

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Live working – Voltage detectors –  
Part 1: Capacitive type to be used for voltages exceeding 1 kV a.c.**

**Travaux sous tension – Détecteurs de tension –  
Partie 1: Type capacitif pour usage sur des tensions alternatives de plus de 1 kV**



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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**LIVE WORKING – VOLTAGE DETECTORS –****Part 1: Capacitive type to be used for voltages  
exceeding 1 kV a.c.**

## FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61243-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 78: Live working.

This edition includes the following major technical changes from the previous edition:

- a) the Scope has been extended to cover the use on electrical systems for voltages up to 765 kV a.c.;
- b) the notion of family of voltage detectors which are identical in terms of design and dimensions and only differ by their nominal voltages (or nominal voltage ranges) has been included;
- c) the classification in terms of the setting of the threshold voltage to give a clear indication has been eliminated;
- d) a new test set-up with bars has been introduced. Depending on the nominal voltage of the voltage detector, it is required or becomes an alternative test set-up for checking the influence of interference fields, the influence of interference voltages, the protection against bridging and the spark resistance;

- e) the revision of specific dielectric tests has been included;
- f) some test procedures (clear perceptibility of audible indication, drop resistance, climatic dependence) have been improved and completed.

This consolidated version of IEC 61243-1 consists of the second edition (2003) [documents 78/527/FDIS and 78/537/RVD], its amendment 1 (2009) [documents 78/751/CDV and 78/794/RVC] and its corrigendum of October 2005.

The technical content is therefore identical to the base edition and its amendment and has been prepared for user convenience.

It bears the edition number 2.1.

A vertical line in the margin shows where the base publication has been modified by amendment 1.

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

IEC 61243 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Live working – Voltage detectors*:

Part 1: Capacitive type to be used for voltages exceeding 1 kV a.c.

Part 2: Resistive type to be used for voltages of 1 kV to 36 kV a.c.

Part 3: Two-pole low-voltage type

Part 5: Voltage detecting systems (VDS)

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendments 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

This International Standard has been prepared according to the requirements of IEC 61477, where applicable.

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## LIVE WORKING – VOLTAGE DETECTORS –

### Part 1: Capacitive type to be used for voltages exceeding 1 kV a.c.

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 61243 is applicable to portable voltage detectors, with or without built-in power sources, to be used on electrical systems for voltages of 1 kV to 765 kV a.c., and frequencies of 50 Hz and/or 60 Hz.

This part applies only to voltage detectors of capacitive type used in contact with the part to be tested, as a complete device including its insulating element or as a separate device, adaptable to an insulating stick which, as a separate tool, is not covered by this standard (see 4.4.1 for general design).

Other types of voltage detectors are not covered by this part of the standard.

Some restrictions on their use are applicable in the case of factory-assembled switchgear and on overhead systems of electrified railways (see Annex B, instructions for use).

NOTE Except where otherwise specified, all the voltages defined in this standard refer to values of phase-to-phase voltages of three-phase systems. In other systems, the applicable phase-to-phase or phase-to-earth (ground) voltages should be used to determine the operating voltage.

#### 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 60060-1:1989, *High-voltage test techniques – Part 1: General definitions and test requirements*

IEC 60068-1, *Environmental testing -Part 1: General and guidance*

IEC 60068-2-6:1995, *Environmental testing – Tests – Test Fc and guidance: Vibration (sinusoidal)*

IEC 60068-2-14:1984, *Environmental testing – Tests – Test N: Change of temperature*  
Amendment 1 (1986)

IEC 60068-2-32:1975, *Environmental testing – Tests – Test Ed: Free fall*  
Amendment 2 (1990)

IEC 60071-1:2006, *Insulation co-ordination – Part 1: Definitions, principles and rules*

IEC 60417-DB:2002<sup>1</sup>, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment*

IEC 60942, *Electroacoustics – Sound calibrators*

IEC 61260:1995, *Electroacoustics – Octave-band and fractional-octave-band filters*

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<sup>1</sup> "DB" refers to the IEC on-line database.

IEC 61318:2007, *Live working – Conformity assessment applicable to tools, devices and equipment*

IEC 61477:2001, *Live working – Minimum requirements for the utilization of tools, devices and equipment*

Amendment 1 (2002)<sup>2</sup>

IEC 61672-1:2002, *Electroacoustics – Sound level meters – Part 1: Specifications*

ISO 286-1:1988, *ISO system of limits and fits – Part 1: Bases of tolerances, deviations and fits*

ISO 286-2:1988, *ISO system of limits and fits – Part 2: Tables of standard tolerance grades and limit deviations for holes and shafts*

ISO 3744:1994, *Acoustics – Determination of sound power levels of noise sources using sound pressure – Engineering method in an essentially free field over a reflecting plane*

CIE (International Commission on Illumination) 15.2:1986, *Colorimetry*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 61318:2007 and the following apply.

#### 3.1

##### **voltage detector**

device used to provide clear evidence of the presence or the absence of the operating voltage

NOTE For example, voltage detectors can be described as capacitive type or resistive type.

[Definition 11.2.5 of IEC 60743, modified, and IEC 651-10-04, modified]

#### 3.2

##### **voltage detector of capacitive type**

device whose operation is based on the current passing through the stray capacitance to earth (ground)

NOTE The term voltage detector is used in this document for voltage detector of capacitive type.

#### 3.3

##### **designs of voltage detectors**

different constructions of voltage detectors, either as a complete device with or without contact electrode extension, or as a separate device intended to be equipped with an insulating stick, with or without contact electrode extension

NOTE Some parts such as the contact electrode, the contact electrode extension (if existing), or the insulating element of a voltage detector as a complete device may be dismantled.

#### 3.4

##### **family of voltage detectors**

for testing purposes, a group of voltage detectors, delimited by a minimum and a maximum rated voltage, that are identical in design (including dimensions) and only differ by their nominal voltages or nominal voltage ranges

<sup>2</sup> There exists a consolidated edition 1.1 (2002) that includes edition 1 and its amendment.