

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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**Electric cables – Calculation of the current rating –  
Part 2-3: Thermal resistance – Cables installed in ventilated tunnels**





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IEC 60287-2-3 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 20: Electric cables. It is an International Standard.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2017. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) symbols alignment with other parts of the IEC 60287 series.

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

Draft	Report on voting
20/2175/FDIS	20/2182/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](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/publications](http://www.iec.ch/publications).

A list of all parts in the IEC 60287 series, published under the general title *Electric cables – Calculation of the current rating*, 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](http://webstore.iec.ch) in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn, or
- revised.

## INTRODUCTION

In the IEC 60287 series, IEC 60287-1 provides general formulae for ratings and power losses of electric cables.

The IEC 60287-2 series presents formulae or calculation methods for thermal resistances.

IEC 60287-2-1 provides calculation methods for dealing with cables installed in free air (see IEC 60287-2-1:2015, 4.2.1).

IEC 60287-2-2 provides a method and data for calculating reduction factors for cables in groups running horizontally in free air.

IEC 60287-2-1 and IEC 60287-2-2 consider heat transfer only in a plane perpendicular to the cables; they assume there is no longitudinal heat transfer.

This part of IEC 60287 deals with the rating for cables installed in ventilated tunnels. In such situations, consideration of longitudinal temperature gradients is involved as the air flowing in the tunnel removes some heat from the cables.

Heat transfer with the moving air is convective and is assumed to be either laminar or turbulent depending on the air velocity. The transition situation between laminar and turbulent air flows is ignored.

A general simplified method is provided to estimate the permissible current-carrying capacity of cables installed in ventilated tunnels, the ventilation being either natural or forced.

Only steady states are considered, where the inlet air temperature and the cable loading are constant for a sufficient time for steady temperatures to be achieved.

Where multiple circuits are involved, their characteristics are assumed to be identical.

The main features of the calculation method for cables in tunnels with forced ventilation can be found in Electra n°143 – 144 (1992)[1]<sup>1</sup>, as the report of a CIGRE working group, including the erratum in Electra n°209 (2003).

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