

Photovoltaic (PV) arrays - Earth fault protection equipment - Safety and safety-related functionality

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English Version

Photovoltaic (PV) arrays - Earth fault protection equipment -
Safety and safety-related functionality
(IEC 63112:2021)

Groupes photovoltaïques (PV) - Matériel de protection
contre les défauts à la terre - Sécurité et fonctionnalités
relatives à la sécurité
(IEC 63112:2021)

Sicherheit, Funktionalität und Klassifizierung von
photovoltaischen Erdschluß-Schutzeinrichtungen (PV EFP)
(IEC 63112:2021)

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European foreword

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IEC 60947-3:2020 NOTE Harmonized as EN IEC 60947-3:2021 (not modified)

IEC 61215-2 NOTE Harmonized as EN IEC 61215-2

IEC 62109-2:2011 NOTE Harmonized as EN 62109-2:2011 (not modified)

Annex ZA (normative)

Normative references to international publications with their corresponding European publications

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.

NOTE 1 Where an International Publication has been modified by common modifications, indicated by (mod), the relevant EN/HD applies.

NOTE 2 Up-to-date information on the latest versions of the European Standards listed in this annex is available here: www.cenelec.eu.

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>EN/HD</u>	<u>Year</u>
IEC 60269-6	-	Low-voltage fuses - Part 6: Supplementary requirements for fuse-links for the protection of solar photovoltaic energy systems	EN 60269-6	-
IEC 60417	-	Graphical symbols for use on equipment - 12-month subscription to regularly updated online database comprising all graphical symbols published in IEC 60417	-	-
IEC 60664-1	-	Insulation coordination for equipment within low-voltage supply systems - Part 1: Principles, requirements and tests	EN IEC 60664-1	-
IEC 60730-1 (mod)	2013	Automatic electrical controls - Part 1: General requirements	EN 60730-1	2016
+ A1	2015		+ A1	2019
+ A2	2020			
IEC 60947-2	2016	Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear - Part 2: Circuit-breakers	EN 60947-2	2017
+ A1	2019		+ A1	2020
IEC 61008-1 (mod)	2010	Residual current operated circuit-breakers without integral overcurrent protection for household and similar uses (RCCBs) - Part 1: General rules	EN 61008-1	2012
+ A1 (mod)	2012		+ A1	2014
+ A2 (mod)	2013		+ A2	2014
-	-		+ A11	2015
-	-		+ A12	2017
IEC 61439-1	-	Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear assemblies - Part 1: General rules	EN IEC 61439-1	-

IEC 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	EN 61557-8	-
IEC 62109-1	2010	Safety of power converters for use in photovoltaic power systems - Part 1: General requirements	EN 62109-1	2010
IEC 62109-3	2020	Safety of power converters for use in photovoltaic power systems - Part 3: Particular requirements for electronic devices in combination with photovoltaic elements	-	-
ISO 3864	series	Graphical symbols - Safety colours and safety signs	-	-
IEC/TS 61836	-	Solar photovoltaic energy systems - Terms, definitions and symbols	-	-
IEC/TS 63053	-	General requirements for residual current operated protective devices for DC system	-	-

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



Photovoltaic (PV) arrays – Earth fault protection equipment – Safety and safety-related functionality

Groupes photovoltaïques (PV) – Matériel de protection contre les défauts à la terre – Sécurité et fonctionnalités relatives à la sécurité



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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



Photovoltaic (PV) arrays – Earth fault protection equipment – Safety and safety-related functionality

Groupes photovoltaïques (PV) – Matériel de protection contre les défauts à la terre – Sécurité et fonctionnalités relatives à la sécurité

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) ARRAYS –
EARTH FAULT PROTECTION EQUIPMENT –
SAFETY AND SAFETY-RELATED FUNCTIONALITY**

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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. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications.

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INTRODUCTION

This document specifies the safety requirements that are applicable to Photovoltaic Earth-Fault Protection (PV-EFP) equipment (PV-EFPE) whose function is to detect, interrupt, and warn PV system operators of earth faults in solar photovoltaic arrays. A stand-alone standard on this topic is deemed necessary and appropriate because PV-EFPE may be designed as stand-alone equipment or may be integrated into other equipment such as PV inverters, charge controllers, combiner boxes, etc. Therefore it is not appropriate to continue the current standardization approach in which the PV-EFPE requirements are located only in an end-product standard specific to inverters: IEC 62109-2:2011. It is intended that in coordination with the publication of this document, IEC 62109-2 will be revised to refer to this document and to remove overlapping and conflicting requirements. With this approach, the PV-EFPE requirements will be more visible and will be usable for PV-EFPE that is not part of an inverter.

It is also desirable that in coordination with the publication of this document, the applicable IEC system and installation standards for PV arrays will be amended to refer to this document, to specify required functions and to remove overlapping and conflicting requirements. This work will be managed by TC82 for IEC 62548 and jointly by TC82 and TC64 through JWG32 for IEC 60364-7-712.

The appropriate functions, settings, responses, and timing for PV-EFP functions are dependent on the size and topology of the overall PV system. These array details are not known at the time the PV-EFPE is being evaluated to this product standard; therefore the required PV-EFP functions and settings need to be provided by local and international system and installation standards. As a result, this document does not require all PV-EFPE to implement all possible functions, and does not generally contain the required settings for the functions. The functions, settings, and ranges of adjustment that are claimed by the equipment manufacturer are tested and evaluated, and the documentation for the installer and user specifies what functions are and are not provided.

As well as requirements for the PV-EFP functions, this document includes product safety requirements covering the construction, environmental suitability, markings, documentation, and testing of the equipment. Since PV-EFPE is related to, and often integral to, PV power conversion equipment, references are made to product safety requirements in IEC 62109-1. However, those requirements may overlap or conflict with existing IEC standards for certain types of equipment related to PV-EFP (for example insulation monitoring devices and residual current monitoring equipment). Therefore, for some aspects, this document provides options for equipment to comply with those standards, where such standards exist.

NOTE Further information on the intent of this document and special aspects of PV earth faults are summarized in the (informative) Annex B.