
**Sekundarni člani in baterije z alkalnimi ali drugimi nekislinskimi elektroliti -
Sekundarni zatesnjeni člani in baterije za prenosne naprave - 2. del: Nikelj-
kovinski hidrid**

Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline or other non acid electrolytes -
Secondary sealed cells and batteries for portable applications - Part 2: Nickel-metal
hydride

Sekundärzellen und -batterien mit alkalischen oder anderen nichtsäurehaltigen
Elektrolyten - Tragbare wiederaufladbare gasdichte Zellen und Batterien - Teil 2: Nickel-
Metallhydrid

Accumulateurs alcalins et autres accumulateurs à électrolyte non-acide - Accumulateurs
étanches pour applications portables - Partie 2: Nickel-métal hydrure

Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: prEN IEC 61951-2:2026

ICS:

29.220.30	Alkalni sekundarni člani in baterije	Alkaline secondary cells and batteries
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21A/967/CDV

COMMITTEE DRAFT FOR VOTE (CDV)

PROJECT NUMBER: IEC 61951-2 ED5	
DATE OF CIRCULATION: 2026-03-13	CLOSING DATE FOR VOTING: 2026-06-05
SUPERSEDES DOCUMENTS: 21A/922/CD, 21A/951A/CC	

IEC SC 21A : SECONDARY CELLS AND BATTERIES CONTAINING ALKALINE OR OTHER NON-ACID ELECTROLYTES	
SECRETARIAT: France	SECRETARY: Mr Jean-Marie Bodet
OF INTEREST TO THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES: TC 35	HORIZONTAL FUNCTION(S):
ASPECTS CONCERNED:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUBMITTED FOR CENELEC PARALLEL VOTING Attention IEC-CENELEC parallel voting The attention of IEC National Committees, members of CENELEC, is drawn to the fact that this Committee Draft for Vote (CDV) is submitted for parallel voting. The CENELEC members are invited to vote through the CENELEC online voting system.	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT SUBMITTED FOR CENELEC PARALLEL VOTING

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TITLE:

Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline or other non acid electrolytes – Secondary sealed cells and batteries for portable applications – Part 2: Nickel-metal hydride

PROPOSED STABILITY DATE: 2027

NOTE FROM TC/SC OFFICERS:

The compilation of comments has been analyzed and solved by the project team. The resolved comments have been presented during IEC SC21A WG2 Hybrid Meeting held in Washington on 2025-10-29, approved by the members of the WG2 and distributed to NCs.

The revised draft (clean document) for CDV is proposed to be onboarded on Online Standard Development (OSD).

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD	4
INTRODUCTION	6
1 Scope	7
2 Normative references	7
3 Terms and definitions	7
4 Parameter measurement tolerances	9
5 Cell and battery designation and marking	10
5.1 Cell and battery designation	10
5.1.1 Small prismatic cells and cylindrical cells	10
5.1.2 Button cells	11
5.1.3 Batteries	12
5.2 Cell or battery termination	12
5.3 Marking	12
5.3.1 Small prismatic cells and cylindrical cells	12
5.3.2 Button cells	13
5.3.3 Batteries	13
5.4 Exemption of wording	13
6 Dimensions	13
6.1 Small prismatic cells and cylindrical cells	13
6.1.1 General	13
6.1.2 Small prismatic cells	14
6.1.3 Cylindrical cells	15
6.2 Button cells	19
6.3 9 V type nickel-metal hydride batteries	19
7 Electrical tests	21
7.1 General	21
7.2 Charging procedure for test purposes	21
7.2.1 Charging procedure for cell	21
7.2.2 Charging procedure for battery	21
7.3 Discharge performance	21
7.3.1 General	21
7.3.2 Discharge performance at 20 °C	22
7.3.3 Discharge performance at 0 °C	23
7.3.4 Discharge performance for R cylindrical cells (rapid charge cells)	24
7.4 Charge (capacity) retention	24
7.5 Endurance	25
7.5.1 Endurance in cycles	25
7.5.2 Permanent charge endurance	28
7.6 Charge acceptance at constant voltage	32
7.7 Overcharge	32
7.7.1 Small prismatic, L, M, H, X, LS or MS cylindrical, and button cells	32
7.7.2 LT/LU, MT/MU or HT/HU cylindrical cells	33
7.7.3 J cylindrical cells	33
7.7.4 JT cylindrical cells	33
7.7.5 R cylindrical cells (rapid charge cells)	34
7.8 Surface temperature limitation device operation (for S cell only)	34

IEC CDV 61951-2 © IEC 2026

7.9	Storage.....	34
7.9.1	Button cells or batteries, small prismatic cells or batteries, cylindrical cells or batteries	34
7.9.2	High recovery type button cells or batteries, small prismatic cells or batteries, cylindrical cells or batteries (F type)	36
7.10	Charge acceptance at +55 °C for LT, MT or HT cylindrical cells	37
7.11	Trickle charge acceptance for JT cylindrical cells	38
7.12	Internal resistance	38
7.12.1	General	38
7.12.2	Measurement of the internal AC resistance (Impedance)	39
7.12.3	Measurement of the internal DC resistance	39
8	Mechanical tests.....	40
9	Safety requirements	40
10	Type approval and batch acceptance.....	40
10.1	General.....	40
10.2	Type approval	40
10.2.1	Type approval for small prismatic cells and button cells	40
10.2.2	Type approval for cylindrical cells	43
10.2.3	Type approval for batteries	47
10.3	Batch acceptance	47
	Bibliography.....	49
	Figure 1 – Jacketed cylindrical cells.....	14
	Figure 2 – Jacketed small prismatic cells	14
	Figure 3 – Jacketed cells dimensionally interchangeable with primary cells	17
	Figure 4 – Button cells	19
	Figure 5 – Jacketed 9 V type nickel-metal hydride batteries	20
	Table 1 – Dimensions of jacketed small prismatic cells	15
	Table 2 – Dimensions of jacketed cylindrical cells dimensionally interchangeable with primary cells	15
	Table 3 – An example of dimensions of jacketed cylindrical cells not dimensionally interchangeable with primary cells	17
	Table 4 – Dimensions of button cells.....	19
	Table 5 – Dimensions of jacketed 9 V type nickel-metal hydride batteries	21
	Table 6 – Discharge performance at 20 °C for small prismatic cells and cylindrical cells	22
	Table 7 – Discharge performance at 20 °C for button cells	22
	Table 8 – Discharge performance at 20 °C for batteries	23
	Table 9 – Rated capacity (mAh) compliance test (example)	23
	Table 10 – Discharge performance at 0 °C for small prismatic cells and cylindrical cells	24
	Table 11 – Discharge performance at 0 °C for button cells.....	24
	Table 12 – Endurance in cycles for small prismatic, button and cylindrical cells not dimensionally interchangeable with primary cells	25
	Table 13 – Endurance in cycles for H or X cells	26
	Table 14 – Endurance in cycles for X cells.....	26
	Table 15 – Endurance in cycles for HR or XR cells	26

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Table 16 – Endurance in cycles for cylindrical cells dimensionally interchangeable with primary cells	27
Table 17 – Permanent charge endurance for L, M, J, H or X cells	28
Table 18 – Permanent charge endurance for LT, MT or HT cells	29
Table 19 – Permanent charge endurance for LU, MU or HU cells	31
Table 20 – Overcharge for LT/LU, MT/MU, or HT/HU cylindrical cells at 0 °C	33
Table 21 – Capacity deterioration due to storage period for cells or batteries	36
Table 22 – Capacity deterioration due to storage period for cells or batteries (high recovery type).....	37
Table 23 – Charge and discharge at +55 °C.....	37
Table 24 – Trickle charge acceptance for JT cylindrical cells	38
Table 25 – Constant discharge currents used for measurement of DC resistance	40
Table 26 – Sequence of tests for type approval for small prismatic cells	40
Table 27 – Sequence of tests for type approval for small prismatic cells (high recovery type)	41
Table 28 – Sequence of tests for type approval for button cells.....	42
Table 29 – Sequence of tests for type approval for button cells (high recovery type).....	42
Table 30 – Sequence of tests for type approval for cylindrical cells	43
Table 31 – Sequence of tests for type approval for cylindrical cells (high recovery type)	44
Table 32 – Sequence of tests for type approval for cylindrical cells (Not assume permanent charge usage)	45
Table 33 – Sequence of tests for type approval for cylindrical cells (high recovery type and not assume permanent charge usage).....	46
Table 34 – Sequence of tests for type approval for batteries	47
Table 35 – Sequence of tests for type approval for batteries (high recovery type)	47
Table 36 – Recommended test sequence for batch acceptance	48

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**Secondary cells and batteries
containing alkaline or other non acid electrolytes –
Secondary sealed cells and batteries for portable applications –
Part 2: Nickel-metal hydride**

FOREWORD

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IEC 61951-2 has been prepared by subcommittee 21A: Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline or other non-acid electrolytes, of IEC technical committee 21: Secondary cells and batteries. It is an International Standard.

This fifth edition cancels and replaces the fourth edition published in 2017 and its amendment 1 published in 2022. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) addition of application examples as performance reference test in scope;
- b) addition of manufacture period indication options;
- c) revision of dimensions of jacketed cylindrical cells dimensionally interchangeable with primary cells (ϕP : reference value);
- d) revision of charge endurance test objects (7.5.2.1);
- e) revision of type approval test table (10.2) which harmonized with revision of charge endurance test objects.

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

Draft	Report on voting
21A/XX/FDIS	21A/XX/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 [change language if necessary].

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.

A list of all parts of the IEC 61951 series can be found, under the general title *Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline or other non-acid electrolytes - Secondary sealed cells and batteries for portable applications*, 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
- revised.

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INTRODUCTION

Note from IEC: The following items were listed in the bibliography but not cited in the text. Please find a suitable place to cite them to justify their inclusion in the bibliography:

IEC 60051 (all parts), *Direct acting indicating analogue electrical measuring instruments and their accessories* [IEC 60051 \(all parts\) \[1\]](#)

IEC 60086 (all parts), *Primary batteries* [IEC 60086 \(all parts\) \[2\]](#)

IEC 60485, *Digital electronic d.c. voltmeters and d.c. electronic analogue-to-digital convertors* [IEC 60485 \[3\]](#)

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1 Scope

This part of IEC 61951 specifies marking, designation, dimensions, tests and requirements for secondary sealed nickel-metal hydride small prismatic, cylindrical and button cells and batteries which are conveniently hand-carried, suitable use for portable applications.

Examples of portable applications are remote controllers, flashlights, toys, electric toothbrush, power tools and similar equipment.

This standard also covers portable cells and batteries for the following applications as a performance reference standard (specific standards or regulations take precedence):

- a) Fixed application: in-vehicle accessories, emergency lights and similar equipment, and
- b) Personal mobility application: mobility scooters or electric bicycles that are not required to be registered for use on the road, and similar equipment.

NOTE The cell is not limited to specific products indicated in examples, if there is agreement between supplier and purchaser.

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.

IEC 60050-482:2004, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) - Part 482: Primary and secondary cells and batteries*

IEC 60086-2, *Primary batteries - Part 2: Physical and electrical specifications*

IEC 61959, *Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline or other non-acid electrolytes - Mechanical tests for sealed portable secondary cells and batteries*

IEC 62133-1, *Secondary cells and batteries containing alkaline or other non-acid electrolytes - Safety requirements for portable sealed secondary cells and for batteries made from them, for use in portable applications - Part 1: Nickel systems*

IEC 62902, *Secondary cells and batteries - Marking symbols for identification of their chemistry*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60050-482:2004 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

3.1

nominal voltage

suitable approximate value of the voltage used to designate or identify a cell or a battery

Note 1 to entry: The nominal voltage of a sealed nickel-metal hydride rechargeable single cell is 1,2 V.

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Note 2 to entry: The nominal voltage of a battery of n series connected cells is equal to n times the nominal voltage of a single cell.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-03-31, modified - Addition of Notes 1 and 2 to entry.]

3.2**rated capacity**

capacity value of a cell or battery determined under specified conditions and declared by the manufacturer

Note 1 to entry: The rated capacity is the quantity of electricity C_5 Ah (ampere-hours) declared by the manufacturer which a single cell can deliver during a 5 h period when charging, storing and discharging under the conditions specified in 7.3.2.

Note 2 to entry: The capacity of a battery is the quantity of electricity C_5 Ah (ampere-hours) declared by the manufacturer which a battery can deliver during a 5 h period, when charged, stored and discharged under the procedure described in 7.3.2.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-03-15, modified - Addition of Notes 1 and 2 to entry.]

3.3**small prismatic cell**

cell in the form of a rectangular parallelepiped whose width and thickness dimensions are not more than 25 mm

3.4**cylindrical cell**

cell of circular cross-section in which the overall height is equal to, or greater than the overall diameter

3.5**button cell**

cell of circular cross-section in which the overall height is less than the overall diameter

3.6**nickel-metal hydride cell**

cell containing a nickel hydroxide compound for the positive electrode, a hydrogen absorbing alloy for the negative electrode, and potassium hydroxide or other alkaline solution as electrolyte

Note 1 to entry: Positive electrodes are isolated from negative electrodes by a separator

3.7**nickel-metal hydride battery**

assembly of secondary cell(s) as a source of electrical energy characterized by its voltage, size, terminal arrangement, capacity and rate capability

3.8**sealed cell**

cell which remains closed and does not release either gas or liquid when operated within the limits of charge and temperature specified by the manufacturer

Note 1 to entry: The cell is equipped with a safety device to prevent dangerously high internal pressure.

Note 2 to entry: The cell does not require addition to the electrolyte and is designed to operate during its life in its original sealed state.

Note 3 to entry: The nickel-metal hydride cell, however, may release gas towards the end of its life due to the accumulation of hydrogen in the cell.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-05-17, modified - The existing note has been developed into Notes 1, 2 and 3 to entry.]

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3.9**surface temperature limited cell**

cell which performs a function that prevents the temperature increase from a certain standard point even at the moment of an abnormal occurrence such as short circuit of cell

3.10**high recovery type cell or battery**

cell or battery which has lower "permanent capacity loss" than normal type after storage

Note 1 to entry: It is defined as "high recovery type" in 7.10.2, [Table 22](#).

3.11**low self-discharge type cell**

cell which is able to retain higher charge capacity than normal type after storage by reducing self-discharge

Note 1 to entry: It is defined as "low self-discharge type" in [7.4](#).

3.12**9 V type nickel-metal hydride battery**

nickel-metal hydride battery which is interchangeable with 9 V primary batteries and is composed of cylindrical cells, small prismatic cells or button cells

3.13**trickle charge**

method of charge applied to a battery wherein the state of charge is maintained by a continuous, long term, regulated small electric current

Note 1 to entry: The trickle charge compensates self-discharge effects and maintains the battery in an approximately fully charged state.

Note 2 to entry: The trickle charge is not suitable for cells and batteries that are designed with overcharge protection.

Note 3 to entry: The trickle charge is performed with the cell or battery disconnected from the load.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-05-17, modified - Replace secondary battery type not suitable for trickle charge to cells and batteries that are designed with overcharge protection. and add Note 3 to entry.]

4 Parameter measurement tolerances

The overall accuracy of controlled or measured values, relative to the specified or actual values, shall be within the following tolerances:

- a) ± 1 % for voltage;
- b) ± 1 % for current;
- c) ± 1 % for capacity;
- d) ± 2 °C for temperature;
- e) $\pm 0,1$ % for time;
- f) $\pm 0,1$ mm for dimensions;
- g) ± 5 % for humidity.

These tolerances comprise the combined accuracy of the measuring instruments, the measurement techniques used and all other sources of error in the test procedure.

The details of the instrumentation used shall be provided in each report of results.

5 Cell and battery designation and marking

5.1 Cell and battery designation

5.1.1 Small prismatic cells and cylindrical cells

5.1.1.1 General

Sealed nickel-metal hydride small prismatic rechargeable single cells and cylindrical rechargeable single cells shall be designated according to discharge rate characteristics by a letter L, M, J, H or X which signifies:

- low rate of discharge (L);
- medium rate of discharge (M);
- medium high rate of discharge (J);
- high rate of discharge (H);
- very high rate of discharge (X).

NOTE 1 These cells are typically but not exclusively used for the following discharge rates:

- L up to $0,5 I_t$ A;
- M up to $3,5 I_t$ A;
- J up to $5,0 I_t$ A;
- H up to $7,0 I_t$ A;
- X over $7,0 I_t$ A.

NOTE 2 These currents are expressed as multiples of I_t A, where I_t A = C_5 Ah/1 h (see IEC 61434 [4]).

When a cell is intended for permanent charge at elevated temperatures, typically higher than 40 °C, a letter "T" is placed after the letter L, M, J, H or X.

When a cell is intended for permanent charge at elevated temperatures, typically higher than 50 °C, a letter "U" is placed after the letter L, M, J, H or X.

When a cell is intended for surface temperature limitation under an abnormal situation, a letter "S" is placed after the letter L or M.

When a cell is intended for rapid charge, typically at $1,0 I_t$ A, a letter "R" is placed after the letter L, M, J, H or X.

When a cell or battery is intended as a high recovery type, a letter "F" is placed after the letter L, M, J, H or X.

When a cell is intended as a low self-discharge cell, a letter "I" is placed after the letter L, M, J, H or X.

5.1.1.2 Small prismatic cells

Sealed nickel-metal hydride small prismatic rechargeable single cells shall be designated by the letters "HF" followed by a letter L, M, J, H or X, and where applicable, followed by a letter T, U, R, F and/or I, followed by three groups of figures, each group being separated by a solidus, as follows:

- a) The two figures to the left of the first solidus shall indicate the maximum width specified for the cell, expressed in millimetres, rounded up to the next whole number.
- b) The two figures in the middle shall indicate the maximum thickness specified for the cell, expressed in millimetres, rounded up to the next whole number.

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- c) The two figures to the right of the second solidus shall indicate the maximum height specified for the cell, expressed in millimetres, rounded up to the next whole number.

EXAMPLE HFLF 18/07/49 designation identifies a small prismatic cell of low discharge rate capability, high recovery type with a maximum width of 18 mm, a maximum thickness of 7 mm and a maximum height of 49 mm.

5.1.1.3 Cylindrical cells

Sealed nickel-metal hydride cylindrical rechargeable single cells shall be designated by the letters "HR" followed by a letter L, M, J, H or X, and where applicable, followed by a letter T, U, S, R, F and/or I, followed by two groups of figures, each group being separated by a solidus, as follows:

- a) The two figures to the left of the solidus shall indicate the maximum diameter specified for the cell, expressed in millimetres, rounded up to the next whole number.
- b) The two figures to the right of the solidus shall indicate the maximum height specified for the cell, expressed in millimetres, rounded up to the next whole number.

EXAMPLE 1 HRLF 33/62 designation identifies a cylindrical cell of low discharge rate capability, high recovery type with a maximum diameter of 33 mm and a maximum height of 61,5 mm.

EXAMPLE 2 HRLTF 33/62 designation identifies a cylindrical cell of low discharge rate capability, intended for permanent charge at elevated temperatures, typically higher than 40 °C, high recovery type, with a maximum diameter of 33 mm and a maximum height of 61,5 mm.

EXAMPLE 3 HRXRFI 23/43 designation identifies a cylindrical cell of very high discharge rate capability, intended for rapid charge typically at 1,0 I_t A, high recovery type, low self-discharge type with a maximum diameter of 23 mm and a maximum height of 43 mm.

For cells dimensionally interchangeable with primary cells, the following single or double figures following the letter L or M, J, H or X, and where applicable, following the letter T, U, S, R, F and/or I may indicate:

- 20- Size D;
- 14- Size C;
- 6- Size AA;
- 03- Size AAA.

NOTE Unless a discharge rate type L, M, J, H, or X is specified in the designation, cells dimensionally interchangeable with primary cells correspond to M type

For the purpose of this explanation, an example is given below.

EXAMPLE 4 HRMRFI03 designation identifies a sealed nickel-metal hydride cylindrical rechargeable single cell, of medium discharge rate capability, also intended for rapid charge typically at 1,0 I_t A, high recovery type and low self-discharge type, dimensionally interchangeable with primary cell and whose type designation is AAA.

When a manufacturer designs a cell with dimensions and tolerances which make it interchangeable with a primary cell, the designations in [Table 2](#) shall also be marked on the cell.

5.1.2 Button cells

Sealed nickel-metal hydride button rechargeable single cells shall be designated by the letters "HB" followed by, if designated, letter F and/or letter I, followed by two groups of figures, each group being separated by a solidus, as follows:

- a) The three figures to the left of the solidus shall indicate the maximum diameter specified for the cell, expressed in tenths of millimetres, rounded up to the next whole number.
- b) The three figures to the right of the solidus shall indicate the maximum height specified for the cell, expressed in tenths of millimetres, rounded up to the next whole number.

EXAMPLE HBFI 116/054 designation identifies a button cell, intended as a high recovery type, low self-discharge type, with a maximum diameter of 11,6 mm and a maximum height of 5,4 mm.