

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Electroacoustics – Hearing aids –
Part 0: Measurement of the performance characteristics of hearing aids**

**Électroacoustique – Appareils de correction auditive –
Partie 0: Mesure des caractéristiques fonctionnelles des appareils de correction
auditive**



THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED
Copyright © 2015 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 l'IEC ou du Comité national de l'IEC du pays du demandeur. Si vous avez des questions sur le copyright de l'IEC ou si vous désirez obtenir des droits supplémentaires sur cette publication, utilisez les coordonnées ci-après ou contactez le Comité national de l'IEC 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.

IEC Catalogue - webstore.iec.ch/catalogue

The stand-alone application for consulting the entire bibliographical information on IEC International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports and other documents. Available for PC, Mac OS, Android Tablets and iPad.

IEC publications search - www.iec.ch/searchpub

The advanced search enables 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 online 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 15 additional languages. Also known as the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) online.

IEC Glossary - std.iec.ch/glossary

More than 60 000 electrotechnical terminology entries in English and French extracted from the Terms and Definitions clause of IEC publications issued since 2002. Some entries have been collected from earlier publications of IEC TC 37, 77, 86 and CISPR.

IEC 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 l'IEC

La Commission Electrotechnique Internationale (IEC) 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 IEC

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

Catalogue IEC - webstore.iec.ch/catalogue

Application autonome pour consulter tous les renseignements bibliographiques sur les Normes internationales, Spécifications techniques, Rapports techniques et autres documents de l'IEC. Disponible pour PC, Mac OS, tablettes Android et iPad.

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

La recherche avancée permet de trouver des publications IEC 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.

IEC Just Published - webstore.iec.ch/justpublished

Restez informé sur les nouvelles publications IEC. 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 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 15 langues additionnelles. Egalement appelé Vocabulaire Electrotechnique International (IEV) en ligne.

Glossaire IEC - std.iec.ch/glossary

Plus de 60 000 entrées terminologiques électrotechniques, en anglais et en français, extraites des articles Termes et Définitions des publications IEC parues depuis 2002. Plus certaines entrées antérieures extraites des publications des CE 37, 77, 86 et CISPR de l'IEC.

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.



IEC 60118-0

Edition 3.0 2015-06

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Electroacoustics – Hearing aids –
Part 0: Measurement of the performance characteristics of hearing aids**

**Électroacoustique – Appareils de correction auditive –
Partie 0: Mesure des caractéristiques fonctionnelles des appareils de correction
auditive**

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

COMMISSION
ELECTROTECHNIQUE
INTERNATIONALE

ICS 17.140.50

ISBN 978-2-8322-2692-6

**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.....	5
1 Scope.....	7
2 Normative references.....	7
3 Terms and definitions	8
4 General conditions.....	12
4.1 Acoustic test method	12
4.2 Acoustic coupler.....	13
4.3 Measurement frequency range	13
4.4 Reporting of data	13
5 Test enclosure and test equipment.....	13
5.1 General.....	13
5.2 Unwanted stimuli in the test enclosure	13
5.3 Sound source.....	13
5.4 Measurement system for the measurement of the sound pressure level and harmonic distortion produced by a hearing aid	14
5.5 Direct-current measuring system	14
5.6 Magnetic field source for ETLs and MASL measurements.....	15
6 Test conditions	15
6.1 General.....	15
6.2 Control of the sound field	16
6.3 Measurement configuration for directional hearing aids	17
6.4 Normal operating conditions for a hearing aid	18
6.4.1 General	18
6.4.2 Battery or supply voltage.....	18
6.4.3 Settings of controls	19
6.4.4 Ambient conditions.....	19
6.4.5 Sound outlet system.....	19
6.4.6 Accessories	20
7 Test procedures	20
7.1 Frequency response curves.....	20
7.2 OSPL90 frequency response curve.....	20
7.3 Full-on gain response curve	21
7.4 Basic frequency response curve	21
7.4.1 Test procedure.....	21
7.4.2 Frequency range.....	22
7.4.3 Reference test gain (RTG)	23
7.5 Total harmonic distortion	23
7.6 Equivalent input noise	23
7.7 Battery current	23
7.8 Measurements for hearing aids having induction pick-up coil.....	24
7.8.1 General	24
7.8.2 Equivalent test loop sensitivity (ETLS).....	24
7.8.3 Maximum HFA magneto-acoustical sensitivity level (HFA MASL) of induction pick-up coil.....	24
8 Characteristics of electrical input circuits for hearing aids	24
8.1 Electrical characteristics.....	24
8.1.1 General	24

8.1.2	Input impedance	25
8.1.3	Input sensitivity	25
8.2	Mechanical characteristics and electrical function of connector system for electrical input.....	25
9	Additional optional test procedures	25
9.1	General.....	25
9.2	Effects of tone control and gain control	25
9.2.1	Basic frequency response: effect of tone control	25
9.2.2	Frequency response: effect of gain control position.....	25
9.2.3	Characteristics of the gain control	26
9.3	Intermodulation distortion	26
9.4	Effects of variation of battery or supply voltage and internal resistance	26
9.4.1	Full-on gain.....	26
9.4.2	OSPL90.....	27
9.4.3	Total harmonic distortion	27
9.4.4	Total intermodulation distortion	27
9.5	Equivalent input noise in one-third-octave bands	27
9.6	Additional measurements for hearing aids having induction pick-up coil.....	30
9.6.1	General	30
9.6.2	Basic frequency response	30
9.6.3	Frequency response with full-on gain control setting	30
9.6.4	Effect of gain control position on frequency response.....	30
9.6.5	Harmonic distortion	31
9.7	Additional measurements for hearing aids having induction pick-up coil for use with a telephone	31
9.7.1	General	31
9.7.2	SPLITS response curve.....	32
9.7.3	HFA-SPLITS	32
9.7.4	Relative simulated equivalent telephone sensitivity (RSETS).....	32
9.8	Additional measurements applying to AGC hearing aids.....	33
9.8.1	General	33
9.8.2	Steady-state input-output characteristics	33
9.8.3	Dynamic AGC characteristics (attack and release time)	34
9.9	Additional optional measurements with ear simulator, according to IEC 60318-4.....	34
9.9.1	General	34
9.9.2	Output sound pressure level frequency response curve for an input sound pressure level of 90 dB	34
9.9.3	Full-on gain response curve	34
9.9.4	Basic frequency response curve	34
9.9.5	Presentation of data	34
10	Maximum permitted expanded uncertainty of measurements.....	34
	Bibliography	36
	Figure 1 – Example of test arrangement for behind-the-ear hearing aid	16
	Figure 2 – Example of test arrangement for in-the-ear hearing aid	17
	Figure 3 – Example of test arrangement for directional hearing aid	18
	Figure 4 – Example of OSPL90 curve and basic frequency response curve	21

Figure 5 – Example of determination of frequency range from basic frequency response curve22

Figure 6 – Example of hearing aid acoustic gain28

Figure 7 – Example of hearing aid output noise and test equipment noise29

Figure 8 – Hearing aid equivalent input noise and ambient noise29

Figure 9 – Telephone magnetic field simulator (TMFS)31

Figure 10 – Example of hearing aids on TMFS for SPLITS test32

Figure 11 – Example of a steady-state input-output characteristic33

Table 1 – Resistors and open circuit voltages for zinc-air battery simulators..... 19

Table 2 – Distortion test frequencies and input sound pressure levels23

Table 3 – Values of U_{\max} for basic measurements.....35

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**ELECTROACOUSTICS –
HEARING AIDS –****Part 0: Measurement of the performance
characteristics of hearing aids**

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 60118-0 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 29: Electroacoustics.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 1983 and its Amendment 1:1994 as well as IEC 60118-1:1995, Amendment 1:1998, IEC 60118-2:1983, Amendment 1:1993, Amendment 2:1997 and IEC 60118-6:1999. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) the use of an acoustic coupler according to IEC 60318-5;
- b) the addition of measurements for automatic gain control circuits, for induction pick-up coil inputs and for electrical inputs.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
29/867A/FDIS	29/874/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 60118 series, published under the general title *Electroacoustics – Hearing aids*, can be found on the IEC website.

Future standards in this series will carry the new general title as cited above. Titles of existing standards in this series will be updated at the time of the next edition.

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

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

ELECTROACOUSTICS – HEARING AIDS –

Part 0: Measurement of the performance characteristics of hearing aids

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60118 gives recommendations for the measurement of the performance characteristics of air conduction hearing aids based on a free field technique and measured with an acoustic coupler.

This part of IEC 60118 is applicable to the measurement and evaluation of the electroacoustical characteristics of hearing aids, for example for type testing and manufacturer data sheets.

The test results obtained by the methods specified in this part of IEC 60118 will express the performance under conditions of the test and may deviate substantially from the performance of the hearing aid under actual conditions of use.

This part of IEC 60118 uses an acoustic coupler according to IEC 60318-5 which is only intended for loading a hearing aid with a specified acoustic impedance and is not intended to model the sound pressure in a person's ear. The use of this acoustic coupler will yield different results from those obtained using the occluded ear simulator of IEC 60318-4 as used in former editions of IEC 60118-0.

For the measurement of the performance characteristics of hearing aids for simulated *in situ* working conditions, IEC 60118-8 can be used. For measurement of hearing aids under typical user settings and using a speech-like signal, IEC 60118-15 can be used.

For the measurement of the performance characteristics of hearing aids for production, supply and delivery quality-assurance purposes, IEC 60118-7 can be used. The frequency range has been extended to 8 kHz in this part of IEC 60118 as opposed to 5 kHz in IEC 60118-7.

Though the number of measurements covered by this part of IEC 60118 is limited, it is not intended that all measurements described herein are mandatory.

In cases of custom-made in-the-ear instruments, the data supplied by the manufacturer applies only to the particular hearing aid being tested.

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 60318-5, *Electroacoustics – Simulators of human head and ear – Part 5: 2 cm³ coupler for the measurement of hearing aids and earphones coupled to the ear by means of ear inserts*

ISO 3, *Preferred numbers -- Series of preferred numbers*