
**Informacijska tehnologija – Kabelska inštalacija – 3. del: Načrtovanje inštalacij in
prakse zunaj zgradb**

Information technology - Cabling installation - Part 3: Installation planning and practices
outside buildings

Informationstechnik - Installation von Kommunikationsverkabelung - Teil 3:
Installationsplanung und Installationspraktiken im Freien

Technologies de l'information - Installation de câblage - Partie 3: Planification et
pratiques d'installation à l'extérieur des bâtiments

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33.040.50	Vodi, zveze in tokokrogi	Lines, connections and circuits
35.110	Omreževanje	Networking

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NORME EUROPÉENNE
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prEN 50174-3

July 2026

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Information technology - Cabling installation - Part 3: Installation planning and practices outside buildings

Technologies de l'information - Installation de câblage -
Partie 3: Planification et pratiques d'installation à l'extérieur
des bâtiments

Informationstechnik - Installation von
Kommunikationsverkabelung - Teil 3: Installationsplanung
und Installationspraktiken im Freien

This draft European Standard is submitted to CENELEC members for enquiry.
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It has been drawn up by CLC/TC 215.

If this draft becomes a European Standard, CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

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European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

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91 **European foreword**

92 This document (prEN 50174-3:2026) has been prepared by CLC/TC 215 “Electrotechnical aspects of
93 telecommunication equipment”.

94 This document is currently submitted to the Enquiry.

95 This document supersedes EN 50174-3:2013 and EN 50174-3 2013/A1:2017.

96 prEN 50174-3:2026 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to EN 50174-3:2013 and
97 EN 50174-3 2013/A1:2017:

- 98 a) the conformance requirements (previously subclause 1.2) have been moved into a new Clause 4 and the
99 existing clause numbers were updated accordingly;
- 100 b) references to EN 60794-3-50 and EN 60794-3-60 were deleted in Table 7, as these standards were
101 withdrawn;
- 102 c) requirements and recommendations for pathway systems (subclause 5.6) revised;
- 103 d) new subclause 5.11 on planning and assessment of cabling in support of remote powering added;
- 104 e) installation practices for pathways other than for care and access networks revised (subclauses 6.3.3 and
105 6.3.7);
- 106 f) segregation requirements in Clause 7 updated;
- 107 g) Annex A “EMC and protection” removed;
- 108 h) terminology, definitions and normative references aligned and updated with EN 50174-1 and EN 50174-2.

109 EN 50174 comprises four parts:

- 110 — EN 50174-1, Information technology — Cabling installation — Part 1: Installation specification and quality
111 assurance;
- 112 — EN 50174-2, Information technology — Cabling installation — Part 2: Installation planning and practices
113 inside buildings;
- 114 — EN 50174-3, Information technology — Cabling installation — Part 3: Installation planning and practices
115 outside buildings (the present document);
- 116 — EN 50174-4, Information technology — Cabling installation — Part 4: Testing of installed optical fibre
117 cabling.

118 There are specific requirements for cabling systems that are in accordance with the design requirements of
119 the EN 50173 series. However, the four parts also apply to cabling systems of any design including those in
120 accordance with standards such as EN 50700.

121 This part, EN 50174-3, is concerned with the planning and installation of information technology cabling using
122 metallic cabling and optical fibre cabling outside buildings; it is not confined to the border of a particular
123 premises and includes wide area information technology cabling of any kind. It provides guidance as to the
124 responsibilities of those involved and is intended to be referenced in relevant contracts.

125 Introduction

126 The importance of services delivered by information technology cabling infrastructure is similar to that of
 127 utilities such as heating, lighting and electricity supplies. As with those utilities, interruptions to service can
 128 have a serious impact. Poor quality of service due to lack of planning, use of inappropriate components,
 129 incorrect installation, poor administration or inadequate support can threaten an organization's effectiveness.

130 There are four phases in the successful implementation of information technology cabling. These are:

- 131 a) design;
- 132 b) specification – the detailed requirement for the cabling, including the planning of its accommodation and
 133 associated building services addressing specific environments (e.g. electromagnetic, reaction to fire,
 134 remote powering) together with the quality assurance requirements to be applied;
- 135 c) installation – in accordance with the requirements of the specification;
- 136 d) operation – the management of connectivity and the maintenance of transmission performance during the
 137 life of the cabling.

138 EN 50174 series is in four parts and addresses the specification, installation, operational aspects of information
 139 technology cabling and the testing of installed optical fibre cabling. The EN 50173 series and other application
 140 standards cover design issues.

141 EN 50174-1, EN 50174-2 and EN 50174-3 are intended to be used by the personnel directly involved in the
 142 planning aspects (of the specification phase) and the installation phase. EN 50174-2 is applicable inside
 143 buildings and EN 50174-3 is applicable outside buildings. EN 50174-4 is applicable for testing of installed
 144 optical fibre cabling.

145 EN 50174 series is also relevant to:

- 146 • architects, building designers and builders;
- 147 • main contractors;
- 148 • designers, suppliers, installers, inspectors (auditors), maintainers and owners of information technology
 149 cabling;
- 150 • public network providers and local service providers;
- 151 • end users.

152 This document, EN 50174-3, contains requirements and recommendations relating to the installation planning
 153 and practices by defining:

- 154 i) planning strategy (road map) and guidance depending on the application, electromagnetic environment,
 155 building infrastructure and facilities, etc.;
- 156 ii) planning and installation requirements for metallic and optical fibre information technology cabling
 157 depending on the application, electromagnetic environment, building infrastructure and facilities, etc.;
- 158 iii) the practices and procedures to be adopted to ensure that the cabling is installed in accordance with the
 159 specification.

160 This document is applicable to all types of information technology cabling outside buildings, including generic
 161 cabling systems designed in accordance with EN 50173 series. The requirements and recommendations of
 162 this document can be applied to cabling that is defined as part of the building.

163 The planning of the pathway systems, spaces and structures within the core and access network cabling as
 164 described in Figure 2 that are owned by access providers is excluded except for requirements and
 165 recommendations that provide basic safety, function and environmental objectives for mechanical, ingress and

166 climatic characteristics (i.e. excluding pathway dimensions, distribution of spaces and similar constraints based
167 on specific transmission methods).

168 Figure 1 and Table 1 show the schematic and contextual relationships between the documents produced by
169 CLC/TC 215 for information technology cabling, namely:

- 170 1) this part and other parts of EN 50174 series;
- 171 2) generic cabling design (EN 50173 series);
- 172 3) application dependent cabling design (e.g. EN 50700);
- 173 4) bonding requirements (EN 50310) - the principles of which can be employed in installations outside
174 buildings.

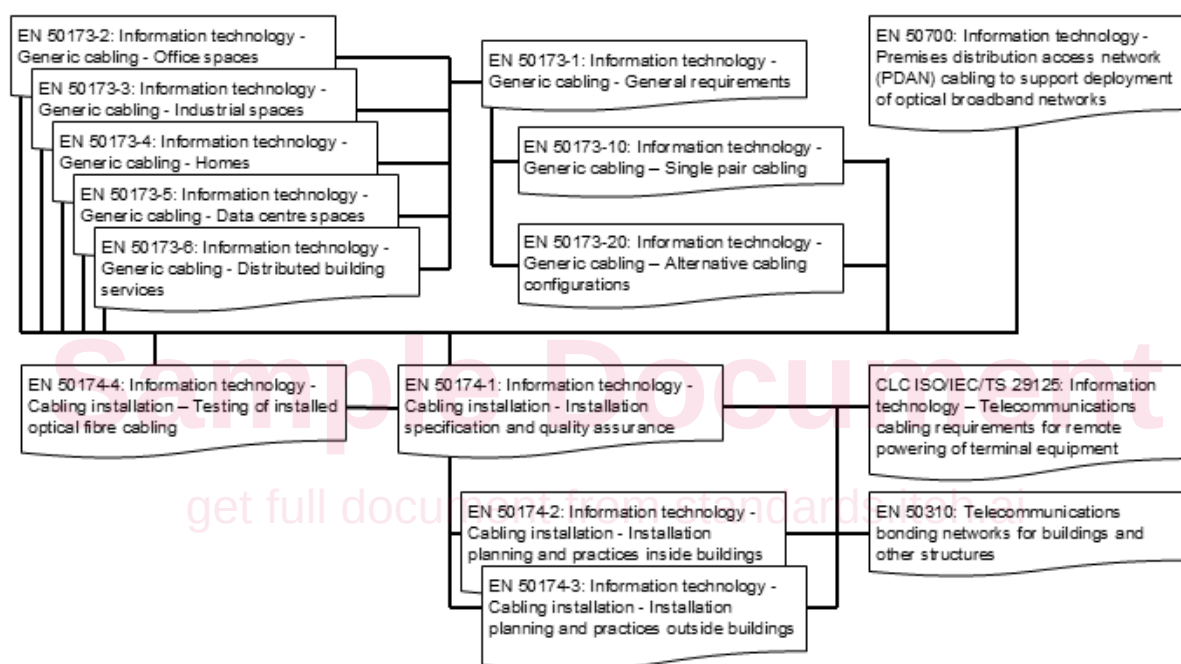


Figure 1 — Schematic relationship between EN 50174 series and other relevant documents

Table 1 — Contextual relationship between EN 50174 series and other documents relevant for information technology cabling systems

Building design phase	Generic cabling design phase	Specification phase	Installation phase	Operation phase
EN 50310	EN 50173-2	EN 50174-1	EN 50174-2 EN 50174-3 EN 50174-4 EN 50310	EN 50174-1 EN 50174-4
	EN 50173-3	Planning phase		
	EN 50173-4			
	EN 50173-5	EN 50174-2 EN 50174-3 EN 50174-4 EN 50310		
	EN 50173-6			
	(these ENs reference general requirements of EN 50173-1)			
	EN 50173-10			
	EN 50173-20			

1 Scope

This document specifies requirements and provides recommendations for the following aspects of information technology cabling:

- a) planning;
- b) installation practice.

This document is applicable to all types of information technology cabling outside buildings including generic cabling systems designed in accordance with EN 50173 series. The requirements and recommendations of this document can be applied to cabling that is defined as part of the building.

The requirements and recommendations of Clauses 5, 6 and 7 of this document are subject to any site-specific requirements and recommendations of Clause 8.

The planning of the pathway systems, spaces and structures within the core and access network cabling as described in Figure 2 that are owned by access providers is excluded except for requirements and recommendations that provide basic safety, function and environmental objectives for mechanical, ingress and climatic characteristics (i.e. excluding pathway dimensions, distribution of spaces and similar constraints based on specific transmission methods).

The installation practices applicable to all cabling installation methods are included by the provision of the necessary planning requirements and recommendations associated with each one with the exception of information technology cabling installed:

- around or within aerial power supply or associated earth conductors;
- on infrastructures carrying power supplies in excess of AC/DC 25 kV.

This document:

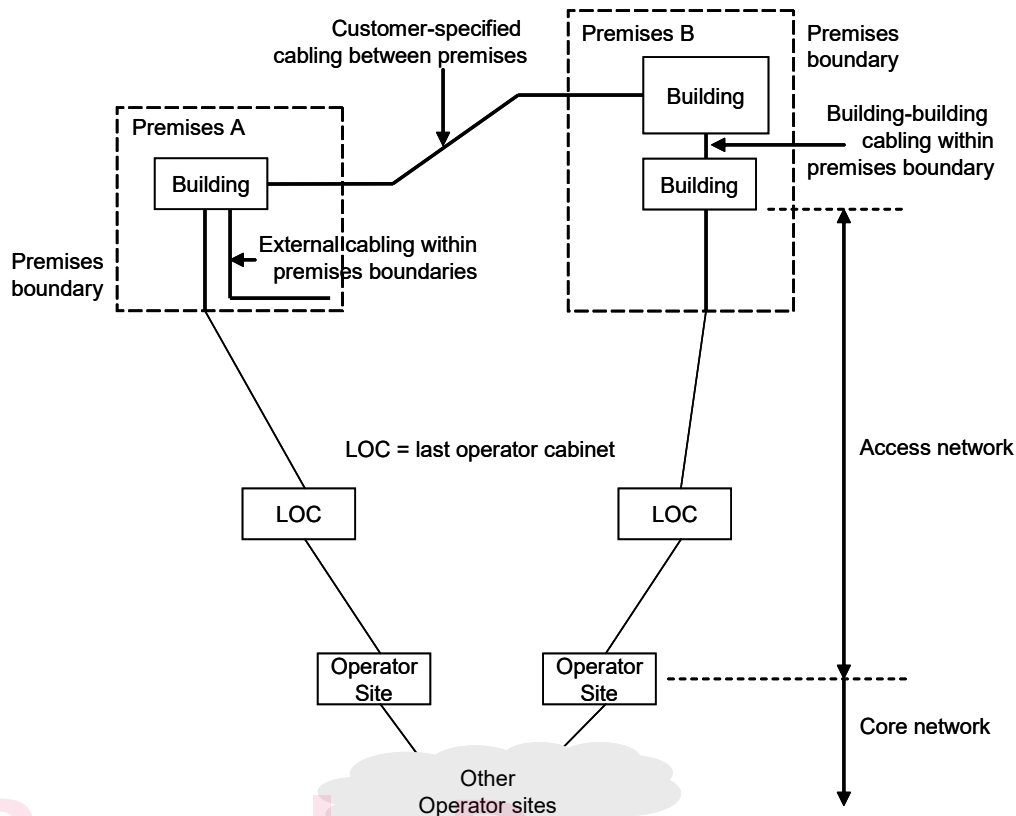
- 1) details the considerations for satisfactory installation and operation of information technology cabling;
- 2) excludes specific requirements applicable to other cabling systems (e.g. power supply cabling); however, it takes account of the effects other cabling systems may have on the installation of information technology cabling (and vice versa) and gives general advice;
- 3) excludes those aspects of installation associated with the transmission of signals in free space between transmitters, receivers or their associated antenna systems (e.g. wireless, radio, microwave or satellite).

This document is applicable to certain hazardous environments. It does not exclude additional requirements which are applicable in particular circumstances, defined by e.g. electricity supply and electrified railways.

The requirements within this document cover any additional requirements for the information technology cables installed in hazardous or stressful environments e.g. electricity supply and electric railway locations (see Clause 8).

Safety (electrical safety and protection, optical power, fire protection, etc.) and electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) requirements are outside the scope of this document and are covered by other standards and regulations. However, information given in this document can be of assistance in meeting these standards and regulations.

Examples of areas covered by this document are shown in Figure 2.



NOTE Pathways and spaces between premises A and B are assumed to be designed to meet specific networking objectives, whereas the pathways and spaces between the premises boundary and the buildings in the premises, if provided by the premises owner, are aimed to be more generic to meet the needs of multiple access providers and transmission systems within their access networks.

Figure 2 — Examples of areas covered by this document

2 Normative references

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

EN 124 (all parts), *Gully tops and manhole tops for vehicular and pedestrian areas*

EN 12613, *Plastics warning devices for underground cables and pipelines with visual characteristics*

EN 13501-6, *Fire classification of construction products and building elements – Part 6: Classification using data from reaction to fire tests on electric cables*

EN 50173 (all parts), *Information technology - Generic cabling systems*

EN 50174-1, *Information technology - Cabling installation - Part 1: Installation specification and quality assurance*

EN 50310, *Telecommunications bonding networks for buildings and other structures*

EN 50411-2-2, *Fibre organisers and closures to be used in optical fibre communication systems - Product specifications - Part 2-2: Sealed pan fibre splice closures Type 1, for category S & A*

- 236 EN 50411-2-3, *Fibre organisers and closures to be used in optical fibre communication systems - Product*
237 *specifications - Part 2-3: Sealed inline fibre splice closures Type 1, for category S & A*
- 238 EN 50411-2-4, *Fibre management systems and protective housings to be used in optical fibre communication*
239 *systems - Product specifications - Part 2-4: Sealed dome fibre splice closures for category S & A*
- 240 EN 50411-2-5, *Fibre organisers and closures to be used in optical fibre communication systems - Product*
241 *specifications - Part 2-5: Sealed closures for air blown fibre microduct, type 1, for category S & A*
- 242 EN 50411-2-9, *Fibre organisers and closures to be used in optical fibre communications systems - Product*
243 *specifications - Part 2-9: Non-sealed closures for air blown fibre microduct cable, for category S & A*
- 244 EN IEC 60079-0, *Explosive atmospheres - Part 0: Equipment - General requirements (IEC 60079 0)*
- 245 EN 60079-14, *Explosive atmospheres - Part 14: Electrical installations design, selection and erection (IEC*
246 *60079 14)*
- 247 EN IEC 60079-17, *Explosive atmospheres - Part 17: Electrical installations inspection and maintenance (IEC*
248 *60079 17)*
- 249 EN 60332-1-2, *Tests on electric and optical fibre cables under fire conditions - Part 1-2: Test for vertical flame*
250 *propagation for a single insulated wire or cable - Procedure for 1 kW pre-mixed flame (IEC 60332 1 2)*
- 251 EN 60529, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code) (IEC 60529)*
- 252 EN IEC 60794-3, *Optical fibre cables - Part 3: Outdoor cables - Sectional specification (IEC 60794 3)*
- 253 EN 60794-3-10, *Optical fibre cables - Part 3-10: Outdoor cables - Family specification for duct, directly buried*
254 *or lashed aerial optical telecommunication cables (IEC 60794 3 10)*
- 255 EN 60794-3-11, *Optical fibre cables - Part 3-11: Outdoor cables - Product specification for duct, directly buried*
256 *and lashed aerial single-mode optical fibre telecommunication cables (IEC 60794 3 11)*
- 257 EN 60794-3-12, *Optical fibre cables — Part 3-12: Outdoor cables — Detailed specification for duct and directly*
258 *buried optical telecommunication cables for use in premises cabling (IEC 60794-3-12)*
- 259 EN 60794-3-20, *Optical fibre cables - Part 3-20: Outdoor cables - Family specification for self-supporting aerial*
260 *telecommunication cables (IEC 60794 3 20)*
- 261 EN 60794-3-21, *Optical fibre cables - Part 3-21: Outdoor cables - Product specification for optical self-*
262 *supporting aerial telecommunication cables for use in premises cabling (IEC 60794 3 21)*
- 263 EN 60794-3-30, *Optical fibre cables - Part 3-30: Outdoor cables - Family specification for optical*
264 *telecommunication cables for lakes, river crossings and coastal application (IEC 60794 3 30)*
- 265 EN 60794-3-40, *Optical fibre cables — Part 3-40: Outdoor cables — Family specification for sewer cables and*
266 *conduits for installation by blowing and/or pulling in non-man accessible storm and sanitary sewers*
267 *(IEC 60794-3-40)*
- 268 EN IEC 60794-4-20, *Optical fibre cables - Part 4-20: Sectional specification - Aerial optical cables along*
269 *electrical power lines - Family specification for ADSS (all dielectric self-supported) optical cables (IEC 60794*
270 *4 20)*
- 271 EN 60794-5-10, *Optical fibre cables - Part 5-10: Family specification - Outdoor microduct optical fibre cables,*
272 *microducts and protected microducts for installation by blowing (IEC 60794 5 10)*
- 273 EN 60794-5-20, *Optical fibre cables - Part 5-20: Family specification - Outdoor microduct fibre units,*
274 *microducts and protected microducts for installation by blowing (IEC 60794 5 20)*

- 275 EN 60825 (all parts), *Safety of laser products (IEC 60825)*
- 276 EN IEC 61084, *Cable trunking systems and cable ducting systems for electrical installations – Part 1: General*
277 *requirements*
- 278 EN IEC 61084-2, (all parts), *Cable trunking systems and cable ducting systems for electrical installations*
- 279 EN IEC 61300-3-35, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components - Basic test and*
280 *measurement procedures - Part 3-35: Examinations and measurements - Visual inspection of fibre optic*
281 *connectors and fibre-stub transceivers*
- 282 EN 61386-1, *Conduit systems for cable management - Part 1: General requirements (IEC 61386 1)*
- 283 EN 61386-2X, (all parts), *Conduit systems for cable management — Part 2X: Particular requirements*
284 *(IEC 61386-2X series)*
- 285 EN 61534 (all parts), *Powertrack systems (IEC 61534)*
- 286 EN 61537, *Cable management - Cable tray systems and cable ladder systems (IEC 61537)*
- 287 EN 61643 (all parts), *Low-voltage surge protective devices (IEC 61643)*
- 288 EN IEC 61969-1, *Mechanical structures for electrical and electronic equipment - Outdoor enclosures - Part 1:*
289 *Design guidelines (IEC 61969 1)*
- 290 EN 61969-2, *Mechanical structures for electronic equipment - Outdoor enclosures - Part 2: Coordination*
291 *dimensions (IEC 61969 2)*
- 292 HD 384, *HD 60364 (all parts), Electrical installations of buildings / Low-voltage electrical installations*
293 *(IEC 60364 series)*
- 294 HD 60364-4-444, *Low-voltage electrical installations - Part 4-444: Protection for safety - Protection against*
295 *voltage disturbances and electromagnetic disturbances (IEC 60364 4 44:2007)*
- 296 HD 60364-5-53, *Low-voltage electrical installations - Part 5-53: Selection and erection of electrical equipment*
297 *- Switchgear and controlgear*
- 298 EN IEC 62368-3, *Audio/video, information and communication technology equipment - Part 3: Safety aspects*
299 *for DC power transfer through communication cables and ports (IEC 62368 3)*
- 300 ITU-T K.68, *Operator responsibilities in the management of electromagnetic interference by power systems*
301 *on telecommunication systems*

302 **3 Terms, definitions and abbreviations**

303 **3.1 Terms and definitions**

- 304 For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN 50174-1 and the following apply.
- 305 Where the cabling is designed in accordance with standards in EN 50173 series, the additional definitions of
306 those standards are applicable.
- 307 ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:
- 308 - IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- 309 - ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

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- 310 **3.1.1**
 311 **access network**
 312 functional elements (equipment and infrastructure) that enable communication between the core network and
 313 a customer network
- 314 [SOURCE: CLC/TR 50173-99-2:2012, 3.1.1]
- 315 **3.1.2**
 316 **access provider**
 317 operator or another entity providing the means to enable external telecommunications service provision to a
 318 subscriber
- 319 [SOURCE: EN 50700:2023, 3.1.3]
- 320 **3.1.3**
 321 **anchor wire**
 322 **guy wire**
 323 tensioned cable designed to add stability to a supporting structure for information technology or other cabling
- 324 **3.1.4**
 325 **access point**
 326 location in pathways where access is intended to be provided
- 327 Note 1 to entry: Examples are maintenance holes, hand holes, buried closures and other spaces and structures.
- 328 **3.1.5**
 329 **campus**
 330 premises containing one or more buildings
- 331 [SOURCE: EN 50173-1:2018, 3.1.24]
- 332 **3.1.6**
 333 **catenary wire**
 334 wire hung at a specific tension between supporting structures for information technology cabling
- 335 **3.1.7**
 336 **core network**
 337 functional elements (that is equipment and infrastructure) that enable communication between operator sites
 338 and/or network data centres
- 339 **3.1.8**
 340 **draw rope**
 341 a rope used for pulling cables through pathways
- 342 [SOURCE: EN 50174-2:202x, 3.1.6]
- 343 **3.1.9**
 344 **extraneous-conductive-part**
 345 conductive part not forming part of the power supply and liable to introduce an electric potential, generally the
 346 electric potential of a local earth
- 347 [SOURCE: IEC 60050-826:2022, 826-12-11, IEC 60050-195:2021, 195-06-11]
- 348 **3.1.10**
 349 **hand hole**
 350 point off access to a pathway that is too small for a person to enter to perform work but that allows the routing
 351 of cables during the cable installation process such that bending and pulling requirements are met
- 352 Note 1 to entry: An example of a hand hole within a building is called a draw-box.

- 353 **3.1.11**
 354 **high-voltage**
 355 voltage exceeding the conventionally adopted limit for low voltage (AC 1 000 V or DC 1 500 V)
- 356 [SOURCE: IEC 60050-195:2021, 195-05-25 and 195-05-26]
- 357 **3.1.12**
 358 **hot zone**
 359 area around a high-voltage installation (e.g. substation, transformer, pylon) whose earth potential rise in normal
 360 operation or when an earth fault occurs, is over the limits given in ITU-T K.68 for typical fault situations
- 361 **3.1.13**
 362 **maintenance hole (for telecommunications)**
 363 vault/chamber as part of an underground conduit system and used to facilitate placing, connectorisation, and
 364 maintenance of cables as well as the placing of associated equipment, in which it is expected that a person
 365 will enter to perform work
- 366 **3.1.14**
 367 **parallel-earthing-conductor**
 368 conductor usually laid along the cable route to provide a low impedance connection between the earthing
 369 arrangements at the ends of the cable route
- 370 Note 1 to entry: The term parallel earthing conductor is in common usage but for the purposes of this document it generally
 371 acts as a bonding conductor.
- 372 [SOURCE: IEC 60050-195:2021, 195-02-29 modified – Note 1 to entry added]
- 373 **3.1.15**
 374 **power supply cabling**
 375 cabling whose primary purpose is the supply of electrical power
- 376 **3.1.16**
 377 **sacrificial pathway**
 378 pathway which has been selected while recognising that, due to its location, any cable(s) and/or pathway
 379 system(s) installed within that pathway can be damaged by other trades
- 380 **3.1.17**
 381 **segregation**
 382 use of electrically conductive barriers or physical separation to prevent electromagnetic interference between
 383 external noise sources, including power supply cabling, and information technology cabling
- 384 [SOURCE: EN 50174-2:202x, 3.1.26 modified – deleted the word “earthed”]
- 385 **3.1.18**
 386 **service provider**
 387 operator of any service that furnishes telecommunications content (transmissions) delivered over access
 388 provider facilities
- 389 Note 1 to entry: The access provider and the service provider can be a single entity
- 390 [SOURCE: EN 50700:2023, 3.1.21]
- 391 **3.1.19**
 392 **stay**
 393 **strut**
 394 device designed to add stability to a supporting structure for information technology or other cabling