

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE

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**Explosive atmospheres –  
Part 36: Non-electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres – Basic method  
and requirements**

**Atmosphères explosives –  
Partie 36: Appareils non électriques destinés à être utilisés en atmosphères  
explosives – Méthodologie et exigences**



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INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
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ELECTROTECHNIQUE  
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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –****Part 36: Non-electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres –  
Basic method and requirements**

## FOREWORD

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International Standard ISO 80079-36 has been prepared by IEC sub-committee 31M: Non-electrical equipment and protective systems for explosive atmospheres, of IEC 31: Equipment for explosive atmospheres.

The text of this standard is based on the following documents of the IEC:

FDIS	Report on voting
31M/103/FDIS	31M/109/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table. In ISO, the standard has been approved by 15 P members out of 22 having cast a vote.

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



"A list of all parts in the IEC 60079 series, under the general title *Explosive atmospheres*, as well as the International Standard 80079 series, can be found on the IEC website."

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

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- withdrawn,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

## INTRODUCTION

This part of ISO/IEC 80079 addresses for the first time basic requirements and protection concepts for mechanical explosion protected equipment on an international level. Up to now, with some exceptions, only the design, manufacture, installation and operation of electrical equipment in explosive atmospheres have been addressed in ISO and IEC standards. Examples of non-electrical equipment are: couplings, pumps, gearboxes, brakes, hydraulic and pneumatic motors and any combination of devices to realise a machine, fan, engine, compressor, assemblies, etc.

Although many but not all of such machines use an explosion protected electric motor for motive power the measures needed to reduce the risk of ignition in mechanical equipment as part of the machine may be different to those applied to electrical equipment.

Whereas electrical equipment working within design parameters often contains effective ignition sources such as sparking parts, this is not necessarily true for mechanical equipment which is designed to operate without break-down between predetermined maintenance operations.

Generally there are two mechanical ignition scenarios that need to be considered. These are, ignition resulting from a failure in the machine such as a bearing over-heating or ignition created by the normal functioning of the machine such as a hot brake surface.

Experience has shown that it is essential to perform a comprehensive ignition hazard assessment on the complete mechanical equipment to identify all potential ignition sources and determine if they can become effective ignition sources during the expected lifetime of the mechanical equipment. Once these ignition risks are understood and documented it is then possible to assign protective measures, depending on the required Equipment Protection Level (EPL), to minimise the probability that these ignition sources will become effective.

This standard addresses mechanical equipment and assemblies intended for the generation, transfer, storage, measurement, control and conversion of energy and/or the processing of material and which are capable of causing an explosion through their own potential sources of ignition.

Potential ignition sources are not limited to those created by the equipment but include any ignition sources created by the operation of the equipment; for example hot surfaces when pumping hot fluids or electrostatic charging when handling plastics.

If the only source of ignition of an item comes from the external process such items are not considered to have their own source of ignition, and they are not in the scope of this part of ISO/IEC 80079.

NOTE Examples are items made from plastics (polymers) like plastic pipes and containers that can become charged due to an external process (and not by the operation of the equipment), or items that can become hot due to an external process (like a pipe). These are not considered to be "non-electrical equipment" on their own. If on the other hand such items are incorporated into non-electrical equipment, and could become an ignition source by the intended operation of the equipment, they need to be assessed together with the equipment under consideration (for example a plastic pipe as part of a petrol dispenser could become charged due to the operation of this dispenser).

## EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

### Part 36: Non-electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres – Basic method and requirements

#### 1 Scope

This part of ISO/IEC 80079 specifies the basic method and requirements for design, construction, testing and marking of non-electrical Ex equipment, Ex Components, protective systems, devices and assemblies of these products that have their own potential ignition sources and are intended for use in explosive atmospheres.

Hand tools and manually operated equipment without energy storage are excluded from the scope of this standard. This standard does not address the safety of static autonomous process equipment when it is not part of equipment referred to in this standard.

NOTE 1 Static autonomous process equipment includes items such as tanks, vessels, fixed pipework and hand operated valves which do not have their own source of energy that could create a potential ignition source during operation.

This standard does not specify requirements for safety, other than those directly related to the risk of ignition which may then lead to an explosion. The standard atmospheric conditions (relating to the explosion characteristics of the atmosphere) under which it may be assumed that equipment can be operated are:

- temperature -20 °C to +60 °C;
- pressure 80 kPa (0,8 bar) to 110 kPa (1,1 bar); and
- air with normal oxygen content, typically 21 % v/v.

Such atmospheres can also exist inside the equipment. In addition, the external atmosphere can be drawn inside the equipment by natural breathing produced as a result of fluctuations in the equipment's internal operating pressure, and/or temperature.

NOTE 2 Although the standard atmospheric conditions above give a temperature range for the atmosphere of -20 °C to +60 °C, the normal ambient temperature range for the equipment is -20 °C to +40 °C, unless otherwise specified and marked. It is considered that -20 °C to +40 °C is appropriate for most equipment and that to manufacture all equipment to be suitable for a standard atmosphere upper ambient temperature of +60 °C would place unnecessary design constraints.

NOTE 3 The requirements of this standard can also be helpful for the design, construction, testing and marking of equipment intended for use in atmospheres outside the validity range stated above. In this case however, the ignition hazard assessment, ignition protection provided, additional testing (if necessary), manufacturer's technical documentation and instructions to the user, clearly demonstrate and indicate the equipment's suitability for the conditions it may encounter. It is also recognized that changes in temperature and pressure can have a significant influence on characteristics of the explosive atmosphere, such as ignitability.

This part of ISO/IEC 80079 specifies the requirements for the design and construction of equipment, intended for explosive atmospheres in conformity with all Equipment Protection Levels (EPLs) of Group I, II and III.

NOTE 4 It is not unusual for equipment designed and constructed in accordance with this standard for a particular EPL to be used in areas requiring an EPL with a higher level of safety by including the application of additional measures. Such measures include for example inerting, suppression, venting or containment or for example by dilution, drainage, monitoring and shut-down. Such measures are outside the scope of this standard.

This standard supplements and modifies the general requirements of IEC 60079-0, as shown in Table 1. Where a requirement of this standard conflicts with a requirement of IEC 60079-0, as far as applicable for non-electrical equipment, the requirement of this standard takes precedence.