

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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**Radiation protection instrumentation – Hand-held instruments for the detection and identification of radionuclides and for the estimation of ambient dose equivalent rate from photon radiation**





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**Radiation protection instrumentation – Hand-held instruments for the detection and identification of radionuclides and for the estimation of ambient dose equivalent rate from photon radiation**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**RADIATION PROTECTION INSTRUMENTATION –  
HAND-HELD INSTRUMENTS FOR THE DETECTION AND IDENTIFICATION  
OF RADIONUCLIDES AND FOR THE ESTIMATION OF AMBIENT DOSE  
EQUIVALENT RATE FROM PHOTON RADIATION**

## FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 62327 has been prepared by subcommittee 45B: Radiation protection instrumentation, of IEC technical committee 45: Nuclear instrumentation.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition of IEC 62327, issued in 2006. It constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) addition of detailed methods of test;
- b) revised identification test acceptance criteria for environmental tests;
- c) changed format to match SC 45B template.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
45B/882/FDIS	45B/887/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

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

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document 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- withdrawn,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

Illicit and inadvertent movement of radioactive materials in the form of radiation sources and contaminated metallurgical scrap has become a problem of increasing importance. Radioactive sources out of regulatory control, so-called “orphan sources”, have frequently caused serious radiation exposures and widespread contamination. Although illicit trafficking in nuclear and other radioactive materials is not a new phenomenon, concern about a nuclear “black market” has increased in the last few years particularly in view of its terrorist potential.

In response to the technical policy of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the World Customs Organization (WCO) and the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) related to the detection and identification of special nuclear materials and security trends, nuclear instrumentation companies are developing and manufacturing radiation instrumentation to assist in the detection of illicit movement of radioactive and special nuclear materials. This type of instrumentation is widely used for security purposes at nuclear facilities, border control checkpoints, and international seaports and airports. However, to ensure that measurement results made at different locations are consistent, it is imperative that radiation instrumentation be designed to rigorous specifications based upon agreed performance requirements stated in this document. IEC standards have also been developed to address personal radiation detectors, radiation portal monitors, highly sensitive gamma and neutron detection systems, spectrometric personal radiation detectors, and backpack-based radiation detection and identification systems. Table 1 below contains a list of those standards.

**Table 1 – IEC standards concerning instruments for the detection of illicit trafficking of radioactive material**

Type of instrumentation	IEC number	Title of the standard
Body-worn	62401	Radiation protection instrumentation – Alarming Personal Radiation Devices (PRDs) for the detection of illicit trafficking of radioactive material
	62618	Radiation protection instrumentation – Spectroscopy-Based Alarming Personal Radiation Devices (SPRD) for detection of illicit trafficking of radioactive material
	62694	Radiation protection instrumentation – Backpack-type radiation detector (BRD) for detection of illicit trafficking of radioactive material
Portable or hand-held	62327	Radiation protection instrumentation – Hand-held instruments for the detection and identification of radionuclides and for the estimation of ambient dose equivalent rate from photon radiation
	62533	Radiation protection instrumentation – Highly sensitive hand-held instruments for photon detection of radioactive material
	62534	Radiation protection instrumentation – Highly sensitive hand-held instruments for neutron detection of radioactive material
Portal	62244	Radiation protection instrumentation – Installed radiation portal monitors (RPMs) for the detection of illicit trafficking of radioactive and nuclear materials
	62484	Radiation protection instrumentation – Spectroscopy-based portal monitors used for the detection and identification of illicit trafficking of radioactive material
Data format	62755	Radiation protection instrumentation – Data format for radiation instruments used in the detection of illicit trafficking of radioactive materials