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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

Wind turbines –
Part 12-1: Power performance measurements of electricity producing wind turbines

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FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61400-12-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 88: Wind turbines.

This standard cancels and replaces IEC 61400-12 published in 1998. This first edition of IEC 61400-12-1 constitutes a technical revision. IEC 61400-12-2 and IEC 61400-12-3 are additions to IEC 61400-12-1.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
88/244/FDIS	88/251/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.

IEC 61400-12 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Wind turbines:*

Part 12-1: Power performance measurements of electricity producing wind turbines

Part 12-2: Verification of power performance of individual wind turbines (under consideration)

Part 12-3: Wind farm power performance testing (under consideration)

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- withdrawn;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.

A bilingual version of this standard may be issued at a later date.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this part of IEC 61400 is to provide a uniform methodology that will ensure consistency, accuracy and reproducibility in the measurement and analysis of power performance by wind turbines. The standard has been prepared with the anticipation that it would be applied by:

– a wind turbine manufacturer striving to meet well-defined power performance requirements and/or a possible declaration system;
– a wind turbine purchaser in specifying such performance requirements;
– a wind turbine operator who may be required to verify that stated, or required, power performance specifications are met for new or refurbished units;
– a wind turbine planner or regulator who must be able to accurately and fairly define power performance characteristics of wind turbines in response to regulations or permit requirements for new or modified installations.

This standard provides guidance in the measurement, analysis, and reporting of power performance testing for wind turbines. The standard will benefit those parties involved in the manufacture, installation planning and permitting, operation, utilization, and regulation of wind turbines. The technically accurate measurement and analysis techniques recommended in this standard should be applied by all parties to ensure that continuing development and operation of wind turbines is carried out in an atmosphere of consistent and accurate communication relative to environmental concerns. This standard presents measurement and reporting procedures expected to provide accurate results that can be replicated by others. Meanwhile, a user of the standard should be aware of differences that arise from large variations in wind shear and turbulence, and from the chosen criteria for data selection. Therefore, a user should consider the influence of these differences and the data selection criteria in relation to the purpose of the test before contracting the power performance measurements.

A key element of power performance testing is the measurement of wind speed. This standard prescribes the use of cup anemometers to measure the wind speed. This instrument is robust and has long been regarded as suitable for this kind of test. Even though suitable wind tunnel calibration procedures are adhered to, the field flow conditions associated with the fluctuating wind vector, both in magnitude and direction, will cause different instruments to potentially perform differently.

Tools and procedures to classify cup anemometers are given in Annexes I and J. However there will always be a possibility that the result of the test can be influenced by the selection of the wind speed instrument. Special care should therefore be taken in the selection of the instruments chosen to measure the wind speed.

WIND TURBINES –

Part 12-1: Power performance measurements of electricity producing wind turbines

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61400 specifies a procedure for measuring the power performance characteristics of a single wind turbine and applies to the testing of wind turbines of all types and sizes connected to the electrical power network. In addition, this standard describes a procedure to be used to determine the power performance characteristics of small wind turbines (as defined in IEC 61400-2) when connected to either the electric power network or a battery bank. The procedure can be used for performance evaluation of specific turbines at specific locations, but equally the methodology can be used to make generic comparisons between different turbine models or different turbine settings.

The wind turbine power performance characteristics are determined by the measured power curve and the estimated annual energy production (AEP). The measured power curve is determined by collecting simultaneous measurements of wind speed and power output at the test site for a period that is long enough to establish a statistically significant database over a range of wind speeds and under varying wind and atmospheric conditions. The AEP is calculated by applying the measured power curve to reference wind speed frequency distributions, assuming 100 % availability.

The standard describes a measurement methodology that requires the measured power curve and derived energy production figures to be supplemented by an assessment of uncertainty sources and their combined effects.

2 Normative references

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.

IEC 60044-1:1996, *Instrument transformers – Part 1: Current transformers*
Amendment 1 (2000)
Amendment 2 (2002)[1]

IEC 60688:1992, *Electrical measuring transducers for converting a.c. electrical quantities to analogue or digital signals*
Amendment 1 (1997)
Amendment 2 (2001)[2]

IEC 61400-2:1996, *Wind turbine generator systems – Part 1: Safety of small wind turbines*

ISO 2533:1975, *Standard atmosphere*

ISO Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement, 1995, ISBN 92-67-10188-9

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[1] There exists a consolidated edition 1.2 (2003) that includes edition 1 and its amendments 1 and 2.