

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Components for low-voltage surge protective devices –
Part 312: Selection and application principles for gas discharge tubes**

**Composants pour parafoudres basse tension –
Partie 312: Principes de choix et d'application pour les tubes à décharge de gaz**



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

COMPONENTS FOR LOW-VOLTAGE SURGE PROTECTIVE DEVICES –**Part 312: Selection and application principles for gas discharge tubes**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61643-312 has been prepared by subcommittee 37B: Specific components for surge arresters and surge protective devices, of IEC technical committee 37: Surge arresters.

The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
37B/114/FDIS	37B/120/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above Table.

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

A list of all parts of IEC 61643 series, under the general title *Components for low-voltage surge protective devices* can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication 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- withdrawn,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.

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COMPONENTS FOR LOW-VOLTAGE SURGE PROTECTIVE DEVICES –

Part 312: Selection and application principles for gas discharge tubes

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61643 is applicable to gas discharge tubes (GDT) used for overvoltage protection in telecommunications, signalling and low-voltage power distribution networks with nominal system voltages up to 1 000 V (r.m.s.) a.c. and 1 500 V d.c. They are defined as a gap, or several gaps, with two or three metal electrodes hermetically sealed so that gas mixture and pressure are under control. They are designed to protect apparatus or personnel, or both, from high transient voltages. This standard provides information about the characteristics and circuit applications of GDTs having two or three electrodes. This standard does not specify requirements applicable to complete surge protective devices, nor does it specify total requirements for GDTs employed within electronic devices, where precise coordination between GDT performance and surge protective device withstand capability is highly critical.

This part of IEC 61643

- does not deal with mountings and their effect on GDT characteristics. Characteristics given apply solely to GDTs mounted in the ways described for the tests;
- does not deal with mechanical dimensions;
- does not deal with quality assurance requirements;
- may not be sufficient for GDTs used on high-frequency (>30 MHz);
- does not deal with electrostatic voltages;
- does not deal with hybrid overvoltage protection components or composite GDT devices.

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 60068-2-1, *Environmental testing – Part 2-1: Tests – Test A: Cold*

IEC 60068-2-20, *Environmental testing – Part 2-20: Tests – Test T: Test methods for solderability and resistance to soldering heat of devices with leads*

IEC 60068-2-21, *Environmental testing – Part 2-21: Tests – Test U: Robustness of terminations and integral mounting devices*

IEC 61643-311, *Components for low-voltage surge protective devices – Part 311: Specification for gas discharge tubes (GDT)*

3 Terms, definitions and symbols

3.1 Terms and definitions

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