

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE

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

**Fluides pour applications électrotechniques – Esters naturels neufs pour transformateurs et matériels électriques analogues**



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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**FLUIDS FOR ELECTROTECHNICAL APPLICATIONS –  
UNUSED NATURAL ESTERS FOR TRANSFORMERS  
AND SIMILAR ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT**

## FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 62770 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 10: Fluids for electrotechnical applications.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
10/909/FDIS	10/933/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.

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

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## INTRODUCTION

Because of their higher fire points and better environmental compatibility relative to petroleum derived insulating mineral oil, the use of vegetable oils and other natural esters is on the rise as insulating and heat transfer fluids in electrical devices such as transformers.

This standard sets performance criteria for unused natural esters earmarked for electrical applications. However, the use of natural esters is recommended only for equipment that is not open to the atmosphere, e.g. sealed transformers and reactors because these fluids are prone to rapid oxidation.

This International Standard does not purport to address all the safety problems associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of the standard to establish appropriate health and safety practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitation prior to use.

Unused natural esters which are the subject of this standard should be handled with due regard to personal hygiene. Direct contact with eyes should be avoided. In case of eye contact, irrigation with copious amounts of clean running water should be carried out and medical advice sought.

Performance of some of the tests mentioned in this standard could lead to a hazardous situation. Attention is drawn to the relevant standard test method for guidance.

The disposal of natural esters, chemicals and sample containers mentioned in this standard should be carried out in accordance with current national legislation with regard to the impact on the environment. Every precaution should be taken to prevent the release of natural esters into the environment.

# FLUIDS FOR ELECTROTECHNICAL APPLICATIONS – UNUSED NATURAL ESTERS FOR TRANSFORMERS AND SIMILAR ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

## 1 Scope

This International Standard describes specifications and test methods for unused natural esters in transformers and similar oil-impregnated electrical equipment in which a liquid is required as an insulating and heat transfer medium.

Use of natural esters is not recommended for electrical equipment that is open to the atmosphere.

In this standard the term “natural esters” applies to insulating fluids for transformers and similar electrical equipment with suitable biodegradability and environmental compatibility. Such natural esters are vegetable oils obtained from seeds and oils obtained from other suitable biological materials and delivered to an agreed point, at a set time period. These oils are comprised of triglycerides.

Natural esters with additives are within the scope of this standard. Because of their different chemical composition, natural esters differ from insulating mineral oils and other insulating fluids that have high fire points, such as synthetic esters or silicone fluids.

Natural, ester-derived insulating fluids with low viscosity have been introduced but are not covered by this standard. Pertinent properties of such fluids are given in Annex B.

This standard is applicable only to unused natural esters. Reclaimed natural esters and natural esters blended with non-natural esters fluids are beyond the scope of this standard.

The chemical nomenclature and scientific notations used in the standard are in accordance with the IUPAC handbook (Quantities, Units and Symbols in Physical Chemistry).

## 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 60076-14, *Power transformers - Part 14: Liquid-immersed power transformers using high-temperature insulation materials*

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 and DC resistivity of insulating fluids*

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

IEC 60475, *Method of sampling liquid dielectrics*

IEC 60666, *Detection and determination of specific additives in mineral insulating oils*

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

IEC 61100, *Classification of insulating liquids according to fire-point and net calorific value*<sup>1</sup>

IEC 61125:1992, *Unused hydrocarbon-based insulating fluids – Test methods for evaluating the oxidation stability*

IEC 61198, *Mineral insulating oils – Methods for the determination of 2-furfural and related compounds*

IEC 61619, *Insulating liquids – Contamination by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) – Method of determination by capillary column gas chromatography*

IEC 61620, *Insulating liquids – Determination of the dielectric dissipation factor by measurement of the conductance and capacitance – Test method*

IEC 62021-3, *Insulating liquids – Determination of acidity – Part 3: Test methods for non mineral insulating oils*<sup>2</sup>

IEC 62535:2008, *Insulating liquids – Test method for detection of potentially corrosive sulfur in used and unused insulating oils*

IEC 62697-1, *Test method for quantitative determination of corrosive sulfur compounds in unused and used insulating liquids – Part 1: Test method for quantitative determination of dibenzyl disulfide (DBDS)*

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

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

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

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

ISO 3675, *Crude petroleum and liquid petroleum products – Laboratory determination of density – Hydrometer method*

ISO 12185, *Crude petroleum and petroleum products – Determination of density – Oscillating U-tube method*

ASTM D 1275, *Standard Test Method for Corrosive Sulfur in Electrical Insulating Oils*

OECD 201-203, *Test Guidelines for ecotoxicity*

OECD 301, *Guideline for testing of chemicals adopted by European Council on July 17th 1992*

US EPA, *Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances (OPPTS)*

835.311, *Fate, Transport and Transformation Test Guidelines*

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<sup>1</sup> Withdrawn in 2009 and partially replaced by IEC 61039.

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