

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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**Multicore and symmetrical pair/quad cables for digital communications –
Part 1: Generic specification**

**Câbles multiconducteurs à paires symétriques et quartes pour transmissions
numériques –
Partie 1: Spécification générique**



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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	5
1 Scope.....	7
2 Normative references	7
3 Terms and definitions	9
4 Installation considerations	12
5 Materials and cable construction	13
5.1 General remarks.....	13
5.2 Cable construction	13
5.2.1 Conductor.....	13
5.2.2 Insulation.....	13
5.2.3 Cable element	14
5.2.4 Cable make-up	14
5.2.5 Screening of the cable core	14
5.2.6 Sheath.....	15
5.2.7 Identification.....	15
5.2.8 Finished cable	15
6 Characteristics and requirements	15
6.1 General remarks – Test configurations	15
6.2 Electrical characteristics and tests	16
6.2.1 Conductor resistance.....	16
6.2.2 Resistance unbalance	16
6.2.3 Dielectric strength	17
6.2.4 Insulation resistance.....	17
6.2.5 Mutual capacitance.....	17
6.2.6 Capacitance unbalance	17
6.2.7 Transfer impedance.....	18
6.2.8 Coupling attenuation.....	18
6.2.9 Current-carrying capacity.....	18
6.3 Transmission characteristics	18
6.3.1 Velocity of propagation (phase velocity)	18
6.3.2 Phase delay and differential delay (delay skew)	19
6.3.3 Attenuation.....	19
6.3.4 Unbalance attenuation.....	22
6.3.5 Near-end crosstalk	27
6.3.6 Far-end crosstalk.....	29
6.3.7 Alien (exogenous) near-end crosstalk.....	32
6.3.8 Alien (exogenous) far-end crosstalk.....	37
6.3.9 Alien (exogenous) crosstalk of bundled cables	37
6.3.10 Impedance.....	38
6.3.11 Return loss.....	39
6.4 Mechanical and dimensional characteristics and requirements	40
6.4.1 Measurement of dimensions	40
6.4.2 Elongation at break of the conductor	40
6.4.3 Tensile strength of the insulation	40
6.4.4 Elongation at break of the insulation.....	40
6.4.5 Adhesion of the insulation to the conductor	40

6.4.6	Elongation at break of the sheath	40
6.4.7	Tensile strength of the sheath	40
6.4.8	Crush test of the cable	40
6.4.9	Impact test of the cable	40
6.4.10	Bending under tension.....	40
6.4.11	Repeated bending of the cable	43
6.4.12	Tensile performance of the cable.....	44
6.4.13	Shock test of the cable	44
6.4.14	Bump test of the cable.....	44
6.4.15	Vibration test of the cable.....	44
6.5	Environmental characteristics.....	44
6.5.1	Shrinkage of the insulation	44
6.5.2	Wrapping test of the insulation after thermal ageing	44
6.5.3	Bending test of the insulation at low temperature.....	45
6.5.4	Elongation at break of the sheath after ageing.....	45
6.5.5	Tensile strength of the sheath after ageing	45
6.5.6	Sheath pressure test at high temperature	45
6.5.7	Cold bend test of the cable.....	45
6.5.8	Heat shock test.....	46
6.5.9	Damp heat steady state.....	46
6.5.10	Solar radiation.....	46
6.5.11	Solvents and contaminating fluids.....	46
6.5.12	Salt mist and sulphur dioxide.....	46
6.5.13	Water immersion	46
6.5.14	Hygroscopicity.....	46
6.5.15	Wicking	47
6.5.16	Flame propagation characteristics of a single cable.....	48
6.5.17	Flame propagation characteristics of bunched cables	48
6.5.18	Halogen gas evolution	48
6.5.19	Smoke generation	48
6.5.20	Toxic gas emission.....	48
6.5.21	Integrated fire test method for cables in environmental air handling spaces	48
	Bibliography.....	49
	Figure 1 – Test set-up for the measurement of attenuation, velocity of propagation and phase delay	20
	Figure 2 – Test set-up for the measurement of the differential-mode loss of the baluns	24
	Figure 3 – Test set-up for the measurement of the common-mode loss of the baluns.....	24
	Figure 4 – Test set-up for unbalance attenuation at near end (<i>TCL</i>).....	26
	Figure 5 – Test set-up for unbalance attenuation at far end (<i>TCTL</i>)	26
	Figure 6 – Test set-up for near-end crosstalk.....	28
	Figure 7 – Test set-up for far-end crosstalk.....	30
	Figure 8 – Test set-up for alien (exogenous) near-end crosstalk	33
	Figure 9 – Test assembly cross-section; six cables around one cable	35
	Figure 10 – Test assembly layout; six cables around one cable	35

Figure 18 – Schematic diagram representing the position of the 9 cables on a wooden drum	36
Figure 19 – Arrangement of the cables on the drum.....	36
Figure 20 – Preparation of one end.....	37
Figure 13 – Test set-up for characteristic impedance and return loss.....	38
Figure 14 – U-bend test configuration	41
Figure 15 – S-bend test configuration	42
Figure 16 – Repeated bending test configuration	43
Figure 17 – Wicking test configuration	47
Table 1 – Test balun performance characteristics	23

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**MULTICORE AND SYMMETRICAL PAIR/QUAD CABLES
FOR DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS –****Part 1: Generic specification**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61156-1 has been prepared by subcommittee 46C: Wires and symmetric cables, of IEC technical committee 46: Cables, wires, waveguides, r.f. connectors, r.f. and microwave passive components and accessories.

The cables are classified in the study of generic cabling for information technology being produced by ISO/IEC JTC1/SC 25.

This consolidated version of IEC 61156-1 consists of the third edition (2007) [documents 46C/815/FDIS and 46C/823/RVD], its amendment 1 (2009) [documents 46C/897/FDIS and 46C/899/RVD] and its corrigendum 1 (2015-08).

The technical content is therefore identical to the base edition and its amendment and has been prepared for user convenience.

It bears the edition number 3.1.

A vertical line in the margin shows where the base publication has been modified by amendment 1.

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

- a) inclusion of definitions and test methods in support of the MICE table in ISO 24702;
- b) inclusion of definitions and test methods in support of new cable categories 6_A and 7_A;
- c) inclusion of definitions in support of PoEP.

This bilingual version (2008-02) replaces the English version.

The French version of this standard has not been voted upon.

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

The list of all the parts of the IEC 61156 series, under the general title *Multicore and symmetrical pair/quad cables for digital communication*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendments will remain unchanged until the maintenance result 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,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

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MULTICORE AND SYMMETRICAL PAIR/QUAD CABLES FOR DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS –

Part 1: Generic specification

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61156 is applicable to communication systems such as ISDN, local area networks and data communication systems and specifies the definitions, requirements and test methods of multicore, symmetrical pair and quad cables.

This standard is also applicable to cables used for customer premises wiring.

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 60028, *International standard of resistance for copper*

IEC 60050-726, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 726: Transmission lines and wave guides*

IEC 60068-2-1, *Environmental testing – Part 2: Tests – Tests A: Cold*

IEC 60169-22, *Radio-frequency connectors – Part 22: RF two-pole bayonet coupled connectors for use with shielded balanced cables having twin inner conductors (Type BNO)*

IEC 60189-1:1986, *Low-frequency cables and wires with PVC insulation and PVC sheath – Part 1: General test and measuring methods*¹⁾

IEC 60304, *Standard colours for insulation for low-frequency cables and wires*

IEC 60332-1-1, *Tests on electric and optical fibre cables under fire conditions – Part 1-1: Test for vertical flame propagation for a single insulated wire or cable – Apparatus*

IEC 60332-2-1, *Tests on electric and optical fibre cables under fire conditions – Part 2-1: Test for vertical flame propagation for a single small insulated wire or cable – Apparatus*

IEC 60332-3-10, *Tests on electric cables under fire conditions – Part 3-10: Test for vertical flame spread of vertically-mounted bunched wires or cables – Apparatus*

IEC 60332-3-24, *Tests on electric cables under fire conditions – Part 3-24: Test for vertical flame spread of vertically-mounted bunched wires or cables – Category C*

IEC 60708, *Low-frequency cables with polyolefin insulation and moisture barrier polyolefin sheath*

¹⁾ There exists a 2007 edition of 60189-1.

IEC 60754-2, *Test on gases evolved during combustion of electric cables – Part 2: Determination of the degree of acidity of gases evolved during the combustion of materials taken from electric cables by measuring pH and conductivity*

IEC 60794-1-2:2003, *Optical fibre cables – Part 1-2: Generic specification – Basic optical cable test procedures*

IEC 60811-1-1:1993, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric cables and optical cables – Part 1: Methods for general application – Section 1: Measurement of thickness and overall dimensions – Tests for determining the mechanical properties*

IEC 60811-1-2:1985, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric and optical cables – Part 1: Methods for general application – Section Two: Thermal ageing methods*

IEC 60811-1-3:1993, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric and optical cables – Part 1: Methods for general application – Section Three: Methods for determining the density – Water absorption tests – Shrinkage test*

IEC 60811-1-4:1985, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric and optical cables – Part 1: Methods for general application – Section Four: Test at low temperature*

IEC 60811-3-1:1985, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric and optical cables – Part 3: Methods specific to PVC compounds – Section One: Pressure test at high temperature – Tests for resistance to cracking*

IEC 60811-4-2:2004, *Insulating and sheathing materials of electric cables – Common test methods – Part 4-2: Methods specific to polyethylene and polypropylene compounds – Tensile strength and elongation at break after conditioning at elevated temperature – Wrapping test after conditioning at elevated temperature – Wrapping test after thermal ageing in air – Measurement of mass increase – Long-term stability test – Test method for copper-catalyzed oxidative degradation*

IEC 61034 (all parts), *Measurement of smoke density of cables burning under defined conditions*

IEC 61196-1-105, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-105: Electrical test methods – Test for withstand voltage of cable dielectric*

IEC 62012-1:2004, *Multicore and symmetrical pair/quad cables for digital communications to be used in harsh environments – Part 1: Generic specification*

IEC 62153-4-3, *Metallic communication cables test methods – Part 4-3: Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Surface transfer impedance – Triaxial method*

IEC 62153-4-4, *Metallic communication cables test methods – Part 4-4: Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Shielded screening attenuation, test method for measuring of the screening attenuation a_s up to and above 3 GHz*

IEC 62153-4-5, *Metallic communication cables test methods – Part 4-5: Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Coupling or screening attenuation – Absorbing clamp method*

IEC 62255 (all parts), *Multicore and symmetrical pair/quad cables for broadband digital communications (high bit rate digital access telecommunication networks) – Outside plant cables*

ITU-T Recommendation G.117:1996, *Transmission aspects of unbalance about earth*

ITU-T Recommendation O.9:1999, *Measuring arrangements to assess the degree of unbalance about earth*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions, as well as those given in IEC 60050-726, apply.

3.1 resistance unbalance

difference in resistance of the conductors within a pair or one side of a quad or between pairs or quads

NOTE Resistance unbalance is expressed as a percentage (%).

3.2 capacitance unbalance to earth

arithmetic difference of the capacitance to earth of the conductors of a pair or one side of a quad

NOTE Capacitance unbalance is expressed in pF/m.

3.3 mutual capacitance

electrical charge storage parameter of a pair of conductors (or with respect to the side of a quad)

NOTE 1 Mutual capacitance is one of the four primary transmission line parameters: mutual capacitance, mutual inductance, resistance and conductance.

NOTE 2 Mutual capacitance is expressed in pF/m.

3.4 velocity of propagation (phase velocity)

speed at which a sinusoidal signal propagates on a pair in the cable

NOTE Velocity of propagation is expressed in m/s.

3.5 delay (phase delay)

time duration between the instants that the wave front of a sinusoidal travelling wave, defined by a specified phase, passes two given points in a cable

NOTE Phase delay is expressed in s/m.

3.6 differential phase delay (skew)

difference in phase delay between any two pairs in the cable

NOTE Differential phase delay (skew) is expressed in s.

3.7 attenuation

decrease in magnitude of power of a signal that propagates along a pair of a cable

NOTE Attenuation is expressed in dB/m.