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LEEGITÕKESTID. TOIMIVUSNÕUDED, KATSEMEETODID  
JA KASUTUSPIIRANGUD

Explosive atmospheres - Part 49: Flame arresters -  
Performance requirements, test methods and limits  
for use (ISO/IEC 80079-49:2024)

## EESTI STANDARDI EESSÕNA

## NATIONAL FOREWORD

<p>See Eesti standard EVS-EN ISO/IEC 80079-49:2024 sisaldab Euroopa standardi EN ISO/IEC 80079-49:2024 ingliskeelset teksti.</p> <p>Standard on jõustunud sellekohase teate avaldamisega EVS Teatajas.</p> <p>Euroopa standardimisorganisatsioonid on teinud Euroopa standardi rahvuslikele liikmetele kättesaadavaks 09.10.2024.</p> <p>Standard on kättesaadav Eesti Standardimis- ja Akrediteerimiskeskusest.</p>	<p>This Estonian standard EVS-EN ISO/IEC 80079-49:2024 consists of the English text of the European standard EN ISO/IEC 80079-49:2024.</p> <p>This standard has been endorsed with a notification published in the official bulletin of the Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation.</p> <p>Date of Availability of the European standard is 09.10.2024.</p> <p>The standard is available from the Estonian Centre for Standardisation and Accreditation.</p>
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**Explosive atmospheres - Part 49: Flame arresters -  
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**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

## European foreword

This document (EN ISO/IEC 80079-49:2024) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TMB "Technical Management Board - groups" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 305 "Potentially explosive atmospheres - Explosion prevention and protection" the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by April 2025, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by October 2025.

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

This document supersedes EN ISO 16852:2016.

This document has been prepared under a standardization request addressed to CEN by the European Commission. The Standing Committee of the EFTA States subsequently approves these requests for its Member States.

For the relationship with EU Legislation, see informative Annex ZA, which is an integral part of this document.

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The text of ISO/IEC 80079-49:2024 has been approved by CEN as EN ISO/IEC 80079-49:2024 without any modification.

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## INTRODUCTION

Flame arresters are protective systems fitted to openings of enclosures or to pipe work and are intended to allow fluid flow but prevent flame transmission if a flammable mixture is ignited. They have widely been used for decades in the chemical and oil industry, and a variety of national standards is available. This document was prepared with an aim to establish an international basis by harmonizing and incorporating recent national developments and standards as far as reasonable.

This document addresses performance requirements and test methods, as well as limits for use for flame arresters.

Only the minimum safety requirements for flame arresters to prevent flame transmission are specified.

The hazard identification of common applications found in industry leads to the specification of the test methods. These test methods reflect standard practical situations and, as such, form the heart of this document because they also allow classification of the various types of flame arresters and then determination of the limits of use.

A considerable number of test methods and test conditions had to be taken into account for two main reasons.

- a) Different types of flame arresters are covered with respect to the operating principle (static, hydraulic, liquid, dynamic) and each type clearly needs its specific test set-up and test procedure.
- b) It is necessary to adapt flame arresters to the special conditions of application (gas, installation) because of the conflicting demands of high flame quenching capability and low pressure loss. This situation is completely different from the otherwise similar principle of protection by flameproof enclosure, for example for electrical equipment, where the importance of process gas flow through any gaps is negligible and importance is placed on the flame quenching effect of the gap.

Consequently, in this document, the testing and classification related to Equipment Groups and installation conditions have been subdivided more than is usually the case in other parts of the ISO/IEC 80079 and IEC 60079 series of standards. In particular,

- Equipment Group IIA is subdivided into sub-groups IIA1 and IIA,
- Equipment Group IIB is subdivided into sub-groups IIB1, IIB2, IIB3 and IIB, and
- the type "detonation arrester" is divided into four sub-types, which take into account specific installation situations.

The test conditions lead to the limits for use which are most important for the user. This document specifies this safety relevant information and its dissemination through the manufacturer's written instructions for use and the marking of the flame arresters.

The limits for use are also a link to more general (operational) safety considerations and regulations, which remain the responsibility the user and regulators. Annex B and Annex C offer some guidance on these aspects.

## EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

### Part 49: Flame arresters – Performance requirements, test methods and limits for use

#### 1 Scope

This document specifies the requirements for flame arresters that prevent flame transmission when explosive gas-air or vapour-air mixtures are present. It establishes uniform principles for the classification, basic construction and information for use, including the marking of flame arresters, and specifies test methods to verify the safety requirements and determine safe limits of use.

This document is applicable to pressures ranging from 80 kPa to 160 kPa and temperatures ranging from  $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $+200\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

NOTE 1 For flame arresters with operational conditions inside the scope, but outside atmospheric conditions, see Annex E.

NOTE 2 In designing and testing flame arresters for operation under conditions other than those specified above, this document can be used as a guide. This document can also be used to design any additional testing related to the specific conditions of use. This is particularly important when high temperatures and pressures are applied. The test mixtures might need to be modified in these cases.

This document does not apply to the following:

- external safety-related measurement and control equipment that might be required to keep the operational conditions within the established safe limits;

NOTE 3 Integrated measurement and control equipment, such as integrated temperature and flame sensors as well as parts which, for example, intentionally melt (retaining pin), burn away (weather hoods) or bend (bimetallic strips), are within the scope of this document.

- flame arresters used for explosive mixtures of vapours and gases, which tend to self-decompose (for example, acetylene) or which are chemically unstable;
- flame arresters used for carbon disulfide, due to its special properties;
- flame arresters whose intended use is for mixtures other than gas-air or vapour-air mixtures (for example, higher oxygen-nitrogen ratio, chlorine as oxidant);
- flame arrester test procedures for reciprocating internal combustion engines;

NOTE 4 Flame arresters for specific applications (e.g. reciprocating internal combustion engines) can use this document as a guide for design but be subject to testing related to their specific use.

- fast acting valves, extinguishing systems and other explosion isolating systems;
- Flame arresters used in gas detectors (those being covered for example, by IEC 60079-29-1 and IEC 62990-1).

## 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.

IEC 60079-0, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 0: Equipment – General requirements*

IEC 60079-1, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 1: Equipment protection by flameproof enclosures "d"*

ISO/IEC 80079-34, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 34: Application of quality management systems for Ex Product manufacture*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60079-0 and the following apply.

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

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

### 3.1

#### **flame arrester**

device fitted to the opening of an enclosure, or to the connecting pipe work of a system of enclosures, and whose intended function is to allow flow but prevent the transmission of flame

### 3.2

#### **housing**

portion of a *flame arrester* (3.1) whose principal function is to provide a suitable enclosure for the *flame arrester element* (3.3) and allow mechanical connections to other systems

### 3.3

#### **flame arrester element**

portion of a *flame arrester* (3.1) whose principal function is to prevent flame transmission

### 3.4

#### **stabilized burning**

steady burning of a flame stabilized at, or close to, the *flame arrester element* (3.3)

### 3.5

#### **short time burning**

*stabilized burning* (3.4) for a specified time

### 3.6

#### **endurance burning**

*stabilized burning* (3.4) for an unlimited time