

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear –
Part 1: General rules**

**Appareillage à basse tension –
Partie 1: Règles générales**



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IEC 60947-1

Edition 5.1 2011-03

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INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

COMMISSION
ELECTROTECHNIQUE
INTERNATIONALE

PRICE CODE
CODE PRIX

CU

ICS 29.130.20

ISBN 978-2-88912-340-7

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

LOW-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

Part 1: General rules

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This consolidated version of IEC 60947-1 consists of the fifth edition (2007) [documents 17B/1550/FDIS and 17B/1563/RVD] and its amendment 1 (2010) [documents 17B/1710/FDIS and 17B/1721/RVD]. It bears the edition number 5.1.

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 60947-1 has been prepared by subcommittee 17B: Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear, of IEC technical committee 17: Switchgear and controlgear.

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

A list of all the parts in the IEC 60947 series, under the general title *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear* 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 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

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LOW-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

Part 1: General rules

1 General

The purpose of this standard is to harmonize as far as practicable all rules and requirements of a general nature applicable to low-voltage switchgear and controlgear in order to obtain uniformity of requirements and tests throughout the corresponding range of equipment and to avoid the need for testing to different standards.

All those parts of the various equipment standards which can be considered as general have therefore been gathered in this standard together with specific subjects of wide interest and application, e.g. temperature-rise, dielectric properties, etc.

For each type of low-voltage switchgear and controlgear, only two main documents are necessary to determine all requirements and tests:

- 1) this basic standard, referred to as "Part 1" in the specific standards covering the various types of low-voltage switchgear and controlgear;
- 2) the relevant equipment standard hereinafter referred to as the "relevant product standard" or "product standard".

For a general rule to apply to a specific product standard, it shall be explicitly referred to by the latter, by quoting the relevant clause or subclause number of this standard followed by "IEC 60947-1" e.g. "7.2.3 of IEC 60947-1".

A specific product standard may not require, and hence may omit, a general rule (as being not applicable), or it may add to it (if deemed inadequate in the particular case), but it may not deviate from it, unless there is a substantial technical justification.

NOTE The product standards due to be part of the series of IEC standards covering low-voltage switchgear and controlgear are:

IEC 60947-2: Part 2: Circuit-breakers

IEC 60947-3: Part 3: Switches, disconnectors, switch-disconnectors and fuse combination units

IEC 60947-4: Part 4: Contactors and motor-starters

IEC 60947-5: Part 5: Control-circuit devices and switching elements

IEC 60947-6: Part 6: Multiple function equipment

IEC 60947-7: Part 7: Ancillary equipment

IEC 60947-8: Part 8: Control units for built-in thermal protection (PTC) for rotating electrical machines.

1.1 Scope and object

This standard applies, when required by the relevant product standard, to switchgear and controlgear hereinafter referred to as "equipment" and intended to be connected to circuits, the rated voltage of which does not exceed 1 000 V a.c. or 1 500 V d.c.

It does not apply to low-voltage switchgear and controlgear assemblies which are dealt with in IEC 60439.

NOTE In certain clauses or subclauses of this standard, the equipment covered by this standard is also referred to as "device", to be consistent with the text of such clauses or subclauses.