

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Primary batteries –  
Part 5: Safety of batteries with aqueous electrolyte**

**Piles électriques –  
Partie 5: Sécurité des piles à électrolyte aqueux**



## THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED

Copyright © 2011 IEC, Geneva, Switzerland

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from either IEC or IEC's member National Committee in the country of the requester.

If you have any questions about IEC copyright or have an enquiry about obtaining additional rights to this publication, please contact the address below or your local IEC member National Committee for further information.

Droits de reproduction réservés. Sauf indication contraire, aucune partie de cette publication ne peut être reproduite ni utilisée sous quelque forme que ce soit et par aucun procédé, électronique ou mécanique, y compris la photocopie et les microfilms, sans l'accord écrit de la CEI ou du Comité national de la CEI du pays du demandeur.

Si vous avez des questions sur le copyright de la CEI ou si vous désirez obtenir des droits supplémentaires sur cette publication, utilisez les coordonnées ci-après ou contactez le Comité national de la CEI de votre pays de résidence.

IEC Central Office  
3, rue de Varembe  
CH-1211 Geneva 20  
Switzerland  
Email: [inmail@iec.ch](mailto:inmail@iec.ch)  
Web: [www.iec.ch](http://www.iec.ch)

### About the IEC

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is the leading global organization that prepares and publishes International Standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies.

### About IEC publications

The technical content of IEC publications is kept under constant review by the IEC. Please make sure that you have the latest edition, a corrigenda or an amendment might have been published.

- Catalogue of IEC publications: [www.iec.ch/searchpub](http://www.iec.ch/searchpub)

The IEC on-line Catalogue enables you to search by a variety of criteria (reference number, text, technical committee,...). It also gives information on projects, withdrawn and replaced publications.

- IEC Just Published: [www.iec.ch/online\\_news/justpub](http://www.iec.ch/online_news/justpub)

Stay up to date on all new IEC publications. Just Published details twice a month all new publications released. Available on-line and also by email.

- Electropedia: [www.electropedia.org](http://www.electropedia.org)

The world's leading online dictionary of electronic and electrical terms containing more than 20 000 terms and definitions in English and French, with equivalent terms in additional languages. Also known as the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary online.

- Customer Service Centre: [www.iec.ch/webstore/custserv](http://www.iec.ch/webstore/custserv)

If you wish to give us your feedback on this publication or need further assistance, please visit the Customer Service Centre FAQ or contact us:

Email: [csc@iec.ch](mailto:csc@iec.ch)  
Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11  
Fax: +41 22 919 03 00

### A propos de la CEI

La Commission Electrotechnique Internationale (CEI) est la première organisation mondiale qui élabore et publie des normes internationales pour tout ce qui a trait à l'électricité, à l'électronique et aux technologies apparentées.

### A propos des publications CEI

Le contenu technique des publications de la CEI est constamment revu. Veuillez vous assurer que vous possédez l'édition la plus récente, un corrigendum ou amendement peut avoir été publié.

- Catalogue des publications de la CEI: [www.iec.ch/searchpub/cur\\_fut-f.htm](http://www.iec.ch/searchpub/cur_fut-f.htm)

Le Catalogue en-ligne de la CEI vous permet d'effectuer des recherches en utilisant différents critères (numéro de référence, texte, comité d'études,...). Il donne aussi des informations sur les projets et les publications retirées ou remplacées.

- Just Published CEI: [www.iec.ch/online\\_news/justpub](http://www.iec.ch/online_news/justpub)

Restez informé sur les nouvelles publications de la CEI. Just Published détaille deux fois par mois les nouvelles publications parues. Disponible en-ligne et aussi par email.

- Electropedia: [www.electropedia.org](http://www.electropedia.org)

Le premier dictionnaire en ligne au monde de termes électroniques et électriques. Il contient plus de 20 000 termes et définitions en anglais et en français, ainsi que les termes équivalents dans les langues additionnelles. Egalement appelé Vocabulaire Electrotechnique International en ligne.

- Service Clients: [www.iec.ch/webstore/custserv/custserv\\_entry-f.htm](http://www.iec.ch/webstore/custserv/custserv_entry-f.htm)

Si vous désirez nous donner des commentaires sur cette publication ou si vous avez des questions, visitez le FAQ du Service clients ou contactez-nous:

Email: [csc@iec.ch](mailto:csc@iec.ch)  
Tél.: +41 22 919 02 11  
Fax: +41 22 919 03 00

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Primary batteries –  
Part 5: Safety of batteries with aqueous electrolyte**

**Piles électriques –  
Partie 5: Sécurité des piles à électrolyte aqueux**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

COMMISSION  
ELECTROTECHNIQUE  
INTERNATIONALE

PRICE CODE  
CODE PRIX

W

ICS 29.220.10

ISBN 978-2-88912-386-5

## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
INTRODUCTION.....	6
1 Scope.....	7
2 Normative references.....	7
3 Terms and definitions.....	7
4 Requirements for safety.....	9
4.1 Design.....	9
4.1.1 General.....	9
4.1.2 Venting.....	9
4.1.3 Insulation resistance.....	10
4.2 Quality plan.....	10
5 Sampling.....	10
5.1 General.....	10
5.2 Sampling for type approval.....	10
6 Testing and requirements.....	11
6.1 General.....	11
6.1.1 Safety notice.....	12
6.1.2 Ambient temperature.....	12
6.2 Intended use.....	12
6.2.1 Intended use tests and requirements.....	12
6.2.2 Intended use test procedures.....	12
6.3 Reasonably foreseeable misuse.....	15
6.3.1 Reasonably foreseeable misuse tests and requirements.....	15
6.3.2 Reasonably foreseeable misuse test procedures.....	15
7 Information for safety.....	17
7.1 Safety precautions during handling of batteries.....	17
7.2 Packaging.....	19
7.3 Handling of battery cartons.....	19
7.4 Display and storage.....	19
7.5 Transportation.....	20
7.6 Disposal.....	20
8 Instructions for use.....	20
9 Marking.....	21
9.1 General.....	21
9.2 Marking of small batteries.....	21
Annex A (informative) Additional information to 7.4.....	22
Annex B (informative) Battery compartment design guidelines.....	23
Annex C (informative) Safety pictograms.....	34
Bibliography.....	36
Figure 1 – Sampling for type approval tests and number of batteries required.....	10
Figure 2 – Temperature cycling procedure.....	15
Figure 3 – Circuit diagram for incorrect installation (four batteries in series).....	16
Figure 4 – Circuit diagram for external short circuit.....	16

Figure 5 – Circuit diagram for overdischarge.....	17
Figure 6 – XYZ axes for free fall .....	17
Figure 7 – Ingestion gauge (Inner dimensions) .....	19
Figure B.1 – Example of series connection with one battery reversed .....	23
Figure B.2 – Positive contact recessed between ribs .....	25
Figure B.3 – Positive contact recessed within surrounding insulation .....	25
Figure B.4 – Negative contact U-shaped to ensure no positive (+) battery contact .....	26
Figure B.5 – Design with respect to battery orientation .....	27
Figure B.6 – Example of the design of a positive contact of an appliance.....	28
Figure B.7 – Example of a short circuit, a switch is piercing the battery insulating jacket .....	29
Figure B.8 – Typical example of insulation to prevent short circuit .....	29
Figure B.9 – Insertion against spring (to be avoided) .....	29
Figure B.10 – Examples showing distorted springs .....	30
Figure B.11 – One example of protected insertion.....	30
Figure B.12 – Example of negative contacts .....	31
Figure B.13 – Example of series connection of batteries with voltage tapping .....	33
Table 1 – Test matrix .....	11
Table 2 – Intended use tests and requirements.....	12
Table 3 – Shock pulse .....	13
Table 4 – Test sequence.....	13
Table 5 – Test sequence.....	14
Table 6 – Reasonably foreseeable misuse tests and requirements .....	15
Table 7 – Marking requirements.....	21
Table B.1 – Dimensions of battery terminals and recommended dimensions of the positive contact of an appliance in Figure B.6 .....	27
Table B.2 – Minimum wire diameters .....	30
Table B.3 – Dimensions of the negative battery terminal.....	31
Table C.1 – Safety pictograms.....	34

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

## PRIMARY BATTERIES –

## Part 5: Safety of batteries with aqueous electrolyte

## FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of 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, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). 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. 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 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 IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard IEC 60086-5 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 35: Primary cells and batteries.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (2005) and constitutes a technical revision.

The major technical changes with respect to the previous edition are the test requirements and the harmonization of the marking clause with the other standards of the IEC 60086 series. Moreover, the table of safety pictograms was added as Annex C.

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

CDV	Report on voting
35/1273/CDV	35/1276/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 in the IEC 60086 series, under the general title *Primary batteries*, 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.

Withdrawn

## INTRODUCTION

The concept of safety is closely related to safeguarding the integrity of people and property. This part of IEC 60086 specifies tests and requirements for primary batteries with aqueous electrolyte and has been prepared in accordance with ISO/IEC guidelines, taking into account all relevant national and international standards which apply. Also included in this standard is guidance for appliance designers with respect to battery compartments and information regarding packaging, handling, warehousing and transportation.

Safety is a balance between freedom from risks of harm and other demands to be met by the product. There can be no absolute safety. Even at the highest level of safety, the product can only be relatively safe. In this respect, decision-making is based on risk evaluation and safety judgement.

As safety will pose different problems, it is impossible to provide a set of precise provisions and recommendations that will apply in every case. However, this standard, when followed on a judicious "use when applicable" basis, will provide reasonably consistent standards for safety.

Withdrawn

## PRIMARY BATTERIES –

### Part 5: Safety of batteries with aqueous electrolyte

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60086 specifies tests and requirements for primary batteries with aqueous electrolyte to ensure their safe operation under intended use and reasonably foreseeable misuse.

#### 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 60086-1:2011, *Primary batteries – Part 1: General*

IEC 60086-2:2011, *Primary batteries – Part 2: Physical and electrical specifications*

IEC 60068-2-6, *Environmental testing – Part 2-6: Tests – Test Fc : Vibrations (sinusoidal)*

IEC 60068-2-27, *Environmental testing – Part 2-27: Tests – Test Ea and guidance: Shock*

IEC 60068-2-31, *Environmental testing – Part 2-31: Tests – Test Ec: Rough handling shocks, primarily for equipment-type specimens*

#### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60086-1 as well as the following terms and definitions apply.

##### 3.1

##### **battery**

one or more cells electrically connected by permanent means, fitted in a case, with terminals, markings and protective devices etc, as necessary for use

[IEC 60050-482: 2004, 482-01-04, modified]

##### 3.2

##### **button battery**

small round battery, where the overall height is less than the diameter; batteries complying with Figures 3 and 4 of IEC 60086-2

##### 3.3

##### **cell**

basic functional unit, consisting of an assembly of electrodes, electrolyte, container, terminals and usually separators that is a source of electric energy obtained by direct conversion of chemical energy

[IEC 60050-482: 2004, 482-01-01]