

# TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION



**Safety of machinery – Electro-sensitive protective equipment –  
Part 4-3: Particular requirements for equipment using vision based protective  
devices (VBPD) – Additional requirements when using stereo vision techniques  
(VBPDEST)**



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INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
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## CONTENTS

FOREWORD .....	4
INTRODUCTION .....	6
1 Scope .....	7
2 Normative references .....	8
3 Terms and definitions .....	8
4 Functional, design and environmental requirements .....	12
5 Testing .....	21
6 Marking for identification and for safe use .....	34
7 Accompanying documents .....	34
Annex A (normative) Optional functions of the ESPE .....	36
Annex B (normative) Catalogue of single faults affecting the electrical equipment of the ESPE, to be applied as specified in 5.3 .....	38
Annex AA (informative) The positioning of VBPDST employing a volume as a detection zone in respect of parts of the human body .....	39
Annex BB (informative) Relationship between position accuracy and tolerance zones for VBPDST .....	48
Annex CC (informative) Basic principles of physics for contrast of convex homogeneous bodies .....	54
Bibliography .....	61
Figure 1 – Image planes in imaging device of a VBPDST .....	9
Figure 2 – 3D view of a vision based protective device using stereo vision techniques (VBPDST) .....	12
Figure 3 – 2D view of a vision based protective device using stereo vision techniques (VBPDST) .....	13
Figure 4 – Examples for periodic surface structures on the background .....	25
Figure 5 – Test setup for indirect light interference on the background .....	30
Figure 6 – Test setup for VBPDST of identical design with PAPT .....	31
Figure 7 – Test setup for direct light interference on the sensing device .....	32
Figure AA.1 – Minimum distance $S$ – Example 1 .....	42
Figure AA.2 – Overall minimum distance $S_0$ without tolerance zone – Example 1 .....	42
Figure AA.3 – Overall minimum distance $S_0$ including tolerance zone – Example 1 .....	43
Figure AA.4 – Minimum distance $S$ – Example 2 .....	44
Figure AA.5 – Overall minimum distance $S_0$ without tolerance zone – Example 2 .....	45
Figure AA.6 – Overall minimum distance $S_0$ including tolerance zone – Example 2 .....	45
Figure AA.7 – Application example for body detection of a VBPDST employing a volume as a detection zone .....	47
Figure BB.1 – Relationship between test piece position and the probability of detection .....	49
Figure BB.2 – Example for measurement of the probability of detection .....	50
Figure BB.3 – Relationship between detection zone and tolerance zone .....	52
Figure BB.4 – Overall minimum distance $S_0$ including tolerance zone .....	53
Figure CC.1 – Illumination model – Sphere illuminated by a point source .....	55

Figure CC.2 – Illumination model – Sphere illuminated by a half-Ulbricht sphere .....	55
Figure CC.3 – Brightness of a surface element of a sphere in spherical coordinates .....	56
Figure CC.4 – Brightness distribution in an image of a sphere .....	56
Figure CC.5 – Grey value profile over a sphere with low contrast for a typical imaging contrast (Modulation Transfer Function).....	57
Figure CC.6 – Grey value profile over a sphere with the same colour as the background.....	57
Figure CC.7 – Grey value profile over a sphere in front of a background that is half as bright .....	58
Figure CC.8 – Grey value profile over a sphere in front of a background that is twice as bright .....	58
Figure CC.9 – Grey value profile over a sphere by low contrast .....	59
Figure CC.10 – Grey value profile over the sphere from Figure CC.9 but with the direction to the imaging device changed by 10° .....	59
Figure CC.11 – Grey value profile over a small sphere that results in an image that is 5 pixels in diameter.....	60
Table 431 – Verification of detection capability requirements (see also 4.2.12) .....	23
Table 432 – Overview of light interference tests .....	28

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**SAFETY OF MACHINERY –  
ELECTRO-SENSITIVE PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT –****Part 4-3: Particular requirements for equipment using  
vision based protective devices (VBPD) –  
Additional requirements when using stereo  
vision techniques (VBPDEST)**

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IEC TS 61496-4-3 has been prepared by IEC technical committee TC 44: Safety of machinery – Electrotechnical aspects. It is a Technical Specification.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2015-05. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) Some requirement clauses and test procedures have been adapted or removed because they have been consolidated in IEC 61496-1:2020 (e.g. 5.4.6.2 Light sources or Clause A.9).

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

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44/934/DTS	44/957A/RVDTS

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 document is English.

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 <https://www.iec.ch/publications>.

This document is to be used in conjunction with IEC 61496-1:2020.

This document supplements or modifies the corresponding clauses in IEC 61496-1:2020 to specify particular requirements for the design, construction and testing of electro-sensitive protective equipment (ESPE) for the safeguarding of machinery, employing vision based protective devices (VBPD) using stereo vision techniques (VBPDST) for the sensing function.

Where a particular clause or subclause of IEC 61496-1:2020 is not mentioned in this document, that clause or subclause applies as far as is reasonable. Where this document states "*addition*", "*modification*" or "*replacement*", the relevant text of IEC 61496-1:2020 is adapted accordingly.

Clauses and subclauses which are additional to those of IEC 61496-1:2020 are numbered sequentially, following on the last available number in IEC 61496-1:2020. Terminological entries (in Clause 3) which are additional to those in IEC 61496-1:2020 are numbered starting from 3.4301. Additional annexes are lettered from AA onwards and additional tables are numbered with prefix 43.

A list of all parts in the IEC 61496 series, published under the general title *Safety of machinery – Electro-sensitive protective equipment*, can be found on the IEC website.

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## INTRODUCTION

An electro-sensitive protective equipment (ESPE) is applied to machinery presenting a risk of personal injury. It provides protection by causing the machine to revert to a safe condition before a person can be placed in a hazardous situation.

The working group responsible for drafting this document was concerned that, due to the complexity of the technology, there are many issues that are highly dependent on analysis and expertise in specific test and measurement techniques. In order to provide a high level of confidence, independent review by relevant expertise is recommended. They considered that if this high level of confidence could not be established these devices would not be suitable for use in safety related applications.