

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Explosive atmospheres –
Part 6: Equipment protection by liquid immersion "o"**

**Atmosphères explosives –
Partie 6: Protection du matériel par immersion dans le liquide "o"**



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –**Part 6: Equipment protection by liquid immersion "o"**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 60079-6 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 31: Equipment for explosive atmospheres.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition, published in 2007. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

The significant changes with respect to the previous edition are listed below:

- Edition 4 represents a major technical revision of the requirements for oil immersion "o" and should be considered as introducing all new requirements. The normal "Table of Significant Changes" has not been included for this reason. In particular:
 - The requirements for oil immersion "o" have been redefined into liquid immersion , levels of protection "ob" and "oc" as recommended by the responses to 31/715/DC
 - The ability to protect sparking contacts has been added to both "ob" and "oc"
- Additional requirements have been introduced for the protective liquid.

This part of IEC 60079 is to be used in conjunction with IEC 60079-0, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 0: Equipment – General requirements*.

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

| FDIS | Report on voting |
|--------------|------------------|
| 31/1157/FDIS | 31/1172/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.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60079 series, under the general title *Explosive atmospheres*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

Part 6: Equipment protection by liquid immersion "o"

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60079 specifies the requirements for the design, construction, testing and marking of Ex Equipment and Ex Components with type of protection liquid immersion "o" intended for use in explosive gas atmospheres.

Ex Equipment and Ex Components of type of protection liquid immersion "o" are either:

- Level of Protection "ob" (EPL "Mb" or "Gb")
- Level of Protection "oc" (EPL "Gc")

For Level of Protection "ob", this standard applies where the rated voltage does not exceed 11 kV r.m.s. a.c. or d.c.

For Level of Protection "oc", this standard applies where the rated voltage does not exceed 15 kV r.m.s. a.c. or d.c.

NOTE Requirements for higher voltages are under consideration.

This standard supplements and modifies the general requirements of IEC 60079-0. Where a requirement of this standard conflicts with a requirement of IEC 60079-0, the requirement of this standard takes precedence.

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

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 ($\tan \delta$) and d.c. resistivity*

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

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

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

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

IEC 61099, *Insulating liquids – Specifications for unused synthetic organic esters for electrical purposes*

IEC 61125, *Unused hydrocarbon based insulating liquids – Test methods for evaluating the oxidation stability*

IEC 62021-1, *Insulating liquids – Determination of acidity – Part 1: Automatic potentiometric titration*

IEC 62535, *Insulating liquids – Test method for detection of potentially corrosive sulphur in used and unused insulating oil*

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

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

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

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

3 Terms and definitions

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

3.1

liquid immersion "o"

type of protection in which the electrical equipment or parts of the electrical equipment are immersed in a protective liquid in such a way that an explosive gas atmosphere which may be above the liquid or outside the enclosure cannot be ignited

3.2

protective liquid

liquid which prevents the explosive atmosphere from making direct contact with potential ignition sources

3.3

sealed equipment

equipment designed and constructed in such a manner as to prevent ingress of an external atmosphere during the expansion and contraction of the internally contained liquid during normal operation, for example, by means of an expansion vessel

3.4

non-sealed equipment

equipment designed and constructed in such a manner as to allow the ingress and egress of an external atmosphere during the expansion and contraction of the internally contained fluid during normal operation

3.5

maximum permissible protective liquid level

maximum level that the protective liquid can attain in normal service, taking into account the effects of expansion from the worst-case filling condition specified by the manufacturer to the condition of full load at maximum ambient temperature for which the equipment is designed