

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE

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**Polymeric HV insulators for indoor and outdoor use – General definitions, test methods and acceptance criteria**

**Isolateurs polymériques à haute tension pour utilisation à l'intérieur ou à l'extérieur – Définitions générales, méthodes d'essai et critères d'acceptation**





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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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**POLYMERIC HV INSULATORS  
FOR INDOOR AND OUTDOOR USE –  
GENERAL DEFINITIONS, TEST METHODS  
AND ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA**

## FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 62217 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 36: Insulators.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2005. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes a significant technical change with respect to the previous edition.

The first edition of IEC 62217 (2005) included two other alternative tracking and erosion tests (a 5 000 hour multi-stress test and a tracking wheel test) which were based on tests developed by CIGRE and utilities. These tests are no longer given as normative alternatives following the results of a study/questionnaire by TC 36 on the relative merits of all three tracking and erosion tests. The 5 000 hour multi-stress test and a tracking wheel test are described in IEC/TR 62730 (2012).

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

FDIS	Report on voting
36/321/FDIS	36/324/RVD

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

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

## INTRODUCTION

Polymeric insulators consist either of one insulating material (resin insulators) or two or several insulating materials (composite insulators). The insulating materials are generally cross-linked organic materials synthesised from carbon or silicon chemistry and form the insulating body. Insulating materials can be composed from organic materials containing various inorganic and organic ingredients, such as fillers and extenders. End fittings are often used at the ends of the insulating body to transmit mechanical loads. Despite these common features, the materials used and the construction details employed by different manufacturers may be widely different.

The tests given in this standard are those which are, in general, common to a great majority of insulator designs and materials, whatever their final application. They have been regrouped in this standard to avoid repetition in the relevant product standards and drift between procedures as the various product standards are drafted or revised.

The majority of these tests have been grouped together as "Design tests", to be performed only once for insulators of the same design. The design tests are intended to eliminate insulator designs, materials or manufacturing technologies which are not suitable for high-voltage applications. The influence of time on the electrical properties of the complete polymeric insulator and its components (core material, housing, interfaces etc.) has been considered in specifying the design tests in order to ensure a satisfactory lifetime under normal operating and environmental conditions.

Pollution tests, according to IEC 60507 or IEC 61245, are not included in this document, the applicability of their methodology to composite insulators not having been proven and still requiring study by CIGRE. The results of such pollution tests performed on insulators made of polymeric materials do not correlate with experience obtained from service. Specific pollution tests for polymeric insulators are still under consideration.

The 1 000 hour salt-fog tracking and erosion test given in this second edition of IEC 62217 is considered as a screening test intended to reject materials or designs which are inadequate. This test is not intended to predict long term performance for insulator designs under cumulative service stresses. For more information, see Annex C. The first edition of IEC 62217 (2005) included two other alternative tracking and erosion tests (a 5 000 hour multi-stress test and a tracking wheel test) which were based on tests developed by CIGRE and utilities. These tests are no longer given as normative alternatives following the results of a study/questionnaire by TC 36 on the relative merits of all three tracking and erosion tests. The 5 000 hour multi-stress test and a tracking wheel test are described in IEC/TR 62730 (2012).

Composite insulators are used in both a.c. and d.c. applications. In spite of this fact a specific tracking and erosion test procedure for d.c. applications as a design test has not yet been defined and accepted. The 1 000 hour a.c. tracking and erosion test described in this standard is used to establish a minimum requirement for the tracking resistance of the housing material.

IEC Guide 111 has been followed wherever possible during the preparation of this standard.