
**Petroleum, petrochemical and
natural gas industries — Prevention
of corrosion on pipeline systems
influenced by stray currents**

*Industries du pétrole, de la pétrochimie et du gaz naturel —
Prévention de la corrosion sur les systèmes de conduites soumis à
l'influence de courants vagabonds*

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Contents

Page

Foreword	v
Introduction	vi
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	2
4 Abbreviations and symbols	3
4.1 Abbreviations.....	3
4.2 Symbols.....	4
5 Information exchange and co-operation	5
6 Common sources of interference that can affect corrosion	6
6.1 General.....	6
6.2 Direct current.....	7
6.2.1 General.....	7
6.2.2 Traction systems.....	7
6.2.3 Industrial systems.....	7
6.3 Alternating current.....	7
6.3.1 General.....	7
6.3.2 Overhead and buried power lines.....	8
6.4 High-voltage direct current transmission systems.....	8
6.5 Natural interference.....	8
6.5.1 General.....	8
6.5.2 Geomagnetic (telluric) interference.....	8
6.5.3 Tidal interference effects.....	9
7 Identification and measurement of stray current interference	9
7.1 Principle.....	9
7.2 Stray Current interference.....	10
7.2.1 Inductive and conductive coupling from remote sources.....	10
7.2.2 Conductive coupling from nearby sources.....	10
7.3 Measurement of electrical parameters.....	10
7.3.1 Data acquisition systems.....	10
7.3.2 Possible errors in AC measurements.....	11
7.3.3 Potential measurement.....	11
7.3.4 Current measurement on probes.....	11
7.3.5 IR-free potential measurement on coupons or probes.....	11
7.3.6 Duration of the measurement.....	11
7.3.7 Specific requirements for coupons or probes.....	12
7.4 Corrosion rate measurement.....	12
8 Acceptance criteria for DC interference	12
8.1 Overview of criteria.....	12
8.2 Corrosion rate.....	13
8.3 Criteria for steel and cast iron.....	14
8.3.1 Time constant interference.....	14
8.3.2 Time variant interference.....	15
8.4 Criteria for steel pipes in concrete based on potential measurements without cathodic protection.....	16
8.4.1 Time constant anodic interference.....	16
8.4.2 Time variant interference.....	16
9 Reduction of DC stray current interference	16
9.1 General.....	16
9.2 Modifications to the source of interference.....	17
9.2.1 Principles.....	17

9.2.2	Direct current systems at industrial sites	17
9.2.3	Direct current systems at ports.....	17
9.2.4	Direct current traction systems	17
9.2.5	Cathodic protection systems.....	18
9.2.6	Telluric interference.....	19
9.2.7	Direct current communication systems.....	19
10	Modifications to the interfered structure	19
10.1	General.....	19
10.2	Design prerequisites	20
10.2.1	Coatings	20
10.2.2	Isolation from other structures.....	20
10.2.3	Distance to be maximized.....	20
10.2.4	Installation of mitigation devices.....	20
10.2.5	Modifying the electrical continuity of the interfered structure	21
11	Inspection and maintenance.....	22
Annex A	(informative) Use of current probes to evaluate fluctuating stray current interference on cathodically protected structures.....	23
Annex B	(informative) Determining the relevant position for placing reference electrodes, coupons and probes in case of any conductive coupling caused by stray currents	26
Annex C	(informative) Operating principles of electrical resistance probes.....	33
Annex D	(informative) Geomagnetic interference.....	34
Annex E	(informative) High voltage direct current interference.....	43
Annex F	(informative) Alternating Current Interference.....	45
Annex G	(informative) Tidal Effects.....	50
Annex H	(informative) Photovoltaic interference.....	51
Annex I	(informative) Modelling the effects of stray current interference on cathodically protected pipelines.....	54
Annex J	(informative) Assessment of the corrosion risk for steel in concrete or for cathodically protected structures under time variant interference conditions.....	58
Annex K	(informative) Principles of anodic and cathodic interference	63
Bibliography	66

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 67, *Materials, equipment and offshore structures for petroleum, petrochemical and natural gas industries*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Pipeline transportation systems*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 219, *Cathodic protection*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

This document provides guidance for the prevention of external corrosion when a pipeline is influenced by electrical interference. Electrical interference can be from stray currents (defined in ISO 8044) and from naturally occurring interference caused by geomagnetic or tidal activity.

International Standards on cathodic protection (e.g. ISO 15589-1 and ISO 15589-2) refer to a structure-to-electrolyte potential value that is considered to indicate that cathodic protection is effective. When the potential is influenced by stray currents, however, it is not always possible to obtain a meaningful structure-to-electrolyte potential and other methods of assessment are needed. These other methods can include mathematical analysis of the potentials and/or direct assessment of the corrosion rate using electrical resistance probes.

An affected structure carrying stray currents, e.g. a pipeline or cable can itself affect other nearby structures.

This document is not intended to inhibit the use of alternative equipment or engineering solutions for individual applications. Where an alternative is offered, it is intended that any variations from this document be identified and documented.

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Petroleum, petrochemical and natural gas industries — Prevention of corrosion on pipeline systems influenced by stray currents

1 Scope

This document establishes the general principles for the evaluation and minimization of the effects of stray current corrosion on external surfaces of buried or immersed pipeline systems caused by AC and DC electrical interference.

Other stray current effects such as overheating, and interference with welding operations are not covered in this document.

A brief description of AC effects, general principles and some guidelines, are provided.

NOTE 1 See ISO 18086 for the effects of alternating current on buried or immersed pipelines.

Systems that can also be affected by stray currents include buried or immersed metal structures such as the following:

- a) pipeline systems;
- b) metal sheathed cables;
- c) tanks and vessels;
- d) earthing systems;
- e) steel reinforcement in concrete;
- f) sheet steel piling.

This document gives guidelines for

- the design of cathodic protection systems that might produce stray currents,
- the design of pipeline systems, or elements of pipeline systems, which are buried or immersed, and which can be subject to stray current corrosion, and
- the selection of appropriate protection or mitigation measures.

Internal corrosion risks from stray currents are not dealt with in detail in this document but principles and measures described here can be applicable for minimizing the interference effects.

NOTE 2 The impact of electromagnetic interference on above-ground appurtenances of pipeline systems is covered in EN 50443, IEC 61140, IEC 60364-4-41, IEC 60479-1, IEC 60364-5-52, IEC/TR 61201 and IEC/TR 60479-5.

This document can also be used for pipeline systems outside of the petrochemical and natural gas industries and other buried or immersed structures.

NOTE 3 EN 50162 provides guidance for railway related structures.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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.