

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE



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**Safety of laser products –  
Part 4: Laser guards**

**Sécurité des appareils à laser –  
Partie 4: Protecteurs pour laser**



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**Safety of laser products –  
Part 4: Laser guards**

**Sécurité des appareils à laser –  
Partie 4: Protecteurs pour laser**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

COMMISSION  
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**SAFETY OF LASER PRODUCTS –****Part 4: Laser guards****FOREWORD**

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IEC 60825-4 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 76: Optical radiation safety and laser equipment. It is an International Standard.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2006, Amendment 1:2008 and Amendment 2:2011. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) Significant amendments have been included and this edition has been prepared for user convenience.

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

Draft	Report on voting
76/704/FDIS	76/711/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](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications](http://www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications).

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## INTRODUCTION

At low levels of irradiance or radiant exposure, the selection of material and thickness for shielding against laser radiation is determined primarily by a need to provide sufficient optical attenuation. However, at higher levels, an additional consideration is the ability of the laser radiation to remove guard material – typically by melting, oxidation or ablation; processes that could lead to laser radiation penetrating a normally opaque material.

IEC 60825-1 deals with basic issues concerning laser guards, including human access, interlocking and labelling, and gives general guidance on the design of protective housings and enclosures for high-power lasers.

Laser guards may also comply with standards for laser protective eyewear, but such compliance is not necessarily sufficient to satisfy the requirements of this document.

Where the term "irradiance" is used, the expression "irradiance or radiant exposure, as appropriate" is implied.

# SAFETY OF LASER PRODUCTS –

## Part 4: Laser guards

### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60825 specifies the requirements for laser guards, permanent and temporary (for example for service), that enclose the process zone of a laser processing machine, and specifications for proprietary laser guards.

This document applies to all component parts of a guard including clear (visibly transmitting) screens and viewing windows, panels, laser curtains and walls.

In addition, this document indicates

- a) how to assess and specify the protective properties of a laser guard, and
- b) how to select a laser guard.

NOTE Requirements for beam path components, beam stops and those other parts of a protective housing of a laser product which do not enclose the process zone are contained in IEC 60825-1.

This document deals with protection against laser radiation only. Hazards from secondary radiation that may arise during material processing are not addressed.

### 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 60825-1:2014, *Safety of laser products – Part 1: Equipment classification and requirements*

IEC 61508 (all parts), *Functional safety of electrical/electronic/programmable electronic safety-related systems*

ISO 11553-1, *Safety of machinery – Laser processing machines – Laser safety requirements*

ISO 12100, *Safety of machinery – General principles for design – Risk assessment and risk reduction*

ISO 13849-1, *Safety of machinery – Safety-related parts of control systems – Part 1: General principles for design*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60825-1 and the following apply.