Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear –

Part 2:
Circuit-breakers

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International Electrotechnical Commission, 3, rue de Varembe, PO Box 131, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Telephone: +41 22 919 02 11  Telefax: +41 22 919 03 00  E-mail: inmail@iec.ch  Web: www.iec.ch

Commission Electrotechnique Internationale
International Electrotechnical Commission
Международная Электротехническая Комиссия
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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

LOW-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

Part 2: Circuit-breakers

FOREWORD

1) The IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of the 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, the IEC publishes International Standards. 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. The IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.

2) The formal decisions or agreements of the IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested National Committees.

3) The documents produced have the form of recommendations for international use and are published in the form of standards, technical specifications, technical reports or guides and they are accepted by the National Committees in that sense.

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International Standard IEC 60947-2 has been prepared by subcommittee 17B: Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear, of IEC technical committee 17: Switchgear and controlgear.


The document 17B/1269/FDIS, circulated to the National Committees as amendment 3, led to the publication of this new edition.

The text of this standard is based on the second edition, its amendments 1 and 2 and the following documents:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FDIS</th>
<th>Report on voting</th>
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<tr>
<td>17B/1269/FDIS</td>
<td>17B/1278/RVD</td>
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Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

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

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until 2004. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed;
- withdrawn;
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.
LOW-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

Part 2: Circuit-breakers

1 General

The provisions of the general rules dealt with in IEC 60947-1 (hereinafter referred to as Part 1) are applicable to this standard, where specifically called for. Clauses and subclauses, tables, figures and appendices of the general rules thus applicable are identified by reference to Part 1, for example, 1.2.3 of Part 1, table 4 of Part 1, or annex A of Part 1.

1.1 Scope and object

This standard applies to circuit-breakers, the main contacts of which are intended to be connected to circuits, the rated voltage of which does not exceed 1 000 V a.c. or 1 500 V d.c.; it also contains additional requirements for integrally fused circuit-breakers.

It applies whatever the rated currents, the method of construction or the proposed applications of the circuit-breakers may be.

The requirements for circuit-breakers which are also intended to provide earth-leakage protection are contained in annex B.

The additional requirements for circuit-breakers with electronic over-current protection are contained in annex F.

The additional requirements for circuit-breakers for IT systems are contained in annex H.

The requirements and test methods for electromagnetic compatibility of circuit-breakers are contained in annex J.

The requirements for circuit-breakers not fulfilling the requirements for overcurrent protection are contained in annex L.

The requirements for modular residual current devices (without integral current breaking device) are contained in annex M.

The requirements and test methods for electromagnetic compatibility of circuit-breaker auxiliaries are contained in annex N.

Supplementary requirements for circuit-breakers used as direct-on-line starters are given in IEC 60947-4-1, applicable to low-voltage contactors and starters.

The requirements for circuit-breakers for the protection of wiring installations in buildings and similar applications, and designed for use by uninstructed persons, are contained in IEC 60898.

The requirements for circuit-breakers for equipment (for example electrical appliances) are contained in IEC 60934.
For certain specific applications (for example traction, rolling mills, marine service) particular or additional requirements may be necessary.

NOTE Circuit-breakers which are dealt with in this standard may be provided with devices for automatic opening under predetermined conditions other than those of over-current and undervoltage as, for example, reversal of power or current. This standard does not deal with the verification of operation under such pre-determined conditions.

The object of this standard is to state:

a) the characteristics of circuit-breakers;

b) the conditions with which circuit-breakers shall comply with reference to:
   1) operation and behaviour in normal service;
   2) operation and behaviour in case of overload and operation and behaviour in case of short-circuit, including co-ordination in service (discrimination and back-up protection);
   3) dielectric properties;

c) tests intended for confirming that these conditions have been met and the methods to be adopted for these tests;

d) information to be marked on or given with the apparatus.

1.2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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(441):1984, International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Chapter 441: Switchgear, controlgear and fuses

IEC 60051 (all parts) Direct acting indicating analogue electrical measuring instruments and their accessories


IEC 60364 (all parts), Electric installations of buildings

IEC 60364-4-1:1982, Electric installations of buildings – Part 4: Protection for safety – Chapter 41: Protection against shock


IEC 60755:1983, General requirements for residual current operated protective devices
IEC 60898, *Circuit-breakers for over-current protection for household and similar installations*

IEC 60934, *Circuit-breakers for equipment (CBE)*

  Amendment 1 (2000)
  Amendment 2 (2001)

IEC 60947-4-1:2000, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 4-1: Contactors and motor-starters – Electromechanical contactors and motor-starters*

IEC 61000-3-2:2000, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 3-2: Limits – Limits for harmonic current emissions (equipment input current ≤16 A per phase)*


  Amendment 1 (1998)
  Amendment 2 (2000)

  Amendment 1 (2002)

  Amendment 1 (2000)
  Amendment 2 (2001)

  Amendment 1 (2000)

IEC 61000-4-6:1996, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4: Testing and measurement techniques – Section 6: Immunity to conducted disturbances, induced by radiofrequency fields*
  Amendment 1 (2000)

  Amendment 1 (2000)

IEC 61008-1:1990, *Residual current operated circuit-breakers without integral over-current protection for household and similar uses (RCCB’s) – Part 1: General rules*

IEC 61009-1:1991, *Residual current operated circuit-breakers with integral over-current protection for household and similar uses (RCBO’s) – Part 1: General rules*