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Product category rules for life cycle assessment of electrical and electronic products and systems

Règles de définition des catégories de produits pour l'analyse du cycle de vie des produits et systèmes électriques et électroniques

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IEC Secretariat
3, rue de Varembé
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11
info@iec.ch
www.iec.ch

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CONTENTS

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PRODUCT CATEGORY RULES FOR LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS AND SYSTEMS

FOREWORD

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This document has been given the status of a horizontal document in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1.

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

Draft	Report on voting
111/804/FDIS	111/823/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 document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/publications.

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INTRODUCTION

In recent years, environmental aspects of electrical and electronic products and systems (EEPS) have gained in importance for interested parties, such as customers and regulators.

In addition to qualitative approaches already widely applied in the context of an environmentally conscious design process, quantitative information on the potential environmental impacts of the full life cycle of products have gained further interest. This generates the need to provide harmonized rules for the underlying life cycle assessment (LCA) in order to provide robust and consistent quantitative environmental data on EEPS, as well as to enable data aggregation at system level, for example, buildings, power drive systems and control and protection cabinets.

The definition of product category rules (PCR), derived from ISO 14025, is an established method for a consistent approach by setting minimum quality standards for LCA in the context of environmental product declarations (EPD); hence, PCR is now defined as core rules in this document for the variety of EEPS. It is also noted that comparability of Type III environmental declarations as described in ISO 14025 depends on PCR.

On the basis of the overarching PCR set out as core rules for EEPS, product specific rules (PSR) should be elaborated to further detail the requirements for the LCA in the specific context of the products or systems in scope. This can be done, for example, by product specific standardization committees or environmental declaration programmes.

Accordingly, IEC 63372 provides methodologies for quantification of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, which could also be regarded as carbon footprint of a product – product category rules (CFP–PCR) for EEPS.