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**Multiple split-system air conditioners  
and air-to-air heat pumps — Testing  
and rating for performance**

*Climatiseurs et pompes à chaleur air/air multi-split — Essais et  
détermination des caractéristiques de performance*



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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 86, *Refrigeration and air-conditioning*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Testing and rating of air-conditioners and heat pumps*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 15042:2011), which has been technically revised.

# Multiple split-system air conditioners and air-to-air heat pumps — Testing and rating for performance

## 1 Scope

This document specifies the performance testing, the standard conditions and the test methods for determining the capacity and efficiency ratings of air-cooled air conditioners and air-to-air heat pumps.

This document is applicable to the following equipment:

- basic multi-split systems, modular multi-split systems and modular heat recovery multi-split systems. These multi-split systems include air-to-air systems with non-ducted and/or ducted indoor units with integral fans and indoor units supplied without fans.

This document is limited to:

- residential, commercial and industrial split-system air conditioners and heat pumps;
- factory-made, electrically driven and use mechanical compression;
- single- and multiple-circuit split-systems which utilize one or more compressors with no more than two steps of control of the outdoor unit;

or

- split-systems with a single refrigeration circuit which utilize one or more variable-speed compressors or alternative compressor combinations for varying the capacity of the system by three or more steps.

These split-systems are designed to operate with a combination of one or more outdoor units and two or more indoor units designed for individual operation, and such modular systems are capable of transferring recovered heat from one or more indoor units to other units in the same system.

The requirements of testing and rating contained in this document are based on the use of matched assemblies.

This document is not applicable to the rating and testing of the following:

- a) water-cooled or water source equipment;
- b) mobile (single-duct) units having a condenser exhaust duct;
- c) individual assemblies not constituting a complete refrigeration system;
- d) equipment using the absorption refrigeration cycle.
- e) ducted air conditioners and/or ducted heat pumps, rated at less than 8 kW and intended to operate at external static pressures of less than 25 Pa, controlled by a single thermostat/controller (refer to ISO 5151);
- f) multiple split-system utilizing one or more refrigeration systems, one outdoor unit and one or more indoor units, controlled by a single thermostat/controller (refer to ISO 5151 or ISO 13253).

This document does not cover the determination of seasonal efficiencies or seasonal part-load performances, which can be required in some countries because they provide a better indication of efficiency under actual operating conditions.

NOTE Throughout this document, the terms “equipment” and “systems” mean “multi-split air conditioners” and/or “multi-split heat pumps”.

## 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.

ISO 817, *Refrigerants — Designation and safety classification*

ISO 5151, *Non-ducted air conditioners and heat pumps — Testing and rating for performance*

ISO/IEC Guide 98-3, *Uncertainty of measurement — Part 3: Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement (GUM:1995)*

## 3 Terms and definitions

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

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

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

### 3.1 standard air

dry air at 20 °C and at a standard barometric pressure of 101,325 kPa, having a mass density of 1 204 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

### 3.2 full capacity

capacity of the system when all indoor units and outdoor units are operated in the same mode

### 3.3 latent cooling capacity room dehumidifying capacity

amount of latent heat that the equipment can remove from the conditioned space in a defined interval of time

Note 1 to entry: Latent cooling capacity and room dehumidifying capacity are expressed in units of watts.

### 3.4 part-load capacity

capacity of the system when the capacity ratio is less than 1

### 3.5 capacity ratio

ratio of the total stated cooling capacity of all operating indoor units to the stated cooling capacity of the outdoor unit at the rating conditions