

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE



BASIC SAFETY PUBLICATION

PUBLICATION FONDAMENTALE DE SÉCURITÉ

**Fire hazard testing –**

**Part 6-1: Smoke obscuration – General guidance**

**Essais relatifs aux risques du feu –**

**Partie 6-1: Opacité des fumées – Lignes directrices générales**



## THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED

Copyright © 2010 IEC, Geneva, Switzerland

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from either IEC or IEC's member National Committee in the country of the requester.

If you have any questions about IEC copyright or have an enquiry about obtaining additional rights to this publication, please contact the address below or your local IEC member National Committee for further information.

Droits de reproduction réservés. Sauf indication contraire, aucune partie de cette publication ne peut être reproduite ni utilisée sous quelque forme que ce soit et par aucun procédé, électronique ou mécanique, y compris la photocopie et les microfilms, sans l'accord écrit de la CEI ou du Comité national de la CEI du pays du demandeur.

Si vous avez des questions sur le copyright de la CEI ou si vous désirez obtenir des droits supplémentaires sur cette publication, utilisez les coordonnées ci-après ou contactez le Comité national de la CEI de votre pays de résidence.

IEC Central Office  
3, rue de Varembe  
CH-1211 Geneva 20  
Switzerland  
Email: [inmail@iec.ch](mailto:inmail@iec.ch)  
Web: [www.iec.ch](http://www.iec.ch)

### About the IEC

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is the leading global organization that prepares and publishes International Standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies.

### About IEC publications

The technical content of IEC publications is kept under constant review by the IEC. Please make sure that you have the latest edition, a corrigenda or an amendment might have been published.

- Catalogue of IEC publications: [www.iec.ch/searchpub](http://www.iec.ch/searchpub)

The IEC on-line Catalogue enables you to search by a variety of criteria (reference number, text, technical committee,...). It also gives information on projects, withdrawn and replaced publications.

- IEC Just Published: [www.iec.ch/online\\_news/justpub](http://www.iec.ch/online_news/justpub)

Stay up to date on all new IEC publications. Just Published details twice a month all new publications released. Available on-line and also by email.

- Electropedia: [www.electropedia.org](http://www.electropedia.org)

The world's leading online dictionary of electronic and electrical terms containing more than 20 000 terms and definitions in English and French, with equivalent terms in additional languages. Also known as the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary online.

- Customer Service Centre: [www.iec.ch/webstore/custserv](http://www.iec.ch/webstore/custserv)

If you wish to give us your feedback on this publication or need further assistance, please visit the Customer Service Centre FAQ or contact us:

Email: [csc@iec.ch](mailto:csc@iec.ch)

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11

Fax: +41 22 919 03 00

### A propos de la CEI

La Commission Electrotechnique Internationale (CEI) est la première organisation mondiale qui élabore et publie des normes internationales pour tout ce qui a trait à l'électricité, à l'électronique et aux technologies apparentées.

### A propos des publications CEI

Le contenu technique des publications de la CEI est constamment revu. Veuillez vous assurer que vous possédez l'édition la plus récente, un corrigendum ou amendement peut avoir été publié.

- Catalogue des publications de la CEI: [www.iec.ch/searchpub/cur\\_fut-f.htm](http://www.iec.ch/searchpub/cur_fut-f.htm)

Le Catalogue en-ligne de la CEI vous permet d'effectuer des recherches en utilisant différents critères (numéro de référence, texte, comité d'études,...). Il donne aussi des informations sur les projets et les publications retirées ou remplacées.

- Just Published CEI: [www.iec.ch/online\\_news/justpub](http://www.iec.ch/online_news/justpub)

Restez informé sur les nouvelles publications de la CEI. Just Published détaille deux fois par mois les nouvelles publications parues. Disponible en-ligne et aussi par email.

- Electropedia: [www.electropedia.org](http://www.electropedia.org)

Le premier dictionnaire en ligne au monde de termes électroniques et électriques. Il contient plus de 20 000 termes et définitions en anglais et en français, ainsi que les termes équivalents dans les langues additionnelles. Egalement appelé Vocabulaire Electrotechnique International en ligne.

- Service Clients: [www.iec.ch/webstore/custserv/custserv\\_entry-f.htm](http://www.iec.ch/webstore/custserv/custserv_entry-f.htm)

Si vous désirez nous donner des commentaires sur cette publication ou si vous avez des questions, visitez le FAQ du Service clients ou contactez-nous:

Email: [csc@iec.ch](mailto:csc@iec.ch)

Tél.: +41 22 919 02 11

Fax: +41 22 919 03 00

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE



BASIC SAFETY PUBLICATION

PUBLICATION FONDAMENTALE DE SÉCURITÉ

**Fire hazard testing –  
Part 6-1: Smoke obscuration – General guidance**

**Essais relatifs aux risques du feu –  
Partie 6-1: Opacité des fumées – Lignes directrices générales**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

COMMISSION  
ELECTROTECHNIQUE  
INTERNATIONALE

PRICE CODE  
CODE PRIX

CJ

ICS 13.220.99; 29.020

ISBN 978-2-88912-122-9

## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
INTRODUCTION.....	6
1 Scope.....	7
2 Normative references.....	7
3 Terms, definitions and symbols.....	8
3.1 Terms and definitions .....	8
3.2 Symbols .....	16
4 General aspects of smoke test methods.....	17
4.1 Fire scenarios and fire models .....	17
4.2 Factors affecting smoke production.....	21
5 Principles of smoke measurement.....	22
5.1 Bouguer's law .....	22
5.2 Extinction area.....	23
5.3 Log <sub>10</sub> units .....	24
5.4 Light sources .....	24
5.5 Specific extinction area.....	24
5.6 Mass optical density .....	25
5.7 Visibility.....	26
6 Static and dynamic methods .....	26
6.1 Static methods.....	26
6.2 Dynamic methods .....	26
7 Test methods.....	28
7.1 Consideration of test methods.....	32
7.2 Selection of test specimen .....	32
8 Presentation of data.....	32
9 Relevance of data to hazard assessment .....	33
Annex A (informative) Calculation of visibility.....	35
Annex B (informative) Relationships between $D_s$ and some other smoke parameters as measured in IEC 60695-6-30 and IEC 60695-6-31 .....	37
Annex C (informative) Relationships between percent transmission, as measured in a "three metre cube" enclosure, and extinction area .....	40
Bibliography .....	42
Figure 1 – <del>Chart of</del> Different phases in the development of a fire within a compartment .....	20
Figure 2 – Attenuation of light by smoke .....	23
Figure 3 – Extinction area .....	23
Figure 4 – Dynamic smoke measurement .....	27
Figure 5 – Evaluation and consideration of smoke test methods .....	34
Figure 6 – Example $SPR_{av}$ versus $t$ curve .....	31
Figure 7 – SMOGRA curve derived from Figure 6 .....	31

Figure A.1 – Visibility ( $\omega$ ) versus extinction coefficient ( $k$ ).....	35
Figure B.1 – Smoke parameters related to $D_s$ as measured in IEC 60695-6-30 and IEC 60695-6-31.....	39
Figure C.1 – Extinction area (amount of smoke) related to percent transmission as measured in the "three metre cube".....	41
Table 1 – <del>General classification of fires (ISO/TR 9122-1)</del> Characteristics of fire stages (ISO 19706).....	18
Table B.1 – Conversion from $D_s$ to some other smoke parameters as measured in IEC 60695-6-30 and IEC 60695-6-31.....	38
Table C.1 – Conversions from percent transmission, as measured in the "three metre cube" to amount of smoke (extinction area).....	40

Table 1 – ~~General classification of fires (ISO/TR 9122-1)~~ Characteristics of fire stages (ISO 19706)..... 18

Table B.1 – Conversion from  $D_s$  to some other smoke parameters as measured in IEC 60695-6-30 and IEC 60695-6-31..... 38

Table C.1 – Conversions from percent transmission, as measured in the "three metre cube" to amount of smoke (extinction area)..... 40

This document is a preview generated by EVS

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

## FIRE HAZARD TESTING –

Part 6-1: Smoke obscuration –  
General guidance

## 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.
- 2) The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

**This consolidated version of IEC 60695-6-1 consists of the second edition (2005) [documents 89/692/FDIS and 89/696/RVD] and its amendment 1 (2010) [documents 89/905/CDV and 89/946A/RVC]. It bears the edition number 2.1.**

**The technical content is therefore identical to the base edition and its amendment and has been prepared for user convenience. A vertical line in the margin shows where the base publication has been modified by amendment 1. Additions and deletions are displayed in red, with deletions being struck through.**

International Standard IEC 60695-6-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 89: Fire hazard testing.

The main changes with respect to the previous edition are listed below:

- Modified title.
- Updated normative references.
- Expanded terms and definitions.
- Numerous editorial changes of a technical nature throughout the publication.
- A flowchart has been added for the evaluation and consideration of smoke test methods.

It has the status of a basic safety publication in accordance with IEC Guide 104 and ISO/IEC Guide 51.

This standard is to be used in conjunction with IEC 60695-6-2.

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

The IEC 60695-6 series, under the general heading *Fire hazard testing*, consists of the following parts

- Part 6-1: Smoke obscuration – General guidance
- Part 6-2: Smoke obscuration – Summary and relevance of test methods
- Part 6-30: Smoke obscuration – Guidance and test methods on the assessment of obscuration hazard of vision caused by smoke opacity from electrotechnical products involved in fires – Small scale static method - Determination of smoke opacity - Description of the apparatus
- Part 6-31: Smoke obscuration – Small-scale static test – Materials

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

**IMPORTANT – The “colour inside” logo on the cover page of this publication indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this publication using a colour printer.**

## INTRODUCTION

The risk of fire needs to be considered in any electrical circuit, and the objective of component, circuit and equipment design, as well as the choice of material, is to reduce the likelihood of fire, even in the event of foreseeable abnormal use, malfunction or failure.

Electrotechnical products, primarily victims of a fire, may nevertheless contribute to the fire. One of the contributing hazards is the release of smoke, which may cause loss of vision and/or disorientation which could impede escape from the building or fire fighting.

Smoke particles reduce the visibility due to light absorption and scattering. Consequently, people may experience difficulties in finding exit signs, doors and windows. Visibility is often determined as the distance at which an object is no longer visible. It depends on many factors, but close relationships have been established between visibility and the measurements of the extinction coefficient of smoke – see Annex A.

The production of smoke and its optical properties can be measured as well as other fire properties, such as heat release, flame spread, and the production of toxic gas and corrosive effluent. This part of IEC 60695-6 serves as a guidance document and focuses on obscuration of light by smoke.



## FIRE HAZARD TESTING –

### Part 6-1: Smoke obscuration – General guidance

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60695 gives guidance on:

- a) optical measurement of smoke obscuration;
- b) general aspects of optical smoke test methods;
- c) consideration of test methods;
- d) expression of smoke test data;
- e) relevance of optical smoke data to hazard assessment.

One of the responsibilities of a technical committee is, wherever applicable, to make use of basic safety publications in the preparation of its publications.

#### 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 60695-1-1, Fire hazard testing – Part 1-1: Guidance for assessing the fire hazard of electrotechnical products – General guidelines~~

~~IEC 60695-4:2001, Fire hazard testing – Part 4: Terminology concerning fire tests~~

~~IEC 60695-6-2:2001, Fire hazard testing – Part 6-2: Smoke obscuration – Summary and relevance of test methods~~

~~IEC 60695-6-30, Fire hazard testing – Part 6: Guidance and test methods on the assessment of obscuration hazard of vision caused by smoke opacity from electrotechnical products involved in fires – Section 30: Small scale static method – Determination of smoke opacity – Description of the apparatus~~

~~IEC 60695-6-31, Fire hazard testing – Part 6-31: Smoke obscuration – Small scale static test – Materials~~

~~IEC Guide 104:1997, The preparation of safety publications and the use of basic safety publications and group safety publications~~

~~ISO/TR 9122-1:1989, Toxicity testing of fire effluents – Part 1: General~~

~~ISO 5659-2:1994, Plastics – Smoke generation – Part 2: Determination of optical density by a single-chamber test~~

~~ISO/IEC 13943:2000, Fire safety – Vocabulary~~

~~ISO/IEC Guide 51:1999, Safety aspects – Guidelines for inclusion in standards~~

IEC 60695-1-10, *Fire hazard testing – Part 1-10: Guidance for assessing the fire hazard of electrotechnical products – General guidelines*

IEC 60695-1-11<sup>1</sup>, *Fire hazard testing – Part 1-11: Guidance for assessing the fire hazard of electrotechnical products – Fire hazard assessment*

IEC 60695-4:2005, *Fire hazard testing – Part 4: Terminology concerning fire tests for electrotechnical products*

IEC 60695-6-22, *Fire hazard testing – Part 6-2: Smoke obscuration – Summary and relevance of test methods*

IEC 60695-6-30:1996, *Fire hazard testing – Part 6: Guidance and test methods on the assessment of obscuration hazard of vision caused by smoke opacity from electrotechnical products involved in fires – Section 30: Small-scale static method – Determination of smoke opacity – Description of the apparatus*

IEC 60695-6-31:1999, *Fire hazard testing – Part 6-31: Smoke obscuration – Small-scale static test – Materials*

IEC Guide 104:1997, *The preparation of safety publications and the use of basic safety publications and group safety publications*

ISO/IEC Guide 51:1999, *Safety aspects – Guidelines for inclusion in standards*

ISO 5659-2:2006, *Plastics – Smoke generation – Part 2: Determination of optical density by a single-chamber test*

ISO 5660-2:2002, *Reaction-to-fire tests – Heat release, smoke production and mass loss rate – Part 2: Smoke production rate (dynamic measurement)*

ISO 13943:2008, *Fire safety – Vocabulary*

ISO 19706:2007, *Guidelines for assessing the fire threat to people*

NOTE ISO 9122-1:1989, *Toxicity testing of fire effluents – Part 1: General*, has been withdrawn and replaced by ISO 19706:2007.

ASTM E 1354:2008, *Standard Test Method for Heat and Visible Smoke Release Rates for Materials and Products Using an Oxygen Consumption Calorimeter*

EN 13823:2002, *Reaction to fire tests for building products – Building products, excluding floorings, exposed to thermal attack by a single burning item*

### 3 Terms, definitions and symbols

#### 3.1 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the terms and definitions ~~and symbols~~ given in ISO/IEC 13943, some of which are reproduced below for the uses' convenience, as well as the following apply.

<sup>1</sup> To be published.

<sup>2</sup> To be published.