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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

**Ultrasonics – Hydrophones –
Part 3: Properties of hydrophones for ultrasonic fields up to 40 MHz**

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	3
INTRODUCTION.....	5
1 Scope.....	6
2 Normative references.....	6
3 Terms, definitions and symbols.....	6
4 List of symbols.....	8
5 Hydrophone characteristics.....	9
5.1 General.....	9
5.2 Basic information.....	9
5.3 Sensitivity.....	9
5.4 Frequency response.....	10
5.4.1 Stated frequency band.....	10
5.4.2 Frequency dependence.....	10
5.5 Directional response.....	11
5.5.1 General.....	11
5.5.2 Symmetry of directional response.....	11
5.6 Effective radius.....	11
5.7 Dynamic range, linearity and electromagnetic interference.....	12
5.8 Electric output characteristics.....	13
5.8.1 General.....	13
5.8.2 Hydrophone without pre-amplifier.....	13
5.8.3 Hydrophone assembly.....	13
5.8.4 Output lead configuration.....	14
5.9 Environmental aspects.....	14
5.9.1 Temperature range.....	14
5.9.2 Water tightness.....	14
5.9.3 Water properties and incompatible materials.....	14
5.9.4 Exposed material.....	14
5.10 Guidance manual.....	14
5.11 List of hydrophone characteristics.....	14
Annex A (informative) Examples of information on hydrophone properties.....	16
Bibliography.....	21
Figure A.1 – Frequency response of 0,2 mm needle hydrophone.....	17
Figure A.2 – Directional response of 0,2 mm needle hydrophone.....	18
Table A.1 – Example of basic information for 0,2 mm needle hydrophone assembly.....	16

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

ULTRASONICS – HYDROPHONES –

Part 3: Properties of hydrophones for ultrasonic fields up to 40 MHz

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 62127-3 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 87: Ultrasonics

IEC 62127-1, IEC 62127-2 and IEC 62127-3 are being published simultaneously. Together these cancel and replace IEC 60866:1987, IEC 61101:1991, IEC 61102:1991, IEC 61220:1993 and IEC 62092:2001.

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

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
87/354/CDV	87/373/RVC

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.

A list of all parts of IEC 62127 series, published under the general title *Ultrasonics – Hydrophones*, can be found on the IEC website.

NOTE Words in **bold** in the text are defined in Clause 3.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the maintenance result date indicated on the IEC website 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.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

INTRODUCTION

The spatial and temporal distribution of acoustic pressure in an ultrasonic field in a liquid medium is commonly determined using miniature ultrasonic **hydrophones**. The properties of these **hydrophones** have been dealt with in a number of IEC standards in various aspects. The purpose of this part of IEC 62127 is to bring together all these specifications and to establish a common standard on the properties of ultrasonic **hydrophones**. The main **hydrophone** application in this context is the measurement of ultrasonic fields emitted by medical diagnostic equipment in water. Other medical applications are field measurements for therapy equipment such as that used in lithotripsy, high-intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU) and physiotherapy. Hydrophones are also used extensively in non-medical applications for both product development and quality control including:

- mapping of the ultrasound field within ultrasonic cleaning baths;
- characterization of acoustic fields used in transmission measurement systems (e.g. ultrasonic spectrometers, ultrasonic attenuation meters and velocimeters);
- characterization of acoustic fields used in reflection measurement systems (e.g. Doppler flowmeters).

While the term "**hydrophone**" can be used in a wider sense, it is understood here as referring to miniature piezoelectric **hydrophones**. It is this instrument type that is used today in various areas of ultrasonics and, in particular, to quantitatively characterize the field structure of medical diagnostic instruments. With regard to other pressure sensor types, such as those based on fibre optics, some of the requirements of this standard are applicable to these as well but others are not. If in the future these other "**hydrophone**" types gain more importance in field measurement practice, their properties will have to be dealt with in a revised version of this standard or in a separate one.

Underwater **hydrophones** as covered by IEC 60500 and IEC 60565 are not included in this standard, although there is an overlap in the frequency ranges. Underwater **hydrophones** are used in natural waters, even in the ocean, and this leads to different technical concepts and requirements. In addition, the main direction of acoustic incidence in underwater applications is typically at right angles to the **hydrophone axis**, whereas it is assumed in this standard that it is in the direction of the **hydrophone axis**.

In the past, ultrasonic **hydrophones** have been applied almost exclusively as amplitude sensors. At present a change can be seen and it is increasingly considered useful to have additional phase information, which, however, is only possible if the phase characteristics of the **hydrophone** have been determined during calibration. In this standard, therefore, requirements are specified for the amplitude aspect of the **hydrophone** sensitivity, and recommendations are provided for the phase aspect, as an option to be considered.

ULTRASONICS – HYDROPHONES –

Part 3: Properties of hydrophones for ultrasonic fields up to 40 MHz

1 Scope

This part of IEC 62127 specifies relevant **hydrophone** characteristics.

This standard is applicable to:

- **hydrophones** employing piezoelectric sensor elements, designed to measure the pulsed and continuous wave ultrasonic fields generated by ultrasonic equipment;
- **hydrophones** used for measurements made in water;
- **hydrophones** with or without an associated pre-amplifier.

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 62127-1, *Ultrasonics – Hydrophones – Part 1: Measurement and characterization of medical ultrasonic fields up to 40 MHz*

IEC 62127-2, *Ultrasonics – Hydrophones – Part 2: Calibration for ultrasonic fields up to 40 MHz*