	70
Table 13 – Void.....	71
Table 14 – Tripping current limits	71
Table 15 – Void.....	71
Table 16 – Void.....	71
Table 17 – Void.....	71
Table 18 – Void.....	71
Table 19 – Rated impulse withstand voltage as a function of the nominal voltage of the installation	71
Table 20 – Minimum clearances and creepage distances.....	72
Table 21 – Test voltage of auxiliary circuits	73
Table 22 – Test voltage for verification of rated impulse withstand voltage	73
Table 23 – Test voltage for verifying the suitability for isolation, with reference to the rated impulse withstand voltage of the RCBO and the altitude where the test is carried out	74
Table 24 – Connectable cross-sections of copper conductors for screw-type terminals	74
Table 25 – Test copper conductors corresponding to the rated currents	74
Table 26 – Screw thread diameters and applied torques.....	75
Table 27 – Pulling forces.....	75
Table 28 – Temperature-rise values	75
Table 29 – Power factor ranges of the test circuit.....	76
Table 30 – Withstand values and duration of temporary overvoltages	76
Table 31 – Void.....	76
Table 32 – Void.....	76
Table 33 – Void.....	76
Table 34 – Void.....	76
Table 35 – Void.....	76
Table 36 – Void.....	76

Table 37 – Standard values of rated short circuit capacity	76
Table 38 – Ranges of overcurrent instantaneous tripping.....	77
Table 39 – Time-current operating characteristics.....	77
Table 40 – List of short-circuit tests.....	77
Table 41 – Ratio between service short-circuit capacity (I_{CS}) and rated short-circuit capacity (I_{CN}) – (factor k).....	78
Table 42 – Test procedure for I_{CS} in the case of single- and two-pole RCBOs.....	78
Table 43 – Test procedure for I_{CS} in the case of three- and four-pole RCBOs	78
Table 44 – Test procedure for I_{CN}	78
Table 45 – Void.....	78
Table 46 – Standard values of rated operational voltage.....	79
Table 47 – Values of influencing quantities	80
Table J.1 – Test sequences during follow-up inspections.....	128
Table J.2 – Number of samples to be tested.....	130

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**RESIDUAL CURRENT OPERATED CIRCUIT-BREAKERS
WITH INTEGRAL OVERCURRENT PROTECTION
FOR HOUSEHOLD AND SIMILAR USES (RCBOs) –****Part 1: General rules****FOREWORD**

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This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2010, Amendment 1:2012 and Amendment 2:2013. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) harmonization of all clauses between the IEC 61008, IEC 61009 and IEC 60755 series using blocks and modules approach;

- b) harmonization of all tables and figures between the IEC 61008, IEC 61009 and IEC 60755 series;
- c) terms and definitions are now referred to IEC 62873-2;
- d) modification of Subclause 4.1 for classification according to supply conditions;
- e) new Subclauses 8.17 and 9.24 for requirements and tests for the resistance to temporary overvoltages (TOV);
- f) improvement of Subclause 9.7 for test of dielectric properties;
- g) tests for screwless, flat-quick terminals and aluminium conductors are now referred to in the IEC 62873-3 series.

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

Draft	Report on voting
23E/1373/FDIS	23E/1388/RVD

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

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English

This International Standard is to be used in conjunction with the relevant product standard, either IEC 61009-2-1:2024 or IEC 61009-2-2:2024. The chosen standard, IEC 61009-2-1:2024 or IEC 61009-2-2:2024, shall be used consistently throughout the standard.

In order to maintain the same structure throughout the IEC 61008 and IEC 61009 series, some elements that are not applicable to a particular device within the scope of this document are labelled void.

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- compliance statements: in *italic* type;
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A list of all parts in the IEC 61009 series, published under the general title *Residual current operated circuit-breakers with integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses (RCBOs)*, 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 webstore.iec.ch in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn, or
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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to harmonize as far as practicable all rules and requirements of a general nature applicable to RCBOs in order to obtain uniformity of requirements and tests and to avoid the need for testing to different standards.

All those parts which can be considered as general have therefore been gathered in this document, e.g., temperature-rise, dielectric properties, etc.

For each type of RCBO, two main documents are used to determine all requirements and tests:

- 1) this document;
- 2) the relevant product standard covering RCBOs:
 - IEC 61009-2-1, *Residual current operated circuit-breakers with integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses (RCBOs) – Part 2-1: RCBOs according to classification 4.1.1;*
 - IEC 61009-2-2, *Residual current operated circuit-breakers with integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses (RCBOs) – Part 2-2: RCBOs according to classification 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 4.1.4, 4.1.5 and 4.1.6.*

For Type F and Type B RCBOs, IEC 62423 applies in addition to the IEC 61009 series.

Sample Document

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RESIDUAL CURRENT OPERATED CIRCUIT-BREAKERS WITH INTEGRAL OVERCURRENT PROTECTION FOR HOUSEHOLD AND SIMILAR USES (RCBOs) –

Part 1: General rules

1 Scope

This document gives general requirements and tests for residual current operated circuit-breakers with integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses (hereafter referred to as RCBOs), for rated operational voltages not exceeding 440 V AC, with rated frequencies of 50 Hz, 60 Hz or 50/60 Hz and rated currents not exceeding 125 A and rated short-circuit capacities not exceeding 25 000 A.

RCBOs are intended to provide fault protection (previously referred to as protection against indirect contact), the exposed conductive parts of the installation being connected to an appropriate earth electrode. These devices are also intended to protect against overcurrents in the wiring installations of buildings and similar applications. They are also intended to be used to provide protection against fire hazards due to a persistent earth fault current.

RCBOs having a rated residual operating current not exceeding 30 mA are used for fault protection and additional protection in the case of failure of the protective provisions against electric shock.

This document applies to RCBOs performing simultaneously the functions of detection of the residual current, of comparison of the value of this current with the residual operating value and of opening of the protected circuit when the residual current exceeds this value. These devices also perform the function of making, carrying and breaking overcurrents under specified conditions.

NOTE 1 The requirements for RCBOs are in line with the group safety publication IEC 60755.

NOTE 2 RCBOs of type AC and type A are covered by the IEC 61009 series. RCBOs of type F and type B are covered by IEC 62423 in conjunction with the IEC 61009 series.

NOTE 3 Installation and selection rules for RCBOs are given in the IEC 60364 series.

NOTE 4 The content of this document related to operation under residual current conditions is based on IEC 61008-1. The content of this document related to protection against overcurrents is based on IEC 60898-1.

RCBOs are intended to be operated by ordinary or uninstructed persons and designed not to require maintenance.

The requirements of this document apply for standard conditions (see 7.1). Additional requirements can be necessary for RCBOs used in locations which have severe environmental conditions. RCBOs within the scope of this document are intended for use in an environment with pollution degree 2 (see 7.3).

NOTE 5 For environments with higher pollution degrees, enclosures giving the appropriate degree of protection can be used.

NOTE 6 For RCBOs having a degree of protection higher than IP20 special constructions can be required.

RCBOs are suitable for isolation.

Special precautions (e.g. surge protective devices) can be necessary when excessive overvoltages are likely to occur on the supply side (for example in the case of supply through overhead lines, see IEC 60364-4-44 and IEC 60364-5-53).

RCBOs, with the exception of those with an uninterrupted neutral, are suitable for use in IT systems.

RCBOs of the general type are resistant to current surges, including the case where surge voltages (as a result of switching transients or induced by lightning) cause loading currents in the installation without occurrence of flashover.

RCBOs of type S are considered to be sufficiently resistant against unwanted tripping even if the surge voltage causes a flashover and a follow-on current occurs.

NOTE 7 Surge protective devices installed downstream of the general type of RCBOs and connected in common mode can cause unwanted tripping.

This document also applies to RCBOs obtained by the assembly of an adaptable residual current device with a circuit-breaker. The mechanical assembly is intended to be effected in the factory by the manufacturer, or on site, in which case the requirements of Annex G apply. It also applies to RCBOs having more than one rated current, provided that the means for changing from one discrete rating to another is not accessible in normal service and that the rating cannot be changed without the use of a tool.

Particular requirements are necessary for RCBOs intended to be used at frequencies other than 50 Hz or 60 Hz.

For RCBOs incorporated in, or intended for association with socket-outlets only, the requirements of this document can be used, as far as applicable, in conjunction with the requirements of IEC 60884-1 or the national requirements of the country where the product is placed on the market.

NOTE 8 Residual current devices (RCDs) with or without overcurrent protection for socket-outlets for household and similar uses are also covered by IEC 62640.

NOTE 9 In DK, plugs and socket-outlets are in accordance with the requirements of the heavy current regulations section 107.

NOTE 10 In the UK, the plug part associated with an RCBO complies with BS 1363-1 and the socket-outlet(s) associated with an RCBO complies with BS 1363-2. In the UK, the plug part and the socket-outlet(s) associated with an RCBO need not comply with any IEC 60884-1 requirements.

This document does not apply to:

- RCBOs intended to protect motors;
- RCBOs the current setting of which is adjustable without a tool;
- RCBOs including batteries.

A guide for the coordination of RCBOs with fuses is given in Annex F.

This document is not intended to be used alone; it is intended to be used in conjunction with the relevant product standard, IEC 61009-2-1 or IEC 61009-2-2.