

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Explosive atmospheres –
Part 26: Equipment with Equipment Protection Level (EPL) Ga**

**Atmosphères explosives –
Partie 26: Matériel d'un niveau de protection du matériel (EPL) Ga**



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

**Part 26: Equipment with Equipment Protection Level
(EPL) Ga**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 60079-26 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 31: Equipment for explosive atmospheres.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2006 and constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant changes with respect to the previous edition:

Changes	Clause	Type		
		Minor and editorial changes	Extension	Major technical changes
Notes deleted	1	X		
Reference to associated apparatus deleted	1	X		
Additional normative references included	3	X		
Requirements against mechanical and electrostatic ignition hazards deleted (now covered in IEC 60079-0)	4.1	X		
Requirement for separation element detailed regarding external influences	4.1.3.2	X		
Intrinsic safety Ex ia as single type of protection including associated apparatus deleted (now covered by EPL)	4.2.2 (ed.2)	X		
Encapsulation Ex ma as single type of protection deleted (now covered by EPL)	4.2.3 (ed.2)	X		
Conditions a) and b) linked with an "and", therefore requirement of "flameproof joint" deleted in following clause. Both requirements already covered by separation elements and standardised process connections.	4.3	X		
Process connection requires a sufficiently tight joint: IP66 added alternatively to IP67	4.3		X	
Requirement for isolated conductive components deleted (now covered in IEC 60079-0)	4.4 (ed.2)	X		
Requirements for non-conductive enclosures deleted (now covered in IEC 60079-0)	4.5 (ed.2)	X		
Test of partition walls according to 4.1.3.2 b) is specified in more detail	5.2			C1
Marking example for associated apparatus deleted	6.2 b)	X		
Note 3 with an additional example added	6.2	X		
Specification of material of partition wall required in instructions (also required in 4.1.3.2)	7	X		
Alternative risk assessment method deleted (is now generally introduced)	AnnexA (ed.2)	X		

NOTE The technical changes referred to include the significance of technical changes in the revised IEC Standard, but they do not form an exhaustive list of all modifications from the previous version.

Explanation of the types of changes:

A) Definitions

1) Minor and editorial changes:

- Clarification
- Decrease of technical requirements
- Minor technical change
- Editorial corrections

These are changes which modify requirements in an editorial or a minor technical way. They include changes of the wording to clarify technical requirements without any technical change, or a reduction in level of existing requirement.

2) Extension: Addition of technical options

These are changes which add new or modify existing technical requirements, in a way that new options are given, but without increasing requirements for equipment that was fully compliant with the previous standard. Therefore, these will not have to be considered for products in conformity with the preceding edition.

3) Major technical changes:

- addition of technical requirements
- increase of technical requirements

These are changes to technical requirements (addition, increase of the level or removal) made in a way that a product in conformity with the preceding edition will not always be able to fulfil the requirements given in the later edition. These changes have to be considered for products in conformity with the preceding edition. For these changes additional information is provided in Clause B below.

NOTE These changes represent current technological knowledge. However, these changes should not normally have an influence on equipment already placed on the market.

B) Information about the background of 'Major technical changes'

C1: Introduction of type tests for separation elements according to "4.1.3.2 b)"

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

FDIS	Report on voting
31/1146/FDIS	31/1155/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.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60079 series, published under the general title *Explosive atmospheres*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site 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.