TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Recommendations for renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification –
Part 9-3: Integrated systems – User interface
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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY AND HYBRID SYSTEMS FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION –

Part 9-3: Integrated systems – User interface

FOREWORD

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- the required support cannot be obtained for the publication of an International Standard, despite repeated efforts, or
- the subject is still under technical development or where, for any other reason, there is the future but no immediate possibility of an agreement on an International Standard.

Technical specifications are subject to review within three years of publication to decide whether they can be transformed into International Standards.

IEC 62257-9-3, which is a technical specification, has been prepared by IEC technical committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems.
This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition issued in 2006. It constitutes a technical revision.

The main technical changes with regard to the previous edition are as follows:

- Changing the voltage range covered by the technical specification to a.c. nominal voltage below 1 000 V and d.c. nominal voltage below 1 500 V (introduction).
- Deleted below 100 kVA from upper limit.
- Including 240 V and 220 V 1-Ø in the voltage levels (scope).
- Deleted the terms microgrid and micropowerplants from terms and definitions.
- Stated the requirement for segregation between a.c. and d.c circuits in housing (6.5).
- Stated that the protection devices for overcurrent are always accessible (6.6).

The text of this technical specification is based on the following documents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enquiry draft</th>
<th>Report on voting</th>
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<td>82/1030/DTS</td>
<td>82/1089/RVC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Full information on the voting for the approval of this technical specification can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This part of IEC 62257-9 is to be used in conjunction with the IEC 62257 series.

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

A list of all parts in the IEC 62257 series, published under the general title *Recommendations for renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification*, can be found on the IEC website.

Future standards in this series will carry the new general title as cited above. Titles of existing standards in this series will be updated at the time of the next edition.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability 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

- transformed into an International standard,
- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

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

**IMPORTANT** – The 'colour inside' logo on the cover page of this publication indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this document using a colour printer.
INTRODUCTION

The IEC 62257 series intends to provide to different players involved in rural electrification projects (such as project implementers, project contractors, project supervisors, installers, etc.) documents for the setting up of renewable energy and hybrid systems with a.c. nominal voltage below 1 000 V and d.c. nominal voltage below 1 500 V.

These documents are recommendations:

- to choose the right system for the right place,
- to design the system,
- to operate and maintain the system.

These documents are focused only on rural electrification concentrating on but not specific to developing countries. They should not be considered as all inclusive to rural electrification. The documents try to promote the use of renewable energies in rural electrification; they do not deal with clean mechanisms developments at this time (CO₂ emission, carbon credit, etc.). Further developments in this field could be introduced in future steps.

This consistent set of documents is best considered as a whole with different parts corresponding to items for safety, sustainability of systems and at the lowest life cycle cost as possible. One of the main objectives is to provide the minimum sufficient requirements, relevant to the field of application that is: small renewable energy and hybrid off-grid systems.
1 Scope

This part of IEC 62257, which is a technical specification, specifies the general requirements for the design and the implementation of the interface equipment within the user's installation which connects to a microgrid or the generating part of a standalone system.

This interface is a part of the user's installation as shown in Figure 1.

![Diagram of General configuration of an electrification system](image)

**Figure 1 – General configuration of an electrification system**

This part of IEC 62257 applies to simplified user's interfaces (distribution board) in electrical installations with maximum power of 500 VA in Decentralized Rural Electrification Systems (DRESs).

**NOTE** For installations above 500 VA in decentralized electrification systems, IEC TS 62257-5 applies.

This part of IEC 62257 applies to an interface equipment within the user's installation and which connects the user's installation to:

- 240 V or 230 V or 220 V or 120 V a.c. microgrid,
- the generating part – a.c. or d.c. – of a standalone installation.

This equipment provides protection, isolation, and distribution functions.

2 Normative reference

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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 61439-3, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear assemblies – Part 3: Distribution boards intended to be operated by ordinary persons (DBO)*

IEC 62257 (all parts), *Recommendations for renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification*
3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

• IEC Electropedia: available at http://www.electropedia.org/
• ISO Online browsing platform: available at http://www.iso.org/obp

3.1 carrier
messenger
wire or rope, the primary function of which is to support the cable in aerial installations, which may be separate from or integral with the cable it supports

3.2 block
part of a line between two consecutive stoppage poles

3.3 earth
conductive mass of the earth, whose electric potential at any point is conventionally taken as equal to zero

3.4 equipotential bonding
provision of electric connections between conductive parts, intended to achieve equipotentiality

Note 1 to entry: The role of the equipotential bonding is to decrease the difference in potential that can exist between two exposed-conductive parts of an installation.

3.5 protective conductor
identification: PE
conductor provided for purposes of safety, for example protection against electric shock


3.6 PEN conductor
conductor combining the functions of a protective earthing conductor and a neutral conductor