

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Rotating electrical machines –
Part 18-1: Functional evaluation of insulation systems – General guidelines**

**Machines électriques tournantes –
Partie 18-1: Évaluation fonctionnelle des systèmes d'isolation – Lignes
directrices générales**





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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

ROTATING ELECTRICAL MACHINES –

**Part 18-1: Functional evaluation of insulation systems –
General guidelines**

FOREWORD

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IEC 60034-18-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 2: Rotating machinery. It is an International Standard.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2010. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) provides general guidelines for functional evaluation of different types of windings as before but incorporates those changes, which have been introduced for the electrical qualification and evaluation of windings which are electrically stressed by converter-supply;
- b) is now focused on general guidelines with all technical details of procedures and qualification principles moved to the subsequent parts;

- c) details additional general aspects of functional evaluation and qualification, particularly the procedure for comparison between reference and candidate insulation systems, the introduction of the concept of qualification for different expected life-times in service and the evaluation of minor component or manufacturing changes.

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

Draft	Report on voting
2/2113/FDIS	2/2118/RVD

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.

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. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60034 series, published under the general title *Rotating electrical machines*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under 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.

INTRODUCTION

IEC 60034-18 comprises several parts, dealing with different types of functional evaluation and special kinds of test procedures for insulation systems of rotating electrical machines. IEC 60034-18-1 provides general guidelines for such procedures and qualification principles, whereas the subsequent parts IEC 60034-18-21, IEC 60034-18-31, IEC 60034-18-32, IEC TS 60034-18-33, IEC 60034-18-34, IEC 60034-18-41 and IEC 60034-18-42 give detailed procedures for the various types of windings. Beyond that, part IEC 60034-18-41 and IEC 60034-18-42 contain special test procedures for electrical evaluation of windings electrically stressed by converter-supply.

The following standards provide the basis and background for the development of the aforementioned standards.

IEC 60505 establishes the basis for estimating the ageing of electrical insulation systems under conditions of either electrical, thermal, mechanical, environmental stresses or combinations of these (multifactor stresses). It specifies the general principles and procedures that should be followed defining functional test and evaluation procedures.

The IEC 60216 series deals with the determination of thermal endurance properties of single insulating materials. On the assumption, that the Arrhenius formulas describe the rate of thermal ageing of the materials, test procedures and analyzing instructions for getting characteristic parameters like the “Temperature index” (TI), the “Halving interval” (HIC) and the “Relative thermal endurance index” (RTE) are given. For all these parameters selected properties and accepted end-point-criteria are specified. Consequently, a material may be assigned with more than one temperature index, derived from the measurement of different properties and the use of different end-point criteria.

IEC 60034-18-1 defines general requirements on the qualification of insulation systems, where – for thermal ageing – the Arrhenius equations do not necessarily fit, according to many experiences.

IEC 60085 deals with thermal evaluation of electrical insulation materials and in particular insulation systems used in electrical equipment. In particular, thermal classes of insulation systems are defined and designations are given, such as 130 (B), 155 (F) and 180 (H) for use in rotating machines belonging to IEC 60034-1. In the past, materials for insulation systems were often selected solely on the basis of thermal endurance of individual materials performed according to the IEC 60216 series. However, IEC 60085 recognizes that such selection may be used only for screening materials prior to further functional evaluation of a new insulation system which is not service-proven. Evaluation is performed on the basis of a comparison with a service-proven reference insulation system. Service experience is the preferred basis for assessing the thermal endurance of an insulation system.

IEC 62539 defines statistical methods to analyse times to breakdown and breakdown voltage data obtained from electrical testing of solid insulation materials, for the purposes of characterization of the system and comparison with other insulation systems. The methods of analysis are described for the Weibull-distribution, but other distributions are also presented.