

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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**Tests for electric cables under fire conditions – Circuit integrity –
Part 3: Test method for fire with shock at a temperature of at least 830 °C for
cables of rated voltage up to and including 0,6/1,0 kV tested in a metal enclosure**

**Essais pour câbles électriques soumis au feu – Intégrité des circuits –
Partie 3: Méthode d'essai au feu pour les câbles de tension assignée au plus
égale à 0,6/1,0 kV, essayés sous conduit métallique avec chocs, à une
température d'au moins 830 °C**



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

TESTS FOR ELECTRIC CABLES UNDER FIRE CONDITIONS – CIRCUIT INTEGRITY –

Part 3: Test method for fire with shock at a temperature of at least 830 °C for cables of rated voltage up to and including 0,6/1,0 kV tested in a metal enclosure

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 60331-3 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 20: Electric cables.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
20/1051/FDIS	20/1055/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.

It has the status of a group safety publication in accordance with IEC Guide 104.

A list of all the parts in the IEC 60331 series, under the general title *Tests for electric cables under fire conditions – circuit integrity*, can be found on the IEC website.

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- withdrawn,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

IEC 60331 consists of the following parts under the general title: *Tests for electric cables under fire conditions – Circuit integrity*:

- Part 1: Test method for fire with shock at a temperature of at least 830 °C for cables of rated voltage up to and including 0,6/1,0 kV and with an overall diameter exceeding 20 mm
- Part 2: Test method for fire with shock at a temperature of at least 830 °C for cables of rated voltage up to and including 0,6/1,0 kV and with an overall diameter not exceeding 20 mm
- Part 3: Test method for fire with shock at a temperature of at least 830 °C for cables of rated voltage up to and including 0,6/1,0 kV tested in a metal enclosure
- Part 11: Apparatus – Fire alone at a flame temperature of at least 750 °C
- Part 21: Procedures and requirements – Cables of rated voltage up to and including 0,6/1,0 kV
- Part 23: Procedures and requirements – Electric data cables
- Part 25: Procedures and requirements – Optical fibre cables

NOTE Parts 21, 23 and 25 relate to fire-only conditions at a flame temperature of at least 750 °C.

Since its first edition (1970), IEC 60331 has been extended and has introduced a range of test apparatus in order that a test may be carried out on large and small power, control, data and optical fibre cables.

IEC 60331-3 introduces apparatus and a procedure to allow cables to be tested in a metal enclosure under conditions of mechanical shock as well as fire at temperature of at least 830 °C.

TESTS FOR ELECTRIC CABLES UNDER FIRE CONDITIONS – CIRCUIT INTEGRITY –

Part 3: Test method for fire with shock at a temperature of at least 830 °C for cables of rated voltage up to and including 0,6/1,0 kV tested in a metal enclosure

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60331 specifies the test apparatus and procedure and gives the performance requirements, including recommended flame application times, for low-voltage power cables of rated voltage up to and including 0,6/1,0 kV, and control cables with a rated voltage which are required to maintain circuit integrity when tested in a metal enclosure and when subject to fire and mechanical shock under specified conditions.

This standard describes the means of sample preparation, the continuity checking arrangements, the electrical testing procedure, the method of burning the cables and the method of shock production and gives requirements for evaluating test results.

NOTE All cables assessed by this method should first have been assessed against the test of IEC 60331-1 or IEC 60331-2. Such performance may be recognized by the marking according to Clause 11 of IEC 60331-1 or Clause 11 of IEC 60331-2.

Annex A provides the method of verification of the burner and control system used for the test.

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 60269-3, *Low-voltage fuses – Part 3: Supplementary requirements for fuses for use by unskilled persons (fuses mainly for household and similar applications) – Examples of standardized systems of fuses A to F*

IEC 60331-1, *Tests for electric cables under fire conditions – Circuit integrity – Part 1: Test method for fire with shock at a temperature of at least 830 °C for cables of rated voltage up to and including 0,6/1,0 kV and with an overall diameter exceeding 20 mm*

IEC 60331-2, *Test for electric cables under fire conditions – Circuit integrity – Part 2: Test method for fire with shock at a temperature of at least 830 °C for cables of rated voltage up to and including 0,6/1,0 kV and with an overall diameter not exceeding 20 mm*

IEC 60584-1, *Thermocouples – Part 1: Reference tables*

IEC Guide 104, *The preparation of safety publications and the use of basic safety publications and group safety publications*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.