

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Explosive atmospheres –  
Part 20-1: Material characteristics for gas and vapour classification – Test  
methods and data**

**Atmosphères explosives –  
Partie 20-1: Caractéristiques des produits pour le classement des gaz et des  
vapeurs – Méthodes et données d'essai**



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### EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

#### **Part 20-1: Material characteristics for gas and vapour classification – Test methods and data**

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International Standard ISO/IEC 80079-20-1 has been prepared by subcommittee 31M: Non-electrical equipment and protective systems for explosive atmospheres, of IEC technical committee 31: Equipment for explosive atmospheres.

This first edition of ISO/IEC 80079-20-1 cancels and replaces IEC 60079-20-1:2010. It constitutes a technical revision. No significant changes were made with respect to IEC 60079-20-1:2010.

It is published as a double logo standard.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
31M/122/FDIS	31M/126/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*, as well as the International Standard 80079 series, 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

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## EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

### Part 20-1: Material characteristics for gas and vapour classification – Test methods and data

#### 1 Scope

This part of ISO/IEC 80079 provides guidance on classification of gases and vapours. It describes a test method intended for the measurement of the maximum experimental safe gaps (MESG) for gas-air mixtures or vapour-air mixtures under normal conditions of temperature and pressure (20 °C, 101,3 kPa) so as to permit the selection of an appropriate group of equipment. This document also describes a test method intended for use in the determination of the auto-ignition temperature (AIT) of a vapour-air mixture or gas-air mixture at atmospheric pressure, so as to permit the selection of an appropriate temperature class of equipment.

Values of chemical properties of materials are provided to assist in the selection of equipment to be used in hazardous areas. Further data may be added as the results of validated tests become available.

The materials and the characteristics included in a table (see Annex B) have been selected with particular reference to the use of equipment in hazardous areas. The data in this document have been taken from a number of references which are given in the bibliography.

These methods for determining the MESG or the AIT may also be used for gas-air-inert mixtures or vapour-air-inert mixtures. However, data on air-inert mixtures are not tabulated.

#### 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 60050-426, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary – Part 426: Electrical apparatus for explosive atmospheres* (available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>)

IEC 60079-11, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 11: Equipment protection by intrinsic safety "i"*

IEC 60079-14, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 14: Electrical installations design, selection and erection*

#### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60050-426 and the following apply.

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