IEC 62305-4

Edition 3.0 2024-09

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

colour inside

Protection against lightning –
Part 4: Electrical and electronic systems within structures

Protection contre la foudre –
Partie 4: Réseaux de puissance et de communication dans les structures

IEC 62305-4:2024-09(en-fr)

IEC Secretariat
3, rue de Varembé
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11
info@iec.ch
www.iec.ch

IEC 62305-4

Edition 3.0 2024-09

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

colour inside

Protection against lightning – Part 4: Electrical and electronic systems within structures

Protection contre la foudre – Partie 4: Réseaux de puissance et de communication dans les structures

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

COMMISSION ELECTROTECHNIQUE INTERNATIONALE

ICS 29.020, 91.120.40

ISBN 978-2-8322-7933-5

CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

_____

PROTECTION AGAINST LIGHTNING –

Part 4: Electrical and electronic systems within structures

FOREWORD

1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
2) The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
9) IEC draws attention to the possibility that the implementation of this document may involve the use of (a) patent(s). IEC takes no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of any claimed patent rights in respect thereof. As of the date of publication of this document, IEC had not received notice of (a) patent(s), which may be required to implement this document. However, implementers are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information, which may be obtained from the patent database available at https://patents.iec.ch. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

IEC 62305-4 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 81: Lightning protection. 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) addition of new informative Annex E and Annex F on the determination of current sharing using modelling and current sharing in PV installations respectively;
b) addition of a new informative Annex G on methods of testing of system level behaviour;
c) addition of a new informative Annex H on induced voltages in SPD-protected installations.

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

Draft	Report on voting
81/733/FDIS	81/752/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/publications.

A list of all parts in the IEC 62305 series, published under the general title *Protection against lightning*, can be found on the IEC website.

The following differing practices of a less permanent nature exist in the countries indicated below.

1) Subclause 5.6: In Japan, the minimum values of the cross-section are reduced from:
   - 16 mm^2 to 14 mm^2 for copper and 25 mm^2 to 22 mm^2 for aluminium, for bonding conductors connecting different bonding bars and conductors connecting the bars to the earth-termination system;
   - 6 mm^2 to 5 mm^2 for copper, 10 mm^2 to 8 mm^2 for aluminium and 16 mm^2 to 14 mm^2 for steel, for bonding conductors connecting internal metal installations to the bonding bars;
   - 16 mm^2 to 14 mm^2, 6 mm^2 to 5 mm^2 and 2,5 mm^2 to 2 mm^2 for copper, for earthing conductors to the SPD, conductors connecting SPDs and overcurrent protective devices to live conductors.
2) Subclause E.3.2.3: In South Africa SANS 10142-1:2020, Clause 6.1.6 [1][1] states that 'The neutral conductor shall not be connected direct to earth or to the earth continuity conductor on the load side of the point of control'.

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, or
- revised.

IMPORTANT – The "colour inside" logo on the cover page of this document indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this document using a colour printer.

1 Numbers in square brackets refer to the Bibliography.

INTRODUCTION

Lightning as a source of harm is a very high energy phenomenon. Lightning flashes release many hundreds of mega-joules of energy. When compared with the milli-joules of energy that can be enough to cause damage to sensitive electronic equipment in electrical and electronic systems within a structure, additional protection measures will be necessary to protect some of this equipment.

The need for this International Standard has arisen due to the increasing cost of failures of electrical and electronic systems, caused by electromagnetic effects of lightning. Of importance are electronic systems used in data processing and storage as well as process control and safety for plants of considerable capital cost, size and complexity (for which plant outages are very undesirable for cost and safety reasons).

Lightning can cause different types of damage in a structure, as defined in IEC 62305-1.

IEC 62305-3 deals with the protection measures to reduce the risk of physical damage and life hazard but does not cover the protection of electrical and electronic systems.

This part of IEC 62305 therefore provides information on protection measures to reduce the risk of permanent failures of electrical and electronic systems within structures.

Permanent failure of electrical and electronic systems can be caused by the lightning electromagnetic impulse (LEMP) via:

– conducted and induced surges transmitted to equipment via connecting wiring;
– the effects of radiated electromagnetic fields directly into equipment itself.

Surges to the structure can originate from sources external to the structure or from within the structure itself:

– surges which originate externally from the structure are created by lightning flashes striking incoming lines or the nearby ground, and are transmitted to electrical and electronic systems within the structure via these lines;
– surges which originate internally within the structure are created by lightning flashes striking the structure itself or the nearby ground.

NOTE 1 Surges can also originate internally within the structure, from switching effects, e.g. switching of inductive loads, tripping of circuit breakers, blowing of fuses.

NOTE 2 Further information about the protection against switching overvoltages created within structures can be found in IEC 60364-4-43 [2], IEC 60364-5-53 and IEC 61643-12.

Coupling can arise from different mechanisms, namely:

– resistive coupling (e.g. the earth impedance of the earth-termination system or the cable shield resistance);
– magnetic field coupling (e.g. caused by wiring loops in the electrical and electronic system or by inductance of bonding conductors);
– electric field coupling (e.g. caused by rod antenna reception).

NOTE 3 The effects of electric field coupling are generally very small when compared to the magnetic field coupling and can be disregarded.

Radiated electromagnetic fields can be generated via

– the direct lightning current flowing in the lightning channel;
– the partial lightning current flowing in conductors (e.g. in the down conductors of an external LPS, or its natural components, in accordance with IEC 62305-3 or in an external spatial shield in accordance with this document).