

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear assemblies –  
Part 3: Distribution boards intended to be operated by ordinary persons (DBO)**

**Ensembles d'appareillage à basse tension –  
Partie 3: Tableaux de répartition destinés à être utilisés par des personnes  
ordinaires (DBO)**



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## CONTENTS

FOREWORD .....	3
1 Scope .....	5
2 Normative references .....	5
3 Terms and definitions .....	6
4 Symbols and abbreviations .....	7
5 Interface characteristics .....	7
6 Information .....	8
7 Service conditions .....	9
8 Constructional requirements .....	9
9 Performance requirements .....	11
10 Design verification .....	11
11 Routine verification .....	15
Annexes .....	18
Annex AA (informative) Items subject to agreement between the DBO manufacturer and the user .....	19
Annex BB (informative) Effects upon a DBO design and related ratings, instructions, etc. when used in a prosumer's electrical installation (PEI) .....	23
Annex CC (informative) Rated current of an assembly ( $I_{nA}$ ) .....	24
Annex DD (informative) List of notes concerning certain countries .....	26
Bibliography .....	40
Figure CC.1 – Example of overloading where $I_n + I_{gen(s)}$ is greater than $I_{nA}$ .....	25
Figure DD.1 – Example of temperature rise verification by test of a complete split-load DBO as in 10.10.2.3.6 .....	32
Figure DD.2 – Calibration of the test circuit .....	36
Figure DD.3 – Test circuit to prove coordination of characteristics .....	39
Table 101 – Values of assumed loading .....	16
Table 102 – Tightening torque values for the verification of mechanical strength .....	17
Table AA.1 – Items subject to agreement between the DBO manufacturer and the user .....	19
Table DD.1 – Requirements for final circuit protective devices: Circuit-breakers complying with BS EN 60898 and RCBOs complying with BS EN 61009 .....	33
Table DD.2 – Requirements for final circuit protective devices: Semi-enclosed fuses complying with BS 3036 and cartridge fuses complying with BS 88.3 .....	34
Table DD.3 – Cross-sections of copper conductors on load side of protective device under test .....	34
Table DD.4 – Preparation for Test B .....	37

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**LOW-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR ASSEMBLIES –****Part 3: Distribution boards intended to be operated  
by ordinary persons (DBO)**

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IEC 61439-3 has been prepared by subcommittee 121B: Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear assemblies, of IEC technical committee 121: Switchgear and controlgear and their assemblies for low voltage. It is an International Standard.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2012. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) alignment with the structure of IEC 61439-1:2020;
- b) inclusion in the scope of more examples of the type of protection and control devices;
- c) deletion of type A and type B DBOs;

- d) addition of a new Annex BB related to DBOs used in a prosumer's electrical installation (PEI);
- e) addition of a new Annex CC related to rated current of a DBO with additional source of supply in parallel/simultaneously with another source that is connected to the DBO e.g. PV.

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

Draft	Report on voting
121B/193/FDIS	121B/195/RVD

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/publications](http://www.iec.ch/publications).

This document is to be read in conjunction with IEC 61439-1:2020. The provisions of the general rules dealt with in IEC 61439-1 are only applicable to this document insofar as they are specifically cited. When this document states "addition", "modification" or "replacement", the relevant text in IEC 61439-1:2020 is to be adapted accordingly.

Subclauses that are numbered with a 101 (102, 103, etc.) suffix are additional to the same subclause in IEC 61439-1:2020.

Tables and figures in this document that are new are numbered starting with 101.

New annexes in this document are lettered AA, BB, etc.

The reader's attention is drawn to the fact that Annex DD lists all of the "in some-country" clauses on differing practices of a less permanent nature relating to the subject of this document.

A list of all parts in the IEC 61439 series, published under the general title *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear assemblies*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under [webstore.iec.ch](http://webstore.iec.ch) in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

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## LOW-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR ASSEMBLIES –

### Part 3: Distribution boards intended to be operated by ordinary persons (DBO)

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 61439 defines the specific requirements for distribution boards intended to be operated by ordinary persons (abbreviated DBO throughout this document, see 3.1.101) as follows:

- assemblies intended to be operated by ordinary persons (e.g. switching operations and replacing fuse-links), e.g. in domestic (household) applications;
- assemblies containing outgoing circuits with protective devices intended to be operated by ordinary persons, complying e.g. with IEC 60898-1, the IEC 61008 series, the IEC 61009 series, IEC 62606, IEC 62423 and IEC 60269-3;
- assemblies for applications where the nominal voltage to earth does not exceed 300 V AC (see Table G.1 of IEC 61439-1:2020);

NOTE The voltage limits for DC applications are under consideration.

- assemblies with a rated current ( $I_{nc}$ ) of the outgoing circuits not exceeding 125 A and a rated current ( $I_{nA}$ ) not exceeding 250 A;
- assemblies intended for use in connection with the generation, transmission, distribution and conversion of electrical energy, and for the control of equipment consuming electrical energy and for associated data processing;
- enclosed, stationary assemblies;
- assemblies for indoor or outdoor use.

DBOs can contain protection devices, control devices, signalling devices alone or a combination of devices e.g. circuit-breakers, load shedding relay, energy management, communication devices, lighting control.

This document does not apply to an empty enclosure nor to individual devices and self-contained components, such as circuit-breakers, fuse-switches, electronic equipment. which comply with the relevant product standards, it describes the integration of devices, or self-contained components, or both, into a DBO or into an empty enclosure forming a DBO.

This document applies to DBOs designed, manufactured, and verified on a one-off basis or fully standardized and manufactured in quantity.

This document does not apply to the specific types of assemblies covered by other parts of the IEC 61439 series.

NOTE Enclosures for electrical accessories for household and similar fixed electrical installations are covered in IEC 60670-24.

#### 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.

Clause 2 of IEC 61439-1:2020 is applicable in addition to the following.

*Addition:*

IEC 60068-2-75, *Environmental testing – Part 2-75: Tests – Test Eh: Hammer tests*

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 60364-8-82, *Low-voltage electrical installations – Part 8-82: Functional aspects – Prosumer's low-voltage electrical installations*

IEC 60898-1, *Electrical accessories – Circuit-breakers for overcurrent protection for household and similar installations – Part 1: Circuit-breakers for a.c. operation*

IEC 60669-2-4, *Switches for household and similar fixed electrical installations – Part 2-4: Particular requirements – Isolating switches*

IEC 60947-3, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 3: Switches, disconnectors, switch-disconnectors and fuse-combination units*

IEC 61008 (all parts), *Residual current operated circuit-breakers without integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses (RCCBs)*

IEC 61009 (all parts), *Residual current operated circuit-breakers with integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses (RCBOs)*

IEC 61439-1:2020, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear assemblies – Part 1: General rules*

IEC 62423:2009, *Type F and type B residual current operated circuit-breakers with and without integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses*

IEC 62262, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures for electrical equipment against external mechanical impacts (IK code)*

IEC 62606, *General requirements for arc fault detection devices*

### **3 Terms and definitions**

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 61439-1:2020 and the following apply.

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

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

Clause 3 of IEC 61439-1:2020 is applicable except as follows.