INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear –

Part 2: Circuit-breakers

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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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.
4) In order to promote international unification, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC International Standards transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional standards. Any divergence between the IEC Standard and the corresponding national or regional standard shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
5) The IEC provides no marking procedure to indicate its approval and cannot be rendered responsible for any equipment declared to be in conformity with one of its standards.
6) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this International Standard may be the subject of patent rights. The IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

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

This third edition of IEC 60947-2 cancels and replaces the second edition published in 1995, amendment 1 (1997) and amendment 2 (2001).

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:

FDIS	Report on voting
17B/1269/FDIS	17B/1278/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.

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 60068-2-14:1984, *Environmental testing – Part 2: Tests. Test N: Change of temperature*

IEC 60068-2-30:1980, *Environmental testing – Part 2: Tests – Test Db and guidance: Damp heat, cyclic (12+12-hour cycle)*

IEC 60364 (all parts), *Electric installations of buildings*

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

IEC 60695-2-10:2000, *Fire hazard testing – Part 2-10: Glowing/hot-wire based test methods – Glow-wire apparatus and common test procedure*

IEC 60695-2-11:2000, *Fire hazard testing – Part 2-11: Glowing/hot-wire based test methods – Glow-wire flammability test method for end-products*

IEC 60695-2-12:2000, *Fire hazard testing – Part 2-12: Glowing/hot-wire based test methods – Glow-wire flammability test method for materials*

IEC 60695-2-13:2000, *Fire hazard testing – Part 2-13: Glowing/hot-wire based test methods – Glow-wire ignitability test method for materials*

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)*

IEC 60947-1:1999, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 1: General rules*
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)*

IEC 61000-3-3:1994, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 3: Limits – Section 3: Limitation of voltage fluctuations and flicker in low-voltage supply systems for equipment with rated current ≤16 A*

IEC 61000-4-2:1995, *Electromagnetic compatibility(EMC) – Part 4: Testing and measurement techniques – Section 2: Electrostatic discharge immunity test*
Amendment 1 (1998)
Amendment 2 (2000)

IEC 61000-4-3:2002, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-3: Testing and measurement techniques – Radiated radio-frequency electromagnetic field immunity test*
Amendment 1 (2002)

IEC 61000-4-4:1995, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4: Testing and measurement techniques – Section 4: Electrical fast transient/burst immunity test*
Amendment 1 (2000)
Amendment 2 (2001)

IEC 61000-4-5:1995, *Electromagnetic compatibility(EMC) – Part 4: Testing and measurement techniques – Section 5: Surge immunity test*
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)

IEC 61000-4-11:1994, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4: Testing and measuring techniques – Section 11: Voltage dips, short interruptions and voltage variation immunity tests*
Amendment 1 (2000)

IEC 61000-5-2:1997, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 5: Installation and mitigation guidelines – Section 2: Earthing and cabling*

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*

CISPR 11:1997, *Industrial, scientific and medical (ISM) radio-frequency equipment – Electromagnetic disturbance characteristics – Limits and methods of measurement*
Amendment 1 (1999)

CISPR 22:1997, *Information technology equipment – Radio disturbance characteristics – Limits and methods of measurement*