

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Explosive atmospheres –
Part 31: Equipment dust ignition protection by enclosure "t"**

**Atmosphères explosives –
Partie 31: Protection contre l'inflammation de poussières par enveloppe "t"
relative au matériel**



THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED

Copyright © 2013 IEC, Geneva, Switzerland

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from either IEC or IEC's member National Committee in the country of the requester.

If you have any questions about IEC copyright or have an enquiry about obtaining additional rights to this publication, please contact the address below or your local IEC member National Committee for further information.

Droits de reproduction réservés. Sauf indication contraire, aucune partie de cette publication ne peut être reproduite ni utilisée sous quelque forme que ce soit et par aucun procédé, électronique ou mécanique, y compris la photocopie et les microfilms, sans l'accord écrit de la CEI ou du Comité national de la CEI du pays du demandeur.

Si vous avez des questions sur le copyright de la CEI ou si vous désirez obtenir des droits supplémentaires sur cette publication, utilisez les coordonnées ci-après ou contactez le Comité national de la CEI de votre pays de résidence.

IEC Central Office
3, rue de Varembe
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11
Fax: +41 22 919 03 00
info@iec.ch
www.iec.ch

About the IEC

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is the leading global organization that prepares and publishes International Standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies.

About IEC publications

The technical content of IEC publications is kept under constant review by the IEC. Please make sure that you have the latest edition, a corrigenda or an amendment might have been published.

Useful links:

IEC publications search - www.iec.ch/searchpub

The advanced search enables you to find IEC publications by a variety of criteria (reference number, text, technical committee,...).

It also gives information on projects, replaced and withdrawn publications.

IEC Just Published - webstore.iec.ch/justpublished

Stay up to date on all new IEC publications. Just Published details all new publications released. Available on-line and also once a month by email.

Electropedia - www.electropedia.org

The world's leading online dictionary of electronic and electrical terms containing more than 30 000 terms and definitions in English and French, with equivalent terms in additional languages. Also known as the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) on-line.

Customer Service Centre - webstore.iec.ch/csc

If you wish to give us your feedback on this publication or need further assistance, please contact the Customer Service Centre: csc@iec.ch.

A propos de la CEI

La Commission Electrotechnique Internationale (CEI) est la première organisation mondiale qui élabore et publie des Normes internationales pour tout ce qui a trait à l'électricité, à l'électronique et aux technologies apparentées.

A propos des publications CEI

Le contenu technique des publications de la CEI est constamment revu. Veuillez vous assurer que vous possédez l'édition la plus récente, un corrigendum ou amendement peut avoir été publié.

Liens utiles:

Recherche de publications CEI - www.iec.ch/searchpub

La recherche avancée vous permet de trouver des publications CEI en utilisant différents critères (numéro de référence, texte, comité d'études,...).

Elle donne aussi des informations sur les projets et les publications remplacées ou retirées.

Just Published CEI - webstore.iec.ch/justpublished

Restez informé sur les nouvelles publications de la CEI. Just Published détaille les nouvelles publications parues. Disponible en ligne et aussi une fois par mois par email.

Electropedia - www.electropedia.org

Le premier dictionnaire en ligne au monde de termes électroniques et électriques. Il contient plus de 30 000 termes et définitions en anglais et en français, ainsi que les termes équivalents dans les langues additionnelles. Egalement appelé Vocabulaire Electrotechnique International (VEI) en ligne.

Service Clients - webstore.iec.ch/csc

Si vous désirez nous donner des commentaires sur cette publication ou si vous avez des questions contactez-nous: csc@iec.ch.

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Explosive atmospheres –
Part 31: Equipment dust ignition protection by enclosure "t"**

**Atmosphères explosives –
Partie 31: Protection contre l'inflammation de poussières par enveloppe "t"
relative au matériel**

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

COMMISSION
ELECTROTECHNIQUE
INTERNATIONALE

PRICE CODE
CODE PRIX

ICS 29.260.20

ISBN 978-2-8322-1185-4

**Warning! Make sure that you obtained this publication from an authorized distributor.
Attention! Veuillez vous assurer que vous avez obtenu cette publication via un distributeur agréé.**

CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	3
1 Scope.....	6
2 Normative references	6
3 Terms and definitions	6
4 General	7
4.1 Levels of protection.....	7
4.2 Equipment groups and ingress protection.....	7
4.3 Requirements for electrical equipment with level of protection “ta”	8
4.3.1 Fault current	8
4.3.2 Maximum surface temperature.....	8
4.3.3 Overpressure.....	8
4.3.4 Dust exclusion	8
4.3.5 Protective devices	8
4.3.6 Protection for arcing and sparking parts.....	9
4.4 Requirements for electrical equipment with Level of Protection “tb” and “tc”.....	9
4.4.1 Maximum surface temperature.....	9
4.4.2 Over pressure.....	9
4.4.3 Dust exclusion.....	9
5 Construction	9
5.1 Joints.....	9
5.1.1 General	9
5.1.2 Threaded joints.....	10
5.1.3 Gaskets and seals	10
5.1.4 Cemented joints.....	10
5.1.5 Operating rods, spindles and shafts.....	10
5.1.6 Windows.....	10
5.2 Cable glands.....	11
5.3 Entries	11
5.3.1 Plain entries	11
5.3.2 Threaded entries	11
6 Verification and tests	11
6.1 Type tests.....	11
6.1.1 Type tests for dust exclusion by enclosures.....	11
6.1.2 Thermal tests.....	12
6.2 Routine tests.....	12
7 Marking	12
Bibliography.....	14
Table 1 – Level of Protection, equipment group and ingress protection (IP) relationship.....	7

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –**Part 31: Equipment dust ignition protection by enclosure "t"**

FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
- 2) The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

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

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2008. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

The significance of changes between IEC 60079-31, Edition 2.0 (2012) and IEC 60079-31, Edition 1.0 (2008) (including Corrigendum) is as listed below:

Changes	Clause	Type		
		Minor and editorial changes	Extension	Major technical changes
Document has been restructured from the first edition	Numerous	X		
The marked maximum surface temperature shall be measured on the external surfaces of the enclosure and the surfaces of the internal components for equipment with types of protection "ta"	4.3.2			C1
Additional protection for arcing and sparking parts for "ta"	4.3.6			C2
Limiting the internal pressure test to enclosures where the seal is not physically constrained from moving.	4.4.2		X	
Requirements for tapered threaded joints without an additional seal or gasket added.	5.1.2		X	
Requirements for cable gland aligned for all levels and Groups the only difference is now the required IP protection	5.2	X		
Requirements for plain entries added	5.3.1		X	
5 threads for parallel threads only required when no seal is used	5.3.2		X	
Test for internal enclosure for level "ta" added.	6.1.1.2			C 3
Eliminating of the "fault" table and reduction of the dust layer depth for the thermal test for type of protection "ta"	6.1.2		X	

NOTE The technical changes referred to include the significance of technical changes in the revised IEC Standard, but they do not form an exhaustive list of all modifications from the previous version. More guidance may be found by referring to the Redline Version of the standard.

Explanations:

A) Definitions

Minor and editorial changes

clarification
 decrease of technical requirements
 minor technical change
 editorial corrections

These are changes which modify requirements in an editorial or a minor technical way. They include changes of the wording to clarify technical requirements without any technical change, or a reduction in level of existing requirement.

Extension addition of technical options

These are changes which add new or modify existing technical requirements, in a way that new options are given, but without increasing requirements for equipment that was fully compliant with the previous standard. Therefore, these will not have to be considered for products in conformity with the preceding edition.

Major technical changes

addition of technical requirements
increase of technical requirements

These are changes to technical requirements (addition, increase of the level or removal) made in a way that a product in conformity with the preceding edition will not always be able to fulfil the requirements given in the later edition. These changes have to be considered for products in conformity with the preceding edition. For these changes additional information is provided in clause B) below.

NOTE These changes represent current technological knowledge. However, these changes should not normally have an influence on equipment already placed on the market.

B) Information about the background of 'Major Technical Changes'

C1 – A requirement was added for “ta” to require the temperature marking to be based on the highest of either the temperature produced by the internal components or the external surface temperature.

C2 – Requirements were added for “ta” equipment that contains a normally arcing part to require a supplementary internal enclosure around the arcing part.

C3 – Requires an impact test on the supplementary enclosure for “ta” equipment.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
31/1079/FDIS	31/1094/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.

This International Standard is to be used in conjunction with IEC 60079-0.

A list of all parts of 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 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.

EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

Part 31: Equipment dust ignition protection by enclosure "t"

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60079 is applicable to electrical equipment protected by enclosure and surface temperature limitation for use in explosive dust atmospheres. It specifies requirements for design, construction and testing of electrical equipment and Ex Components.

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.

This standard does not apply to dusts of explosives, which do not require atmospheric oxygen for combustion, or to pyrophoric substances.

This standard does not apply to electrical equipment or Ex Components intended for use in underground parts of mines as well as those parts of surface installations of such mines endangered by firedamp and/or combustible dust.

This standard does not take account of any risk due to an emission of flammable or toxic gas from the dust.

Consideration of additional protective measures is required where the application of electrical equipment is in atmospheres, which can contain combustible dust as well as explosive gas, whether simultaneously or separately.

Where the electrical equipment has to meet other environmental conditions, for example, protection against ingress of water and resistance to corrosion, additional measures can be necessary. The measures used should not adversely affect the integrity of the enclosure.

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 60127 (all parts), *Miniature fuses*

IEC 60691, *Thermal-links – Requirements and application guide*

ISO 965-1, *ISO general-purpose metric screw threads – Tolerances – Part 1: Principles and basic data*

3 Terms and definitions

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

NOTE Additional definitions applicable to explosive atmospheres can be found in IEC 60050-426.