

Semiconductor devices - Mechanical and climatic test methods - Part 37: Board level drop test method using an accelerometer

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English Version

Semiconductor devices - Mechanical and climatic test methods -  
Part 37: Board level drop test method using an accelerometer  
(IEC 60749-37:2022)

Dispositifs à semiconducteurs - Méthodes d'essais  
mécaniques et climatiques - Partie 37: Méthode d'essai de  
chute au niveau de la carte avec utilisation d'un  
accéléromètre  
(IEC 60749-37:2022)

Halbleiterbauelemente - Mechanische und klimatische  
Prüfverfahren - Teil 37: Prüfverfahren Fall der Leiterplatte  
unter Verwendung eines Beschleunigungs-Messgerätes  
(IEC 60749-37:2022)

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## European foreword

The text of document 47/2651/CDV, future edition 2 of IEC 60749-37, prepared by IEC/TC 47 "Semiconductor devices" was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN IEC 60749-37:2022.

The following dates are fixed:

- latest date by which the document has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2023-08-16
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# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Semiconductor devices – Mechanical and climatic test methods –  
Part 37: Board level drop test method using an accelerometer**

**Dispositifs à semiconducteurs – Méthodes d'essais mécaniques et climatiques –  
Partie 37: Méthode d'essai de chute au niveau de la carte avec utilisation d'un  
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# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE



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Part 37: Board level drop test method using an accelerometer**

**Dispositifs à semiconducteurs – Méthodes d'essais mécaniques et climatiques –  
Partie 37: Méthode d'essai de chute au niveau de la carte avec utilisation d'un  
accéléromètre**

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## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	3
INTRODUCTION.....	5
1 Scope.....	6
2 Normative references .....	6
3 Terms and definitions .....	6
4 Test apparatus and components .....	7
4.1 Test apparatus.....	7
4.2 Test components .....	8
4.3 Test board .....	8
4.4 Test board assembly.....	8
4.5 Number of components and sample size .....	9
5 Test procedure .....	9
5.1 Test equipment and parameters.....	9
5.2 Pre-test characterization .....	11
5.3 Drop testing .....	12
6 Failure criteria and failure analysis .....	13
7 Summary .....	14
Annex A (informative) Preferred board construction, material, design and layout .....	15
A.1 Preferred board construction, material and design .....	15
A.2 Preferred test board size, layout, and component locations.....	17
Bibliography.....	20
Figure 1 – Drop test apparatus detail .....	10
Figure 2 – Calculation of velocity change .....	11
Figure 3 – Typical shock test half-sine pulse graphic and formulae .....	12
Figure A.1 – Board footprint and BGA layout.....	18
Figure A.2 – Test vehicle with 4 component placement (top side – left) and 1 component at center location (bottom side – right).....	19
Table 1 – Quantity of test boards and components required for testing .....	9
Table A.1 – Test board stack-up and material.....	15
Table A.2 – Mechanical property requirements for dielectric materials .....	16
Table A.3 – Recommended test board pad sizes and solder mask openings .....	17



## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES –  
MECHANICAL AND CLIMATIC TEST METHODS –****Part 37: Board level drop test method using an accelerometer**

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This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) correction of a previous technical error concerning test conditions;
- b) updates to reflect improvements in technology.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

Draft	Report on voting
47/2651/CDV	47/2719/RVC

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications](http://www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications).

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## INTRODUCTION

Handheld electronic products fit into the consumer and portable market segments. Included in handheld electronic products are cameras, calculators, cell phones, cordless phones, pagers, palm size PCs, personal computer memory card international association (PCMCIA) cards, smart cards, personal digital assistants (PDAs) and other electronic products that can be conveniently stored in a pocket and used while held in user's hand.

These handheld electronic products are more prone to being dropped during their useful service life because of their size and weight. This dropping event can not only cause mechanical failures in the housing of the device but also create electrical failures in the printed circuit board (PCB) assemblies mounted inside the housing due to transfer of energy through PCB supports. The electrical failures sometimes result from various failure modes such as cracking of the circuit board, track cracking on the board, cracking of solder interconnections between the components and the board, and component cracks. The primary driver of these failures is excessive flexing of the circuit board due to input acceleration to the board created from dropping the handheld electronic product. This flexing of the board causes relative motion between the board and the components mounted on it, resulting in component, interconnect or board failures. The failure is a function of the combination of the board design, construction, material, thickness and surface finish; interconnect material and standoff height and component size.

Correlation between test and field conditions is not yet fully established. Consequently, the test procedure is presently more appropriate for relative component performance than for use as a pass/fail criterion. Rather, results can be used to augment existing data or establish a baseline for potential investigative efforts in package/board technologies.

The comparability between different test sites, data acquisition methods, and board manufacturers has not been fully demonstrated by existing data. As a result, if the data are to be used for direct comparison of component performance, matching studies will first be performed to prove that the data are in fact comparable across different test sites and test conditions.

This method is not intended to substitute for full characterization testing, which could incorporate substantially larger sample sizes and increased number of drops. Due to limited sample size and number of drops specified here, it is possible that enough failure data are not generated in every case to perform full statistical analysis.

# SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES – MECHANICAL AND CLIMATIC TEST METHODS –

## Part 37: Board level drop test method using an accelerometer

### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60749 provides a test method that is intended to evaluate and compare drop performance of surface mount electronic components for handheld electronic product applications in an accelerated test environment, where excessive flexure of a circuit board causes product failure. The purpose is to standardize the test board and test methodology to provide a reproducible assessment of the drop test performance of surface-mounted components while producing the same failure modes normally observed during product level test.

This document aims at prescribing a standardized test method and reporting procedure. This is not a component qualification test and is not meant to replace any system level drop test that is sometimes used to qualify a specific handheld electronic product. The standard is not meant to cover the drop test required to simulate shipping and handling-related shock of electronic components or PCB assemblies. These requirements are already addressed in test methods such as IEC 60749-10. The method is applicable to both area array and perimeter-leded surface mounted packages.

This test method uses an accelerometer to measure the mechanical shock duration and magnitude applied which is proportional to the stress on a given component mounted on a standard board. The test method described in IEC 60749-40 uses strain gauge to measure the strain and strain rate of a board in the vicinity of a component. The customer specification states which test method is to be used.

### 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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 60749-10:2022, *Semiconductor devices – Mechanical and climatic test methods – Part 10: Mechanical shock – Device and subassembly*

IEC 60749-20, *Semiconductor devices – Mechanical and climatic test methods – Part 20: Resistance of plastic-encapsulated SMDs to the combined effect of moisture and soldering heat*

IEC 60749-20-1, *Semiconductor devices – Mechanical and climatic test methods – Part 20-1: Handling, packing, labelling and shipping of surface-mount devices sensitive to the combined effect of moisture and soldering heat*

### 3 Terms and definitions

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

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses: