



BSI Standards Publication

Electrical apparatus for the detection of flammable gases in household premises

Part 1: Test methods and performance requirements

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 50194-1:2023. It supersedes BS EN 50194-1:2009, which is withdrawn.

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

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English Version

Electrical apparatus for the detection of flammable gases in household premises - Part 1: Test methods and performance requirements

Matériels électriques pour la détection des gaz
inflammables dans les locaux à usage domestique -
Partie 1: Méthodes d'essai et exigences d'aptitude à la
fonction

Elektrische Geräte für die Detektion von brennbaren Gasen
in Wohnhäusern - Teil 1: Prüfverfahren und Anforderungen
an das Betriebsverhalten

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2023-08-14. 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.

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European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

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European foreword

This document (EN 50194-1:2023) has been prepared by CLC/TC 216 “Gas detectors”, the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

The following dates are fixed:

- latest date by which this document has to be (dop) 2024-08-14
implemented at national level by publication of
an identical national standard or by
endorsement
- latest date by which the national standards (dow) 2026-08-14
conflicting with this document have to be
withdrawn

This document supersedes EN 50194-1:2009 and all of its amendments and corrigenda (if any).

EN 50194-1:2023 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to EN 50194-1:2009:

Description	Clause
This document has been completely revised following the structure of EN 50291-1:2018	All
End of Life indicator has been made mandatory and shall include an audible and visible warning	5.5
Guidance has been added for assessing battery capacity and expected life	8.2
Requirements for mains powered alarms with back-up supply have been added	8.5
The number of potential interference gases has been increased	
Tests have been added for an optional alarm silence facility	
Requirements have been added for apparatus using radio links	Clause 7
Added requirements for the use of batteries	5.10
Annex B has been added	Annex B
New requirement to comply with EN 50271 Standard for software	5.8
Defined type C apparatus for refrigerant gases	Clause 1
Bibliography has been added	
Annex C “A-deviations” has been removed	
Tests for stability in high humidity (non-condensing) and low humidity for Type C apparatus has been added	6.3.19 and 6.3.20
Ignition test for Hydrogen and Type C apparatus has been added	6.3.14
Tests for refrigerant poisoning and oil spray for Type C apparatus has been added	6.3.15
Revision of the Normative references	Clause 2

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Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national committee. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CENELEC website.

Introduction

This document defines test methods and performance requirements for all electrical gas detection apparatus used in residential and household premises by means of measurement of one or more threshold alarm levels. It is addressed to the manufacturers of such apparatus and test laboratories which validate it.

This document is an updated revision of the previous EN 50194-1 issued in 2009 and includes some new concepts of detection:

The term of “domestic” has been implemented in “household premises” in order to include further applications, i.e. shops, offices, hotel rooms, residential premises and in general where household appliances are installed (as defined in IEC/EN 60335-1).

This document implements a new range of the flammable gases to be detected. In the premises within the scope of this document, also flammable refrigerant gases, R-717 (Ammonia) at LFL level and Hydrogen in fuel cells applications may be present and are thus necessary to consider.

Finally, the document structure has been completely revised in order to align this revision with the similar standard EN 50291-1:2018 for Carbon Monoxide and other new standards concerning digital and software technologies.

1 Scope

This document specifies general requirements for the construction, testing and performance of electrically operated apparatus for the detection of flammable gases, designed for continuous operation in a fixed installation in household premises. The apparatus can be mains or battery powered.

Additional requirements for apparatus to be used in recreational vehicles and similar premises are specified in EN 50194-2.

NOTE For caravan holiday homes EN 50194-1 applies.

This document specifies four types of apparatus to warn and/or alarm in the event of an escape of town gas, natural gas or liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), Hydrogen and flammable refrigerant gases:

- Type A apparatus – provides a visual and audible alarm and an executive action in the form of an output signal that can actuate directly or indirectly a shut-off device and/or other ancillary device in the event of an escape of town gas, natural gas (LNG) liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and Hydrogen gases;
- Type B apparatus – same as Type A but provides a visual and audible alarm only;
- Type C apparatus – provides a visual and audible alarm and an executive action in the form of an output signal that can actuate directly or indirectly a shut-off device and/or other ancillary device in the event of an escape of flammable refrigerant gas A2L, A2 or A3 as classified in other International Standards, e.g. ISO 817;
- Type D apparatus – intended to be installed where there can be a source of danger to the public, designed for continuous operation in fixed installations in non-classified explosive atmosphere premises (where the requirements for electrical Ex-safety are not requested). Intended for any flammable gases.

Typically Type D apparatus are available with analogue or digital output, designed as detection system. These systems are regularly maintained by competent persons and/or have a protection of IP44 or higher.

For type D apparatus, EN 60079-29-1 is applied.

See Annex C for further clarification on the apparatus types and their application.

NOTE Apparatus complying with this document is not considered suitable for installation in potentially explosive atmospheres, in which case the EN 60079 series applies.

NOTE Apparatus complying with EN 60079-29-1 will not necessarily comply with this document.

This document does not apply to any of the following:

- apparatus intended for the detection of dusts or mists in air;
- scientific or laboratory-based apparatus used only for analysis or measurement;
- apparatus used exclusively for process measurement purposes;
- apparatus for medical purposes;
- apparatus used for breath alcohol measurement;
- apparatus intended for the direct measurement of automotive exhaust gases;
- apparatus intended for use in industrial environments.