



BSI Standards Publication

**Specification of technical grade sulphur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>) and complementary gases to be used in its mixtures for use in electrical equipment**

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## National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN IEC 60376:2018. It is identical to IEC 60376:2018. It supersedes BS EN 60376:2005, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee GEL/10, Fluids for electrotechnical applications.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

**EN IEC 60376**

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

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Supersedes EN 60376:2005

English Version

Specification of technical grade sulphur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>) and  
complementary gases to be used in its mixtures for use in  
electrical equipment  
(IEC 60376:2018)

Spécification de la qualité technique de l'hexafluorure de  
soufre (SF<sub>6</sub>) et des gaz complémentaires à employer dans  
les mélanges de SF<sub>6</sub> pour utilisation dans les appareils  
électriques  
(IEC 60376:2018)

Bestimmung der Reinheit der technisch einsetzbaren  
Qualität von Schwefelhexafluorid (SF<sub>6</sub>) sowie Gasen für  
den Gebrauch in SF<sub>6</sub>-Mischungen zur Verwendung in  
elektrischen Betriebsmitteln  
(IEC 60376:2018)

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2018-06-28. 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.

Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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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**

## European foreword

The text of document 10/1056/FDIS, future edition 3 of IEC 60376, prepared by IEC/TC 10 "Fluids for electrotechnical applications" was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN IEC 60376:2018.

The following dates are fixed:

- latest date by which the document has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2019-03-28
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the document have to be withdrawn (dow) 2021-06-28

This document supersedes EN 60376:2005.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CENELEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

## Endorsement notice

The text of the International Standard IEC 60376:2018 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

In the official version, for Bibliography, the following note has to be added for the standard indicated:

|                |      |   |
|----------------|------|---|
| IEC 60068-2-17 | NOTE | Harmonized as EN 60068-2-17.                    |
| ISO 14040:2006 | NOTE | Harmonized as EN ISO 14040:2006 (not modified). |

**Annex ZA**  
 (normative)

**Normative references to international publications  
 with their corresponding European publications**

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.

NOTE 1 Where an International Publication has been modified by common modifications, indicated by (mod), the relevant EN/HD applies.

NOTE 2 Up-to-date information on the latest versions of the European Standards listed in this annex is available here: [www.cenelec.eu](http://www.cenelec.eu).

| <u>Publication</u> | <u>Year</u> | <u>Title</u>   | <u>EN/HD</u> | <u>Year</u> |
|--------------------|-------------|--|--------------|-------------|
| IEC 60050-212      | -           | International Electrotechnical Vocabulary - -<br>Part 212: Electrical insulating solids, liquids<br>and gases  |              | -           |
| IEC 60050-441      | -           | International Electrotechnical Vocabulary - -<br>(IEV) -<br>Chapter 441: Switchgear, controlgear and<br>fuses  |              | -           |
| IEC 60050-826      | -           | International Electrotechnical Vocabulary - -<br>Part 826: Electrical installations  |              | -           |
| IEC 60480          | -           | Guidelines for the checking and treatment<br>of sulphur hexafluoride (SF <sub>6</sub> ) taken from<br>electrical equipment and specification for<br>its re-use | EN 60480     | -           |
| IEC 62271-4        | -           | High-voltage switchgear and controlgear -<br>Part 4: Handling procedures for sulphur<br>hexafluoride (SF <sub>6</sub> ) and its mixtures                       | EN 62271-4   | -           |

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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**SPECIFICATION OF TECHNICAL GRADE SULPHUR  
HEXAFLUORIDE (SF<sub>6</sub>) AND COMPLEMENTARY GASES  
TO BE USED IN ITS MIXTURES FOR USE IN ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT****FOREWORD**

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International Standard IEC 60376 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 10: Fluids for electrotechnical applications.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2005. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) the requirements for the use of SF<sub>6</sub> in electrical equipment have been confirmed;
- b) a specification for complementary gases to be used in SF<sub>6</sub> mixtures with N<sub>2</sub> and CF<sub>4</sub> has been included;
- c) the introduction and scope have been merged;
- d) a new repartition of the annexes of IEC 60376, IEC 60480 and IEC 62271-4 has been included.



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

| FDIS         | Report on voting |
|--------------|------------------|
| 10/1056/FDIS | 10/1060/RVD      |

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This document has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

# SPECIFICATION OF TECHNICAL GRADE SULPHUR HEXAFLUORIDE (SF<sub>6</sub>) AND COMPLEMENTARY GASES TO BE USED IN ITS MIXTURES FOR USE IN ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

## 1 Scope

This document defines the quality for technical grade sulphur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>) and complementary gases such as nitrogen (N<sub>2</sub>) and carbon tetra-fluoride (CF<sub>4</sub>), for use in electrical equipment. Detection techniques, covering both laboratory and in-situ portable instrumentation, applicable to the analysis of SF<sub>6</sub>, N<sub>2</sub> and CF<sub>4</sub> gases prior to the introduction of these gases into the electrical equipment are also described in this document.

This document provides some information on sulphur hexafluoride in Annex A and on the environmental effects of SF<sub>6</sub> in Annex B.

Information about SF<sub>6</sub> by-products and the procedure for evaluating the potential effects of SF<sub>6</sub> by-products on human health are covered by IEC 60480, their handling and disposal being carried out according to international and local regulations with regard to the impact on the environment. Handling of SF<sub>6</sub> and its mixtures is covered by IEC 62271-4.

Procedures to determine SF<sub>6</sub> leakages are described in IEC 60068-2-17.

For the purposes of this document, the complementary gases used in SF<sub>6</sub> mixtures will be limited to N<sub>2</sub> or CF<sub>4</sub>.

## 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 60050-212, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary – Part 212: Electrical insulating solids, liquids and gases* (available at <http://www.electropedia.org>)

IEC 60050-441, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary – Part 441: Switchgear, controlgear and fuses* (available at <http://www.electropedia.org>)

IEC 60050-826, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary – Part 826: Electrical installations* (available at <http://www.electropedia.org>)

IEC 60480, *Guidelines for the checking and treatment of sulphur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>) taken from electrical equipment and specification for its re-use*

IEC 62271-4, *High-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 4: Handling procedures for sulphur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>) and its mixtures*