

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**IEC 60079-11**  
Edition 6.0 2011-06

**EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –**

**Part 11: Equipment protection by intrinsic safety "i"**

**INTERPRETATION SHEET 3**

This interpretation sheet has been prepared by subcommittee 31G: Intrinsically-safe apparatus, of IEC technical committee 31: Equipment for explosive atmospheres.

The text of this interpretation sheet is based on the following documents:

ISH	Report on voting
31G/253/ISH	31G/255/RVD

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

**Question**

Regarding IEC 60079-11:2011 Edition 6.0 (2011-06), some clauses specifically indicate whether or not the requirement is applicable or not applicable to level of protection "ic". However, many other clauses include no indication one way or the other, resulting in potential inconsistencies when applied. In the interest of improving consistency, what are the requirements in IEC 60079-11:2011 Edition 6.0 (2011-06) that are applicable to level of protection "ic"?

**Answer**

In answering this question, the following considerations were taken:

- 1) Requirements in IEC 60079-11 Edition 6.0 (2011-06) indicating that the requirements are applicable to level of protection "ic" are considered "Applicable";
- 2) Requirements in IEC 60079-11 Edition 6.0 (2011-06) indicating that the requirements are not applicable to level of protection "ic" are considered "Not applicable";
- 3) Regarding requirements in IEC 60079-11 Edition 6.0 (2011-06) other than those referenced in 1) and 2) above:
  - determine if the intent of these requirements for levels of protection "ia" and "ib" is to address fault (abnormal) conditions; and