

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear –
Part 3: Switches, disconnectors, switch-disconnectors and fuse-combination
units**

**Appareillage à basse tension –
Partie 3: Interrupteurs, sectionneurs, interrupteurs-sectionneurs et combinés-
fusibles**



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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
1 General.....	6
1.1 Scope and object.....	6
1.2 Normative references	7
2 Terms and definitions	8
2.1 General.....	11
2.2 Alphabetical index of terms.....	11
2.3 Terms and definitions	12
2.4 Summary of the equipment types	14
3 Classification.....	14
3.1 According to the utilization category.....	14
3.2 According to the method of operation of manually operated equipment.....	15
3.3 According to suitability for isolation	15
3.4 According to the degree of protection provided.....	15
4 Characteristics.....	15
4.1 Summary of characteristics.....	15
4.2 Type of equipment.....	15
4.3 Rated and limiting values for the main circuit	15
4.4 Utilization category	17
4.5 Control circuits	18
4.6 Auxiliary circuits	18
4.7 Relays and releases	19
4.8 Co-ordination with short circuit protective devices (SCPD).....	19
5 Product information.....	19
5.1 Nature of information	19
5.2 Marking	19
5.3 Instructions for installation, operation and maintenance.....	20
6 Normal service, mounting and transport conditions.....	20
7 Constructional and performance requirements	20
7.1 Constructional requirements	20
7.2 Performance requirements.....	22
7.3 Electromagnetic compatibility.....	26
8 Tests.....	29
8.1 Kind of tests	29
8.2 Type tests for constructional requirements.....	30
8.3 Performance.....	34
8.4 Electromagnetic compatibility tests	51
8.5 Special tests.....	52
Annex A (normative) Equipment for direct switching of a single motor.....	53
Annex B (informative) Items subject to agreement between manufacturer and user.....	59
Annex C (normative) Single pole operated three pole switches	60
Bibliography.....	63

Figure 1 – Actuator applied force F	33
Figure C.1 – Typical arrangements.....	61
Table 1 – Summary of equipment definitions.....	11
Table 2 – Utilization categories.....	18
Table 3 – Verification of rated making and breaking capacities (see 8.3.3.3) – Conditions for making and breaking corresponding to the various utilization categories.....	24
Table 4 – Verification of operational performance – Number of operating cycles corresponding to the rated operational current.....	25
Table 5 – Test circuit parameters for Table 4.....	25
Table 6 – Immunity tests.....	27
Table 7 – Emission limits.....	29
Table 8 – Actuator test forces	33
Table 9 – List of type tests applicable to a given equipment.....	34
Table 10 – Overall scheme of test sequences.....	35
Table 11 – Test sequence I: general performance characteristics.....	39
Table 12 – Temperature-rise limits for terminals and accessible parts.....	42
Table 13 – Test sequence II: operational performance capability.....	42
Table 14 – Test sequence III: short-circuit performance capability.....	44
Table 15 – Test sequence IV: conditional short-circuit current.....	49
Table 16 – Test sequence V: overload performance capability.....	51
Table A.1 – Utilization categories.....	54
Table A.2 – Rated making and breaking capacity conditions corresponding to several utilization categories.....	54
Table A.3 – Relationship between current broken I_C and off-time for the verification of the rated making and breaking capacities.....	55
Table A.4 – Operational performance – Conditions for making and breaking corresponding to several utilization categories.....	55
Table A.5 – Verification of the number of on-load operating cycles – Conditions for making and breaking corresponding to several utilization categories.....	58

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

LOW-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

Part 3: Switches, disconnectors, switch-disconnectors and fuse-combination units

FOREWORD

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This consolidated version of IEC 60947-3 consists of the third edition (2008) [documents 17B/1601/FDIS and 17B/1608/RVD] and its amendment 1 (2012) [documents 17B/1758/FDIS and 17B/1763/RVD]. It bears the edition number 3.1.

The technical content is therefore identical to the base edition and its amendment and has been prepared for user convenience. A vertical line in the margin shows where the base publication has been modified by amendment 1. Additions and deletions are displayed in red, with deletions being struck through.

International Standard IEC 60947-3 has been prepared by subcommittee 17B: Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear, of IEC technical committee 17: Switchgear and controlgear.

The document 17B/1601/FDIS, circulated to the National Committees as amendment 3, led to the publication of the new edition.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- alignment with the fifth edition of IEC 60947-1;
- a switching operation without current allowed between making and breaking operation (Table 3);
- increased number of operations for AC-23 allowed with agreement of the manufacturer (Table 3);
- simplified test procedure amended, f) added to 8.3.2.1.3;
- temperature rise test shall be made at the rated operational current I_e instead of the conventional enclosed thermal current I_{the} (8.3.3.1).

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts of the IEC 60947 series can be found, under the general title *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear*, on the IEC website.

This part is to be used in conjunction with IEC 60947-1. The numbering of the subclauses is sometimes not continuous because it is based on IEC 60947-1.

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

- reconfirmed,
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LOW-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

Part 3: Switches, disconnectors, switch-disconnectors and fuse-combination units

1 General

The provisions of the general rules dealt with in IEC 60947-1 are applicable to this part, where specifically called for. Clauses and subclauses, tables, figures and appendices of the general rules thus applicable are identified by reference IEC 60947-1, e.g., 4.3.4.1 of IEC 60947-1, Table 4 of IEC 60947-1, or Annex A of IEC 60947-1.

1.1 Scope and object

This part of IEC 60947 applies to switches, disconnectors, switch-disconnectors and fuse-combination units to be used in distribution circuits and motor circuits of which the rated voltage does not exceed 1 000 V a.c. or 1 500 V d.c.

The manufacturer shall specify the type, ratings and characteristics according to the relevant standard of any incorporated fuses.

This part does not apply to equipment coming within the scope of IEC 60947-2, IEC 60947-4-1 and IEC 60947-5-1; however, when switches and fuse-combination units coming into the scope of this part are normally used to start, accelerate and/or stop an individual motor they shall also comply with the additional requirements given in Annex A.

The requirements for single pole operated three pole switches are included in Annex C.

Auxiliary switches fitted to equipment within the scope of this part shall comply with the requirements of IEC 60947-5-1.

This part does not include the additional requirements necessary for electrical apparatus for explosive gas atmospheres.

NOTE 1 Depending on its design, a switch (or disconnector) can be referred to as "a rotary switch (disconnector)", "cam-operated switch (disconnector)", "knife-switch (disconnector)", etc.

NOTE 2 In this part, the word "switch" also applies to the apparatus referred to in French as "commutateurs", intended to modify the connections between several circuits and *inter alia* to substitute a part of a circuit for another.

NOTE 3 In general, throughout this part switches, disconnectors, switch-disconnectors and fuse-combination units will be referred to as "equipment".

The object of this part is to state

- a) the characteristics of the equipment;
- b) the conditions with which the equipment shall comply with reference to
 - 1) operation and behaviour in normal service;
 - 2) operation and behaviour in case of specified abnormal conditions, e.g. short circuit;
 - 3) dielectric properties;

- c) the tests for confirming that these conditions have been met and the methods to be adopted for these tests;
- d) the information to be marked on the equipment or made available by the manufacturer, e.g. in the catalogue.

1.2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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 60050-441:1984, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Chapter 441: Switchgear, controlgear and fuses*
Amendment 1 (2000)

IEC 60269 (all parts), *Low-voltage fuses*

IEC 60410:1973, *Sampling plans and procedures for inspection by attributes*

IEC 60417-DB:2000 1, *Graphical symbols for use on equipment*

IEC 60947-1:2007, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 1: General rules*

IEC 60947-2:2006, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 2: Circuit-breakers*

IEC 60947-4-1:2000, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 4-1: Contactors and motor-starters – Electromechanical contactors and motor-starters*
Amendment 1 (2002)
Amendment 2 (2005)

IEC 60947-5-1:2003, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 5-1: Control circuit devices and switching elements – Electromechanical control circuit devices*

IEC 61000-4-2:1995, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-2: Testing and measurement techniques – Electrostatic discharge immunity test*
Amendment 1 (1998)
Amendment 2 (2000)

IEC 61000-4-3:2006, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-3: Testing and measurement techniques – Radiated, radio-frequency, electromagnetic field immunity test*
Amendment 1 (2007)

IEC 61000-4-4:2004, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-4: Testing and measurement techniques – Electrical fast transient/burst immunity test*

IEC 61000-4-5:2005, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-5: Testing and measurement techniques – Surge immunity test*

IEC 61000-4-6:2003, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Part 4-6: Testing and measurement techniques – Immunity to conducted disturbances, induced by radio-frequency fields*
Amendment 1 (2004)
Amendment 2 (2006)

1 "DB" refers to the IEC on-line database.

CISPR 11:2003, *Industrial, scientific and medical (ISM) radio-frequency equipment – Electromagnetic disturbance characteristics – Limits and methods of measurement*
 Amendment 1 (2004)
 Amendment 2 (2006)

CISPR 22:2005, *Information technology equipment – Radio disturbance characteristics – Limits and methods of measurement*
 Amendment 1 (2005)
 Amendment 2 (2006)

2 Terms and definitions

~~For the purposes of this part of IEC 60947, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60050-441, IEC 60947-1 and the following apply.~~

	Reference
D	
Dependent manual operation (of a mechanical switching device)	2.13
Disconnecter	2.2
Disconnecter fuse	2.7
F	
Fuse combination unit	2.4
Fuse disconnecter	2.8
Fuse switch	2.6
Fuse switch disconnecter	2.10
I	
Independent manual operation (of a mechanical switching device)	2.14
M	
Multiple tip contact system	2.12
S	
Semi-independent manual operation	2.15
Single pole operated three pole switch	2.11
Stored energy operation (of a mechanical switching device)	2.16
Switch (mechanical)	2.1
Switch disconnecter	2.3
Switch disconnecter fuse	2.9
Switch fuse	2.5

~~2.1~~

~~(mechanical) switch~~

~~mechanical switching device capable of making, carrying and breaking currents under normal circuit conditions which may include specified operating overload conditions and also carrying for a specified time currents under specified abnormal circuit conditions such as those of short circuit~~

~~NOTE – A switch may be capable of making, but not breaking, short-circuit currents.~~

~~[IEV 441-14-10]~~

~~2.2~~

~~disconnecter~~

~~mechanical switching device which, in the open position, complies with the requirements specified for the isolating function~~

~~[IEV 441-14-05, modified]~~