

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Explosive atmospheres –
Part 31: Equipment dust ignition protection by enclosure "t"**

**Atmosphères explosives –
Partie 31: Protection contre l'inflammation de poussières par enveloppe "t"
relative à l'appareil**



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

Part 31: Equipment dust ignition protection by enclosure "t"

FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
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International Standard IEC 60079-31 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 31: Equipment for explosive atmospheres.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2013. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

The significance of changes between IEC Standard, IEC 60079-31, Edition 3.0 and IEC 60079-31, Edition 2.0, are as listed below:

Changes	Clause	Type		
		Minor and editorial changes	Extension	Major technical changes
Document has been restructured from edition 2	Numerous	X		
Withstand of prospective short-circuit current	4.3.1		X	
Fault current rating of interrupting contacts rated greater than 10 kA for mains connected circuits	4.4.1 and 6.1.1.1			C1
Thermal protective device can include a thermal protective circuit with an appropriate sensor.	4.4.4.1		X	
Cells and batteries	4.3.6 and 4.4.5			C2
Joints employing parallel threads with an additional seal or gasket are permitted to have less than five threads.	5.1.2		X	
Gasket joints that interlock (not a butt joint) and are designed such that under the intended compression no gap between the pieces exist so that an uninterrupted periphery is formed, these joints do not need to be permanently joined.	5.1.3		X	
Overload or malfunction condition for the determination of temperature class for "tb" converter fed rotating electric machines	Table 2			C3
Additional requirements for entry devices with dust ignition protection by enclosure "t"	Annex A			C4
Thermal tests are relocated to IEC 60079-0.	Formerly 6.1.2	A1		

NOTE The technical changes referred to include the significance of technical changes in the revised IEC Standard, but they do not form an exhaustive list of all modifications from the previous version. More guidance may be found by referring to the Redline Version of the standard.

Explanations:

A) Definitions

Minor and editorial changes

clarification
decrease of technical requirements
minor technical change
editorial corrections

These are changes which modify requirements in an editorial or a minor technical way. They include changes of the wording to clarify technical requirements without any technical change, or a reduction in level of existing requirement.

Extension addition of technical options

These are changes which add new or modify existing technical requirements, in a way that new options are given, but without increasing requirements for equipment that was fully compliant with the previous standard. Therefore, these will not have to be considered for products in conformity with the preceding edition.

Major technical changes

addition of technical requirements
increase of technical requirements

These are changes to technical requirements (addition, increase of the level or removal) made in a way that a product in conformity with the preceding edition will not always be able to fulfil the requirements given in the later edition. These changes have to be considered for products in conformity with the preceding edition. For these changes additional information is provided in clause B) below.

NOTE These changes represent current technological knowledge. However, these changes should not normally have an influence on equipment already placed on the market.

B) Information about the background of 'Major Technical Changes'

C1 – For Ex Equipment having Level of Protection "tb" or "tc" which is intended for mains connection and intended to interrupt fault current above 10kA is tested according to 6.1.1.1, and is marked according to Clause 7.

C2 – For Ex Equipment having Level of Protection "ta" which contains a cell or battery, only a sealed cell or battery shall be used. For Ex Equipment having Level of Protection "tb" and "tc" where there are sparking contacts or hot surfaces, and which contains a cell or battery, only a sealed cell or battery shall be used.

C3 – Table 2 now includes malfunction conditions for temperature class determination of Level of Protection "tb" converter-fed electric machines.

C4 – Annex A added for entry devices with Type of Protection "t" including cable transit devices.

A1 – Thermal tests formerly located in 6.1.2 are relocated to IEC 60079-0 for the 2017 and later editions.

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

Draft	Report on voting
31/1595/FDIS	31/1606/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. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications.

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.

INTRODUCTION

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EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

Part 31: Equipment dust ignition protection by enclosure "t"

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60079 is applicable to equipment protected by enclosure and surface temperature limitation for use in explosive dust atmospheres. It specifies requirements for design, construction and testing of Ex Equipment and Ex Components.

This document supplements and modifies the general requirements of IEC 60079-0. Where a requirement of this document conflicts with a requirement of IEC 60079-0, the requirement of this document takes precedence.

This document does not apply to dusts of explosives, which do not require atmospheric oxygen for combustion, or to pyrophoric substances.

This document does not apply to Ex Equipment or Ex Components intended for use in underground parts of mines as well as those parts of surface installations of such mines endangered by firedamp and/or combustible dust.

This document does not take account of any hazard due to an emission of flammable or toxic gas from the dust.

This document does not contain requirements for Ex Equipment used in areas where both combustible dust and explosive gas atmospheres can occur, whether simultaneously or separately. Requirements for explosive gas atmospheres can be found in other parts of the IEC 60079 series. Guidance on Ex Equipment to be used where combustible dust and explosive gas atmospheres occur simultaneously ("hybrid mixtures") can be found in IEC 60079-14.

Where the Ex Equipment has to meet other environmental conditions, for example, protection against ingress of water and resistance to corrosion, additional measures which do not adversely affect the integrity of the enclosure can be necessary.

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 60079-0, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 0: Equipment – General requirements*

IEC 60127 (all parts), *Miniature fuses*

IEC 60269 (all parts), *Low-voltage fuses*

IEC 60691, *Thermal-links – Requirements and application guide*

IEC 60529, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)*