

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE

HORIZONTAL PUBLICATION  
PUBLICATION HORIZONTALE

**Fire hazard testing –  
Part 6-1: Smoke obscuration – General guidance**

**Essais relatifs aux risques du feu –  
Partie 6-1: Obscurcissement dû à la fumée – Recommandations générales**





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## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
INTRODUCTION.....	6
1 Scope.....	7
2 Normative references.....	7
3 Terms, definitions and symbols.....	8
3.1 Terms and definitions.....	8
3.2 Symbols.....	10
4 General aspects of smoke test methods.....	11
4.1 Fire scenarios and physical fire models.....	11
4.2 Factors affecting smoke production.....	12
4.2.1 General.....	12
4.2.2 Modes of decomposition.....	12
4.2.3 Ventilation and the burning environment.....	16
4.2.4 Time and temperature.....	16
4.2.5 Removal mechanisms for smoke particles.....	16
5 Principles of smoke measurement.....	16
5.1 General.....	16
5.2 Bouguer's law.....	16
5.3 Extinction area.....	17
5.4 Log <sub>10</sub> units.....	18
5.5 Light sources.....	18
5.6 <i>Specific extinction area of smoke</i> .....	18
5.7 <i>Mass optical density of smoke</i> .....	19
5.8 <i>Visibility</i> .....	20
6 Static and dynamic methods.....	20
6.1 Static methods.....	20
6.1.1 Principles.....	20
6.1.2 <i>Extinction area of smoke</i> .....	20
6.1.3 <i>Specific optical density of smoke</i> .....	21
6.1.4 Prediction of <i>visibility</i> .....	21
6.2 Dynamic methods.....	21
6.2.1 Principles.....	21
6.2.2 Smoke production rate.....	21
6.2.3 Total smoke production.....	22
6.2.4 SMOGRA index.....	22
7 Test methods.....	23
7.1 Consideration of test methods.....	23
7.2 Selection of test specimen.....	24
8 Presentation of data.....	24
9 Relevance of data to hazard assessment.....	24
Annex A (informative) Calculation of <i>visibility</i> .....	27
A.1 General.....	27
A.2 Example.....	27
Annex B (informative) Relationships between $D_s$ and some other smoke parameters as measured in ISO 5659-2 [4].....	29

Annex C (informative) Relationships between per cent transmission, as measured in a "three metre cube" enclosure, and extinction area .....	31
Bibliography .....	33
Figure 1 – Different phases in the development of a fire within a compartment .....	12
Figure 2 – Attenuation of light by smoke .....	17
Figure 3 – Extinction area .....	18
Figure 4 – Dynamic smoke measurement .....	21
Figure 5 – Example $SPR_{av}$ versus $t$ curve .....	23
Figure 6 – SMOGRA curve derived from Figure 5 .....	23
Figure 7 – Evaluation and consideration of smoke test methods.....	26
Figure A.1 – <i>Visibility</i> ( $\omega$ ) versus <i>extinction coefficient</i> ( $k$ ).....	27
Figure B.1 – Smoke parameters related to $D_s$ as measured in ISO 5659-2 .....	30
Figure C.1 – Extinction area (amount of smoke) related to per cent transmission as measured in the "three metre cube".....	32
Table 1 – Characteristics of fire stages (from Table 1 in ISO 19706:2011).....	14
Table B.1 – Conversion from $D_s$ to some other smoke parameters as measured in ISO 5659-2.....	29
Table C.1 – Conversions from per cent transmission, as measured in the "three metre cube" to amount of smoke (extinction area).....	31

# INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

## FIRE HAZARD TESTING –

### Part 6-1: Smoke obscuration – General guidance

#### FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 60695-6-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 89: Fire hazard testing.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition of IEC 60695-6-1 published in 2005 and Amendment 1:2010. It constitutes a technical revision.

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

- References to IEC TS 60695-6-30 (withdrawn in 2016) have been removed.
- References to IEC TS 60695-6-31 (withdrawn in 2016) have been removed.
- References to ISO 5659-2 have been inserted.
- The scope contains some additional text.
- Terms and definitions have been updated.

- Subclause 3.2 has been updated.
- Subclause 7.1 has been updated.

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

Draft	Report on voting
89/1472/CDV	89/1504/RVC

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

It has the status of a basic safety publication in accordance with IEC Guide 104 and ISO/IEC Guide 51.

This International Standard is to be used in conjunction with IEC 60695-6-2.

In this standard, the following print types are used:

- *italic font: terms defined in Clause 3.*

A list of all parts in the IEC 60695 series, published under the general title *Fire hazard testing*, can be found on the IEC website.

IEC 60695-6 consists of the following parts:

Part 6-1: Smoke obscuration – General guidance

Part 6-2: Smoke obscuration – Summary and relevance of test methods

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications](http://www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications).

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- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

## INTRODUCTION

In the design of an electrotechnical product the risk of fire and the potential hazards associated with fire need to be considered. In this respect the objective of component, circuit and equipment design, as well as the choice of materials, is to reduce the risk of fire to a tolerable level even in the event of reasonably foreseeable (mis)use, malfunction or failure.

IEC 60695-1-10, IEC 60695-1-11, and IEC 60695-1-12 [1]<sup>1</sup> provide guidance on how this is to be accomplished.

Fires involving electrotechnical products can also be initiated from external non-electrical sources. Considerations of this nature are dealt with in an overall fire hazard assessment.

The aim of the IEC 60695 series is to save lives and property by reducing the number of fires or reducing the consequences of the fire. This can be accomplished by:

- trying to prevent ignition caused by an electrically energised component part and, in the event of ignition, to confine any resulting fire within the bounds of the enclosure of the electrotechnical product.
- trying to minimise flame spread beyond the product's enclosure and to minimise the harmful effects of fire effluents including heat, *smoke*, and toxic or corrosive combustion products.

One of the contributing hazards is the release of *smoke*, which may cause loss of vision and/or disorientation which could impede escape from the building or fire fighting.

*Smoke* particles reduce the *visibility* due to light absorption and scattering. Consequently, people may experience difficulties in finding exit signs, doors and windows. *Visibility* is often determined as the distance at which an object is no longer visible. It depends on many factors, but close relationships have been established between *visibility* and the measurements of the *extinction coefficient of smoke* – see Annex A.

The production of *smoke* and its optical properties can be measured as well as other fire properties, such as heat release, flame spread, and the production of toxic gas and corrosive effluent. This document serves as a guidance document and focuses on obscuration of light by *smoke*.

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<sup>1</sup> Numbers in square brackets refer to the bibliography.