

## **Fault tree analysis (FTA)**

Fault tree analysis (FTA)

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

## NATIONAL FOREWORD

<p>Käesolev Eesti standard EVS-EN 61025:2007 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN 61025:2007 ingliskeelset teksti.</p> <p>Käesolev dokument on jõustatud 28.05.2007 ja selle kohta on avaldatud teade Eesti standardiorganisatsiooni ametlikus väljaandes.</p> <p>Standard on kättesaadav Eesti standardiorganisatsioonist.</p>	<p>This Estonian standard EVS-EN 61025:2007 consists of the English text of the European standard EN 61025:2007.</p> <p>This document is endorsed on 28.05.2007 with the notification being published in the official publication of the Estonian national standardisation organisation.</p> <p>The standard is available from Estonian standardisation organisation.</p>
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<p><b>Käsitlusala:</b></p> <p>This International Standard describes fault tree analysis and provides guidance on its application as follows:– definition of basic principles;– describing and explaining the associated mathematical modelling;– explaining the relationships of FTA to other reliability modelling techniques;– description of the steps involved in performing the FTA;– identification of appropriate assumptions, events and failure modes;– identification and description of commonly used symbols.</p>	<p><b>Scope:</b></p> <p>This International Standard describes fault tree analysis and provides guidance on its application as follows:– definition of basic principles;– describing and explaining the associated mathematical modelling;– explaining the relationships of FTA to other reliability modelling techniques;– description of the steps involved in performing the FTA;– identification of appropriate assumptions, events and failure modes;– identification and description of commonly used symbols.</p>
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ICS 03.120.01, 03.120.99

**Võtmesõnad:**

English version

**Fault tree analysis (FTA)**  
(IEC 61025:2006)

Analyse par arbre de panne (AAP)  
(CEI 61025:2006)

Fehlzustandsbaumanalyse  
(IEC 61025:2006)

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European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization  
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique  
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**Central Secretariat: rue de Stassart 35, B - 1050 Brussels**

## Foreword

The text of document 56/1142/FDIS, future edition 2 of IEC 61025, prepared by IEC TC 56, Dependability, was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and was approved by CENELEC as EN 61025 on 2007-03-01.

This European Standard supersedes HD 617 S1:1992.

The main changes with respect to HD 617 S1:1992 are as follows:

- added detailed explanations of fault tree methodologies;
- added quantitative and reliability aspects of Fault Tree Analysis (FTA);
- expanded relationship with other dependability techniques;
- added examples of analyses and methods explained in this standard;
- updated symbols currently in use.

Clause 7, dealing with analysis, has been revised to address traditional logic fault tree analysis separately from the quantitative analysis that has been used for many years already, for reliability improvement of products in their development stage.

Some material included previously in the body of this standard has been transferred to Annexes A and B.

The following dates were fixed:

- latest date by which the EN has to be implemented  
at national level by publication of an identical  
national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2007-12-01
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting  
with the EN have to be withdrawn (dow) 2010-03-01

Annex ZA has been added by CENELEC.

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## Endorsement notice

The text of the International Standard IEC 61025:2006 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

In the official version, for Bibliography, the following notes have to be added for the standards indicated:

IEC 60300-3-1	NOTE Harmonized as EN 60300-3-1:2004 (not modified).
IEC 60812	NOTE Harmonized as EN 60812:2006 (not modified).
IEC 61078	NOTE Harmonized as EN 61078:2006 (not modified).

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**Annex ZA**  
(normative)

**Normative references to international publications  
with their corresponding European publications**

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

NOTE When an international publication has been modified by common modifications, indicated by (mod), the relevant EN/HD applies.

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>EN/HD</u>	<u>Year</u>
IEC 60050-191	- <sup>1)</sup>	International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) - Chapter 191: Dependability and quality of service	-	-
IEC 61165	- <sup>1)</sup>	Application of Markov techniques	EN 61165	2006 <sup>2)</sup>

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<sup>1)</sup> Undated reference.

<sup>2)</sup> Valid edition at date of issue.

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

**IEC**  
**61025**

Second edition  
2006-12

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## Fault tree analysis (FTA)

*This **English-language** version is derived from the original **bilingual** publication by leaving out all French-language pages. Missing page numbers correspond to the French-language pages.*



Reference number  
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## Fault tree analysis (FTA)

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**FAULT TREE ANALYSIS (FTA)****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.
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International Standard IEC 61025 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 56: Dependability.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
56/1142/FDIS	56/1162/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 second edition cancels and replaces the first edition, published in 1990, and constitutes a technical revision.

The main changes with respect to the previous edition are as follows:

- added detailed explanations of fault tree methodologies
- added quantitative and reliability aspects of Fault Tree Analysis (FTA)
- expanded relationship with other dependability techniques
- added examples of analyses and methods explained in this standard
- updated symbols currently in use

Clause 7, dealing with analysis, has been revised to address traditional logic fault tree analysis separately from the quantitative analysis that has been used for many years already, for reliability improvement of products in their development stage.

Some material included previously in the body of this standard has been transferred to Annexes A and B.

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 maintenance result 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

Fault tree analysis (FTA) is concerned with the identification and analysis of conditions and factors that cause or may potentially cause or contribute to the occurrence of a defined top event. With FTA this event is usually seizure or degradation of system performance, safety or other important operational attributes, while with STA (success tree analysis) this event is the attribute describing the success.

FTA is often applied to the safety analysis of systems (such as transportation systems, power plants, or any other systems that might require evaluation of safety of their operation). Fault tree analysis can be also used for availability and maintainability analysis. However, for simplicity, in the rest of this standard the term “reliability” will be used to represent these aspects of system performance.

This standard addresses two approaches to FTA. One is a qualitative approach, where the probability of events and their contributing factors, – input events – or their frequency of occurrence is not addressed. This approach is a detailed analysis of events/faults and is known as a qualitative or traditional FTA. It is largely used in nuclear industry applications and many other instances where the potential causes or faults are sought out, without interest in their likelihood of occurrence. At times, some events in the traditional FTA are investigated quantitatively, but these calculations are disassociated with any overall reliability concepts, in which case, no attempt to calculate overall reliability using FTA is made. The second approach, adopted by many industries, is largely quantitative, where a detailed FTA models an entire product, process or system, and the vast majority of the basic events, whether faults or events, has a probability of occurrence determined by analysis or test. In this case, the final result is the probability of occurrence of a top event representing reliability or probability of fault or a failure.

## FAULT TREE ANALYSIS (FTA)

### 1 Scope

This International Standard describes fault tree analysis and provides guidance on its application as follows:

- definition of basic principles;
  - describing and explaining the associated mathematical modelling;
  - explaining the relationships of FTA to other reliability modelling techniques;
- description of the steps involved in performing the FTA;
- identification of appropriate assumptions, events and failure modes;
- identification and description of commonly used symbols.

### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For the references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60050(191), *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Chapter 191: Dependability and quality of service*

IEC 61165, *Application of Markov techniques*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60050(191) apply.

In fault tree methodology and applications, many terms are used to better explain the intent of analysis or the thought process behind such analysis. There are terms used also as synonyms to those that are considered analytically correct by various authors. The following additional terms are used in this standard.

#### 3.1

##### **outcome**

result of an action or other input; a consequence of a cause

NOTE 1 An outcome can be an event or a state. Within a fault tree, an outcome from a combination of corresponding input events represented by a gate may be either an intermediate event or a top event.

NOTE 2 Within a fault tree, an outcome may also be an input to an intermediate event, or it can be the top event.

#### 3.2

##### **top event**

outcome of combinations of all input events

NOTE 1 It is the event of interest under which a fault tree is developed. The top event is often referred to as the **final event**, or as **the top outcome**.