

Erection of electrical installations in underground  
mines

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

## NATIONAL FOREWORD

See Eesti standard EVS-EN 50628:2016 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN 50628:2016 ingliskeelset teksti.	This Estonian standard EVS-EN 50628:2016 consists of the English text of the European standard EN 50628:2016.
Standard on jõustunud sellekohase teate avaldamisega EVS Teatajas	This standard has been endorsed with a notification published in the official bulletin of the Estonian Centre for Standardisation.
Euroopa standardimisorganisatsioonid on teinud Euroopa standardi rahvuslikele liikmetele kättesaadavaks 01.07.2016.	Date of Availability of the European standard is 01.07.2016.
Standard on kättesaadav Eesti Standardikeskusest.	The standard is available from the Estonian Centre for Standardisation.

Tagasisidet standardi sisu kohta on võimalik edastada, kasutades EVS-i veebilehel asuvat tagasiside vormi või saates e-kirja meiliaadressile [standardiosakond@evs.ee](mailto:standardiosakond@evs.ee).

ICS 29.260.20

Standardite reprodutseerimise ja levitamise õigus kuulub Eesti Standardikeskusele

Andmete paljundamine, taastekitamine, kopeerimine, salvestamine elektroonsesse süsteemi või edastamine ükskõik millises vormis või millisel teel ilma Eesti Standardikeskuse kirjaliku loata on keelatud.

Kui Teil on küsimusi standardite autorikaitse kohta, võtke palun ühendust Eesti Standardikeskusega:

Aru 10, 10317 Tallinn, Eesti; koduleht [www.evs.ee](http://www.evs.ee); telefon 605 5050; e-post [info@evs.ee](mailto:info@evs.ee)

The right to reproduce and distribute standards belongs to the Estonian Centre for Standardisation

No part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without a written permission from the Estonian Centre for Standardisation.

If you have any questions about copyright, please contact Estonian Centre for Standardisation:

Aru 10, 10317 Tallinn, Estonia; homepage [www.evs.ee](http://www.evs.ee); phone +372 605 5050; e-mail [info@evs.ee](mailto:info@evs.ee)

English Version

**Erection of electrical installations in underground mines**

Construction des installations électriques dans les mines  
souterraines

Errichten elektrischer Anlagen im Bergbau unter Tage

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2016-05-23. CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CENELEC members are the national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.



European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization  
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique  
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels**

# Contents

Page

European foreword .....	5
Introduction .....	6
1 Scope .....	7
2 Normative references .....	8
3 Terms and definitions .....	9
4 General .....	21
4.1 General requirements .....	21
4.2 Initial inspections .....	22
4.3 Competence of personnel .....	22
4.4 Documentation .....	22
5 Means of protection against electric- and electrostatic charging .....	23
6 Rooms and Locations .....	23
6.1 Electrical service rooms .....	23
6.2 Closed electrical service rooms .....	23
6.3 Other rooms .....	23
7 Protection against fire spreading .....	24
7.1 General requirements .....	24
8 Insulation, Insulation-resistance and its check .....	24
8.1 Insulation .....	24
8.2 Value of insulation resistance .....	25
8.3 Insulation resistance check .....	25
9 Signboards, labels, wiring diagrams, inscriptions .....	26
9.1 General requirements .....	26
10 Nominal voltages .....	26
10.1 General requirements .....	26
10.2 Voltage ranges .....	27
11 Protection against electrical shock .....	27
11.1 Requirements for basic protection .....	27
11.1.1 Protection by basic insulation of live parts .....	27
11.1.2 Protection by barriers or enclosures .....	27
11.1.3 Protection by obstacles and placing out of reach .....	28
11.2 Requirements for fault protection .....	28
12 Protection in IT-Systems .....	28
12.1 General .....	28
12.2 Earth fault detection in IT-systems .....	29
12.3 Design of IT system .....	29
12.4 Insulation monitoring .....	30
12.5 Protective conductor .....	31
12.6 Electrical protection devices in IT-systems .....	33
12.7 Design of cables being monitored by a protection device .....	36
13 Protection in TN-systems .....	37

13.1	TN-S- systems with residual current devices (RCD) .....	37
13.2	TN-S System without residual current devices (RCD).....	38
14	Other means of protection .....	38
15	Protection against danger caused by mechanical influence on non-intrinsically safe cables.....	38
15.1	General requirements .....	38
15.2	Cables to supply mobile electrical equipment .....	39
15.3	Cable in areas of mining activities or road heading areas till 50 m far from the road heading face.....	40
16	Intrinsically safe electrical systems .....	40
16.1	General requirements for selection.....	40
16.2	Descriptive system document .....	40
16.3	Erection .....	40
16.4	Separation of intrinsically and non-intrinsically safe circuits .....	41
16.5	Separation of different intrinsically safe circuits .....	42
16.6	Earthing .....	42
16.7	Cable for intrinsically safe systems .....	42
17	Installation of transformers .....	42
18	Substations .....	42
19	Disconnecting devices in line of each switch-gears .....	43
20	Switchgears .....	43
21	Couplers and connectors .....	43
21.1	General requirements for use of couplers and connectors .....	43
21.2	Additional requirements using couplers .....	43
22	Luminaries and lighting installation.....	44
23	Cables .....	44
23.1	Design of cables .....	44
23.2	Conductor materials.....	45
23.3	Current carrying capacity.....	45
23.4	Coverings and outer protective covers.....	45
23.5	Different circuits within one cable .....	46
23.6	Laying out of cables .....	46
23.7	Glanding, terminating or making off .....	47
23.8	Laying out of non-insulated conductors.....	48
23.9	Additional requirements for the use of single core cable.....	49
24	Protection of electrical equipment or installation against overcurrent.....	49
24.1	Overcurrent protection devices .....	49
24.2	Overload protection .....	50
24.3	Short circuit protection.....	50
24.4	Minimum short circuit current .....	51
25	Calculation of short circuit currents .....	52
26	Additional requirements for systems and equipment with nominal voltage of more than 1 kV up to 6,6 kV in production areas and road heading .....	52
26.1	General requirements .....	52
26.2	Switchgears .....	52
26.3	Test of insulation resistance of non-alive cable in production areas and road headings .....	52
26.4	Insulation monitoring of alive systems.....	53
26.5	Earth protection in IT systems.....	53
26.6	Monitoring of non-alive systems .....	53
26.7	Electrical protection devices for feeding cables of electrical equipment .....	54

26.8	Cable design.....	54
27	Additional requirements for cable entry selection.....	54
	Annex A (informative) Documentation .....	55
	Annex B (normative) Tables and figures regarding free space .....	56
	Annex C (informative) Example for a galvanically separated system (in production areas or road headings) .....	58
	Annex D (informative) Example for calculation (according to 12.3.6).....	61
D.1	General.....	61
D.2	Legend .....	61
D.3	Necessary system parameters .....	61
D.4	Determination of the reference points of the system .....	61
D.5	Calculation of the capacitive earth fault current and displaying in a figure (see Figure D.2) ....	62
D.6	Overlay of capacitive and inductive earth fault current $I_{eL} - I_{eC} = I_{eB}$ .....	62
D.7	Calculation of the voltage drop caused by the wattles component of the earth fault current.....	63
D.8	Calculation of the voltage drop caused by the active component of the earth fault current .....	64
D.9	Resulting voltage drop $U_F$ by geometrical addition .....	64
	Annex E (informative) Table for cables suitable for underground workings .....	66
	Annex F (informative) Table for current carrying capacity of cables suitable for underground workings .....	73
	Bibliography .....	76

## European foreword

This document (EN 50628:2016) has been prepared by CLC/TC 31 “Electrical apparatus for potentially explosive atmospheres”.

The following dates are fixed:

- latest date by which this document has to be (dop) 2017-05-23  
implemented at national level by publication  
of an identical national standard or by  
endorsement
- latest date by which the national standards (dow) 2020-05-23  
conflicting with this document have to  
be withdrawn

This document will be read in conjunction with the European Standards for the specific types of protection listed in the EN 60079 series of standards.

This document will also be read in conjunction with EN 1127-2.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CENELEC [and/or CEN] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

## Introduction

When electrical equipment is to be installed in underground workings where an explosive atmosphere is likely to occur, protective measures are applied to avoid the ignition of firedamp either under normal operation of the electrical installation or under fault conditions.

Mines can be either gassy or non-gassy depending upon the mineral/material being extracted and whether or not firedamp can occur in the workings. It is usual practice to consider all coal mines as gassy mines. Non-coal mines can however, also be susceptible to the occurrence of firedamp e.g. if they are mining minerals/materials in the vicinity of oil bearing strata or unworked coal seams which are to be disturbed by the mining process, or are susceptible to outbursts of flammable gas.

Due to the fact that in underground workings firedamp is one of the major mining hazards that is to be considered all pieces of electrical equipment need to be selected with regard to this hazard. If there are other significant explosive atmospheres than firedamp the hazard occurring from these explosive atmospheres needs to be taken into account.

Directive 2014/34/EU extends the definition of potentially explosive atmosphere to include combustible dust as well as firedamp. Extensive research<sup>1)</sup> has shown that the minimum ignition energy (MIE) of coal dust/ air mixture is several hundred times higher than that of a firedamp/ air mixture and that the maximum experimental safe gap (MESG) for coal dust particles is more than double that for firedamp. It is therefore reasonable to assume that equipment, protective systems and components that are designed, constructed and maintained for use in firedamp/ air mixtures are also suitable for use in coal dust/ air mixtures.

Unlike Group II it will be assumed that in Group I industry nearly all underground workings need to be assessed where an explosive atmosphere is likely to occur and classified accordingly as hazardous areas. A zone classification for such underground workings is not possible because the degree of exposure of such an underground working does not depend on local parameters but on time parameters. In accordance with 2014/34/EU (ATEX-Directive) the exposure of the installed equipment may change from normally acceptable firedamp concentration in the mine air (hazardous condition 2; M2 equipment sufficient) to elevated methane concentration (hazardous condition 1; M1 equipment required, M2 equipment to be de-energized) and vice versa.

Areas of a coal mine could be non-hazardous according to national regulations. In such areas equipment that is not ATEX approved may be used, too subject to the risk assessment and specific local rules where national regulations require.

In non-gassy mines it can be possible that in certain regions in the underground workings explosive atmospheres can occur. In these cases national regulations will apply.

In mines where the atmosphere, in addition to firedamp, may contain significant proportions of other flammable gases than firedamp, the installed Group I equipment complies also with the subdivision of Group II corresponding to the other significant flammable gases.

In any underground working, irrespective of the size, there may be numerous sources of ignition apart from those associated with electrical equipment. Precautions will be necessary to ensure safety from other possible ignition sources, but guidance on this aspect is outside the scope of this standard.

Underground mining activities cause other special problems to the electrical installation as well as those arising from firedamp. Rough environmental conditions evoked by climate – temperature and humidity e.g. – rock pressure caused by depth, geometric dimensions of the underground workings, the winning process itself and other similar circumstances require therefore special specifications to the electrical installation in underground mines.

---

1) Survey on the use of flameproof enclosures in coal dust and methane atmospheres, G. A. Lunn, SM/97/01.



# 1 Scope

This European Standard specifies the safety requirements for the erection of new electrical installations.

This European Standard is supplementary to other relevant harmonized standards, for example HD 60364 series and the EN 61936 series as regards electrical installation requirements.

This European Standard also refers to EN 60079-0 and its associated standards for the construction, testing and marking requirements of suitable electrical equipment.

EN 60079-14 gives the specific requirements for design, selection and erection of electrical installations in explosive atmospheres.

**NOTE** EN 60079-14 can apply to electrical installations in mines where explosive gas atmospheres other than firedamp can be formed and to electrical installations in the surface installation of mines.

This European Standard applies to:

- a) electrical installation in underground workings of mines;
- b) electrical installations and parts of electrical installation above ground, which are directly connected with the underground workings in functional and safety relating matters because of being part of the underground working process:

These are in particular:

- safety and monitoring devices relating to the power distribution of the underground workings,
  - communication system of hoisting and inclined haulage plants,
  - intrinsically safe electrical installations of above ground installation being part of underground workings,
  - remote control systems if they shall fulfil increased requirements relating to functional safety,
  - electrical installation and electrical equipment of ventilation systems and shaft casings above ground being endangered by firedamp of the underground ventilation,
  - firedamp drainage systems;
- c) electrical installation in underground workings outside mining if it is demanded of the competent national authorities.

National regulations of the mining authority shall remain unaffected.

This standard applies to installations at all voltages mentioned in Clause 10.

Requirements above both columns are requirements for all underground workings.

## Gassy mines

Requirements within left column are requirements for underground workings in the coal mining industry which could be endangered by firedamp.

## Other mines

Requirements within right column are requirements for underground workings of the coal mining industry not likely to be endangered by firedamp and for underground workings of non-coal mining industry.

## 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.

HD 631.1 S2, *Electric cables — Accessories — Material characterisation — Part 1: Fingerprinting and type tests for resinous compounds*

EN 50303, *Group I, Category M1 equipment intended to remain functional in atmospheres endangered by firedamp and/or coal dust*

EN 50393, *Test methods and requirements for accessories for use on distribution cables of rated voltage 0,6/1,0 (1,2) kV*

EN 60038, *CENELEC standard voltages (IEC 60038)*

EN 60079-0, *Explosive atmospheres - Part 0: Equipment - General requirements (IEC 60079-0)*

EN 60079-1, *Explosive atmospheres — Part 1: Equipment protection by flameproof enclosures "d" (IEC 60079-1)*

EN 60079-7:2007, *Explosive atmospheres - Part 7: Equipment protection by increased safety "e" (IEC 60079-7:2006)*

EN 60079-10-1, *Explosive atmospheres — Part 10-1: Classification of areas — Explosive gas atmospheres (IEC 60079-10-1)*

EN 60079-10-2, *Explosive atmospheres — Part 10-2: Classification of areas — Explosive dust atmospheres (IEC 60079-10-2)*

EN 60079-11:2012, *Explosive atmospheres - Part 11: Equipment protection by intrinsic safety "i" (IEC 60079-11:2011)*

EN 60079-14, *Explosive atmospheres — Part 14: Electrical installations design, selection and erection (IEC 60079-14)*

EN 60079-25, *Explosive atmospheres - Part 25: Intrinsically safe electrical systems (IEC 60079-25)*

EN 60204-1, *Safety of machinery - Electrical equipment of machines - Part 1: General requirements (IEC 60204-1)*

EN 60296, *Fluids for electrotechnical applications - Unused mineral insulating oils for transformers and switchgear (IEC 60296)*

EN 60309-1, *Plugs, socket-outlets and couplers for industrial purposes - Part 1: General requirements (IEC 60309-1)*

EN 60332-1-2, *Tests on electric and optical fibre cables under fire conditions - Part 1-2: Test for vertical flame propagation for a single insulated wire or cable - Procedure for 1 kW pre-mixed flame (IEC 60332-1-2)*

HD 60364-4-41:2007, *Low-voltage electrical installations - Part 4-41: Protection for safety - Protection against electric shock (IEC 60364-4-41:2005)*

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

EN 60664-1, *Insulation coordination for equipment within low-voltage systems - Part 1: Principles, requirements and tests (IEC 60664-1)*

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

EN 60865-1, *Short-circuit currents - Calculation of effects - Part 1: Definitions and calculation methods (IEC 60865-1)*

EN 60909 (all parts), *Short-circuit currents in three-phase a.c systems (IEC 60909 series)*

EN 61099, *Insulating liquids - Specifications for unused synthetic organic esters for electrical purposes (IEC 61099)*

EN 61557-6, *Electrical safety in low voltage distribution systems up to 1 000 V a.c. and 1 500 V d.c. - Equipment for testing, measuring or monitoring of protective measures - Part 6: Effectiveness of residual current devices (RCD) in TT, TN and IT systems (IEC 61557-6)*

EN 61557-8, *Electrical safety in low voltage distribution systems up to 1 000 V a.c. and 1 500 V d.c. — Equipment for testing, measuring or monitoring of protective measures — Part 8: Insulation monitoring devices for IT systems (IEC 61557-8)*

EN 61557-15, *Electrical safety in low voltage distribution systems up to 1 000 V a.c. and 1 500 V d.c. - Equipment for testing, measuring or monitoring of protective measures - Part 15: Functional safety requirements for insulation monitoring devices in IT systems and equipment for insulation fault location in IT systems (IEC 61557-15)*

### 3 Terms and definitions

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

#### 3.1

#### mining operation / road heading

##### 3.1.1

##### mining operation

a) in case of longwall mining: the face including the connected workings

Note 1 to entry: Connecting workings are up to 10 m on both sides of the face entrance. The face entrance is the area between the face and the latest complete row of the roof support.

b) in case of other mining methods: the production area including the connected workings

Note 2 to entry: Connecting workings are up to 10 m to the heading face.

Note 3 to entry: In case of greater mining operation areas, e.g. salt industry, the mining authority will decide.

##### 3.1.2

##### roadheading

parts of the underground workings where road heading activities are taking part up to 50 m far from the roadhead