

CONSOLIDATED VERSION

VERSION CONSOLIDÉE



**Explosive atmospheres –
Part 6: Equipment protection by liquid immersion "o"**

**Atmosphères explosives –
Partie 6: Protection du matériel par immersion dans le liquide "o"**



THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED

Copyright © 2020 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 l'IEC ou du Comité national de l'IEC du pays du demandeur. Si vous avez des questions sur le copyright de l'IEC ou si vous désirez obtenir des droits supplémentaires sur cette publication, utilisez les coordonnées ci-après ou contactez le Comité national de l'IEC de votre pays de résidence.

IEC Central Office
3, rue de Varembé
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11
info@iec.ch
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 corrigendum or an amendment might have been published.

IEC publications search - webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform

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 It also gives information on projects, replaced and withdrawn publications.

IEC Just Published - webstore.iec.ch/justpublished

Stay up to date on all new IEC publications. Just Published details all new publications released. Available online and once a month by email.

IEC Customer Service Centre - webstore.iec.ch/csc

If you wish to give us your feedback on this publication or need further assistance, please contact the Customer Service Centre: sales@iec.ch.

Electropedia - www.electropedia.org

The world's leading online dictionary on electrotechnology, containing more than 22 000 terminological entries in English and French, with equivalent terms in 16 additional languages. Also known as the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) online.

IEC Glossary - std.iec.ch/glossary

67 000 electrotechnical terminology entries in English and French extracted from the Terms and definitions clause of IEC publications issued between 2002 and 2015. Some entries have been collected from earlier publications of IEC TC 37, 77, 86 and CISPR.

A propos de l'IEC

La Commission Electrotechnique Internationale (IEC) 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 IEC

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

Recherche de publications IEC - webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform

La recherche avancée permet de trouver des publications IEC en utilisant différents critères (numéro de référence, texte, comité d'études,...). Elle donne aussi des informations sur les projets et les publications remplacées ou retirées.

IEC Just Published - webstore.iec.ch/justpublished

Restez informé sur les nouvelles publications IEC. Just Published détaille les nouvelles publications parues. Disponible en ligne et une fois par mois par email.

Service Clients - webstore.iec.ch/csc

Si vous désirez nous donner des commentaires sur cette publication ou si vous avez des questions contactez-nous: sales@iec.ch.

Electropedia - www.electropedia.org

Le premier dictionnaire d'électrotechnologie en ligne au monde, avec plus de 22 000 articles terminologiques en anglais et en français, ainsi que les termes équivalents dans 16 langues additionnelles. Egalement appelé Vocabulaire Electrotechnique International (IEV) en ligne.

Glossaire IEC - std.iec.ch/glossary

67 000 entrées terminologiques électrotechniques, en anglais et en français, extraites des articles Termes et définitions des publications IEC parues entre 2002 et 2015. Plus certaines entrées antérieures extraites des publications des CE 37, 77, 86 et CISPR de l'IEC.

CONSOLIDATED VERSION

VERSION CONSOLIDÉE



**Explosive atmospheres –
Part 6: Equipment protection by liquid immersion "o"**

**Atmosphères explosives –
Partie 6: Protection du matériel par immersion dans le liquide "o"**

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

COMMISSION
ELECTROTECHNIQUE
INTERNATIONALE

ICS 29.260.20

ISBN 978-2-8322-7920-5

**Warning! Make sure that you obtained this publication from an authorized distributor.
Attention! Veuillez vous assurer que vous avez obtenu cette publication via un distributeur agréé.**

REDLINE VERSION

VERSION REDLINE



**Explosive atmospheres –
Part 6: Equipment protection by liquid immersion "o"**

**Atmosphères explosives –
Partie 6: Protection du matériel par immersion dans le liquide "o"**

CONTENTS

FOREWORD	4
1 Scope	6
2 Normative references	6
3 Terms and definitions	7
4 Constructional requirements	9
4.1 General.....	9
4.2 Levels of protection and requirements of electrical equipment.....	9
4.2.1 Level of Protection.....	9
4.2.2 Requirements for Level of Protection “ob”	9
4.2.3 Requirements for Level of Protection “oc”	10
4.3 Switching device	10
4.4 Creepage and clearance	10
4.5 Liquid containment enclosures	10
4.5.1 General	10
4.5.2 Sealed enclosures	10
4.5.3 Unsealed enclosures	11
4.5.4 Outlet of breathing device or pressure relief device	11
4.5.5 Enclosures intended to be opened	11
4.5.6 Determination of the maximum/minimum criteria of the protective liquid.....	11
4.6 Immersion depth	11
4.7 Protective liquid level indication	12
4.7.1 General	12
4.7.2 Remote-indicating protective liquid level indicator.....	12
4.7.3 Safety devices for Level of Protection “ob”	13
4.8 Temperature limitations	13
4.8.1 General	13
4.8.2 Maximum Surface Temperature	13
4.8.3 Flashpoint of the protective liquid	13
4.9 Field wiring connections to liquid immersion equipment	13
4.10 Constructional elements of enclosures	13
4.10.1 Operating rods, shafts etc.....	13
4.10.2 Devices for draining of liquid.....	13
5 Protective Liquid.....	14
5.1 Protective liquid specification	14
5.2 Detailed alternative specification.....	14
5.3 Group I equipment	14
5.4 Liquid contamination and gassing that may result from arcing	14
5.5 Total volume of the protective liquid	14
6 Verifications and tests	15
6.1 Type tests	15
6.1.1 Overpressure test on sealed enclosures	15
6.1.2 Reduced pressure test on sealed enclosures	15
6.1.3 Overpressure test on unsealed enclosures	15
6.1.4 Maximum temperature	15
6.1.5 Switching Tests	15
6.2 Routine tests.....	16

6.2.1	Sealed enclosures	16
6.2.2	Unsealed enclosures	16
7	Marking	16
8	Instructions	17
Annex A (normative) Selection and erection requirements		18
Annex B (normative) Maintenance requirements		19
Annex C (normative) Repair and Overhaul requirements		20
Annex D (normative) Supplementary requirements for electrical equipment with Level of Protection "oc" for voltages greater than 15 kV and up to and including 245 kV		21
Bibliography		24
Table 1 – Working voltage		10
Table 2 – Depth of immersion		12
Table B.1 – Inspection requirements		19

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –**Part 6: Equipment protection by liquid immersion "o"****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.

DISCLAIMER

This Consolidated version is not an official IEC Standard and has been prepared for user convenience. Only the current versions of the standard and its amendment(s) are to be considered the official documents.

This Consolidated version of IEC 60079-6 bears the edition number 4.1. It consists of the fourth edition (2015-02) [documents 31/1157/FDIS and 31/1172/RVD] and its amendment 1 (2020-02) [documents 31/1517/FDIS and 31/1526/RVD]. The technical content is identical to the base edition and its amendment.

In this Redline version, a vertical line in the margin shows where the technical content is modified by amendment 1. Additions are in green text, deletions are in strikethrough red text. A separate Final version with all changes accepted is available in this publication.

International Standard IEC 60079-6 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 31: Equipment for explosive atmospheres.

This fourth edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- Edition 4 represents a major technical revision of the requirements for oil immersion “o” and should be considered as introducing all new requirements. The normal “Table of Significant Changes” has not been included for this reason. In particular:
 - The requirements for oil immersion “o” have been redefined into liquid immersion , levels of protection “ob” and “oc” as recommended by the responses to 31/715/DC
 - The ability to protect sparking contacts has been added to both “ob” and “oc”
- Additional requirements have been introduced for the protective liquid.

This part of IEC 60079 is to be used in conjunction with IEC 60079-0, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 0: Equipment – General requirements*.

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

A list of all parts in the IEC 60079 series, under the general title *Explosive atmospheres*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendment 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 document using a colour printer.

EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

Part 6: Equipment protection by liquid immersion "o"

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60079 specifies the requirements for the design, construction, testing and marking of Ex Equipment and Ex Components with type of protection liquid immersion "o" intended for use in explosive gas atmospheres.

Ex Equipment and Ex Components of type of protection liquid immersion "o" are either:

- Level of Protection "ob" (EPL "Mb" or "Gb")
- Level of Protection "oc" (EPL "Gc")

For Level of Protection "ob", this standard applies where the rated voltage does not exceed 11 kV r.m.s. a.c. or d.c.

For Level of Protection "oc", this standard applies where the rated voltage does not exceed 15 kV r.m.s. a.c. or d.c.

Additionally, for Level of Protection "oc", Annex D applies where the rated voltage exceeds 15 kV AC RMS or DC and up to 245 kV AC RMS or DC.

Annex D applies specifically to liquid immersed transformers and reactors, and other liquid immersed equipment such as swivels for off-shore platforms, power regulators, tap changers and earthing/switching resistors.

NOTE Requirements for higher voltages are under consideration.

This standard supplements and modifies the general requirements of IEC 60079-0. Where a requirement of this standard conflicts with a requirement of IEC 60079-0, the requirement of this standard takes precedence.

2 Normative references

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

IEC 60071 (all parts), *Insulation co-ordination*

IEC 60076-3, *Power transformers – Part 3: Insulation levels, dielectric tests and external clearances in air*

IEC 60079-0, *Explosive Atmospheres – Part 0: Equipment – General requirements*

IEC 60079-1, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 1: Equipment protection by flameproof enclosures "d"*

IEC 60079-2, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 2: Equipment protection by pressurized enclosure "p"*

IEC 60079-33, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 33: Equipment protection by special protection 's'*

IEC 60137, *Insulated bushings for alternating voltages above 1000 V*

IEC 60156, *Insulating liquids – Determination of the breakdown voltage at power frequency – Test method*

IEC 60247, *Insulating liquids – Measurement of relative permittivity, dielectric dissipation factor ($\tan \delta$) and d.c. resistivity*

IEC 60296, *Fluids for electrotechnical applications – Unused mineral insulating oils for transformers and switchgear*

IEC 60529, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)*

IEC 60814, *Insulating liquids – Oil impregnated paper and pressboard – Determination of water by automatic coulometric Karl Fischer titration*

IEC 60836, *Specifications for unused silicone insulating liquids for electrotechnical purposes*

IEC 61099, *Insulating liquids – Specifications for unused synthetic organic esters for electrical purposes*

IEC 61125, *Unused hydrocarbon based insulating liquids – Test methods for evaluating the oxidation stability*

IEC 62021-1, *Insulating liquids – Determination of acidity – Part 1: Automatic potentiometric titration*

IEC 62535, *Insulating liquids – Test method for detection of potentially corrosive sulphur in used and unused insulating oil*

IEC 62770, *Fluids for electrotechnical applications – Unused natural esters for transformers and similar electrical equipment*

ISO 2592, *Determination of flash and fire points – Cleveland open cup method*

ISO 2719, *Determination of flash point – Pensky-Martens closed cup method*

ISO 3016, *Petroleum oils – Determination of pour point*

ISO 3104, *Petroleum products – Transparent and opaque liquids – Determination of kinematic viscosity and calculation of dynamic viscosity*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60079-0 and the following apply.

3.1

liquid immersion "o"

type of protection in which the electrical equipment or parts of the electrical equipment are immersed in a protective liquid in such a way that an explosive gas atmosphere which may be above the liquid or outside the enclosure cannot be ignited