

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# IEC 61280-2-8

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## Fibre optic communication subsystem test procedures – Digital systems

### Part 2-8: Determination of low BER using Q-factor measurements

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**FIBRE OPTIC COMMUNICATION SUBSYSTEM TEST PROCEDURES –  
DIGITAL SYSTEMS –**

**Part 2-8: Determination of low BER  
using Q-factor measurements**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61280-2-8 has been prepared by subcommittee 86C: Fibre optic systems and active devices, of IEC technical committee 86: Fibre optics.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
86C/485/FDIS	86C/505/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 2010. At this date, the publication will be

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- withdrawn;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

## **FIBRE OPTIC COMMUNICATION SUBSYSTEM TEST PROCEDURES – DIGITAL SYSTEMS –**

### **Part 2-8: Determination of low BER using Q-factor measurements**

#### **1 Scope**

This part of IEC 61280 specifies two main methods for the determination of low BER values by making accelerated measurements. These include the variable decision threshold method (Clause 4) and the variable optical threshold method (Clause 5). In addition, a third method, the sinusoidal interference method, is described in Annex B.