

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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**Measurement procedures for materials used in photovoltaic modules –
Part 1-6: Encapsulants – Test methods for determining the degree of cure in
Ethylene-Vinyl Acetate**

**Procédures de mesure des matériaux utilisés dans les modules
photovoltaïques –
Partie 1-6: Encapsulants – Méthodes d'essai pour déterminer le degré de
durcissement dans l'éthylène-acétate de vinyle**



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INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

COMMISSION
ELECTROTECHNIQUE
INTERNATIONALE

ICS 27.160

ISBN 978-2-8322-3857-8

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
1 Scope.....	6
2 Normative references	6
3 Terms and definitions	7
4 Principle.....	7
5 DSC secondary method.....	8
5.1 Instrument and equipment for the secondary method	8
5.1.1 General	8
5.1.2 Electronic balance	8
5.1.3 Differential scanning calorimeter.....	8
5.1.4 Instrument calibration	8
5.2 Specimen preparation for the secondary method.....	9
5.2.1 Sampling and storage.....	9
5.2.2 Preparation procedures	9
5.3 Test requirements for the secondary method	9
5.3.1 Environment requirements	9
5.3.2 Parameter settings (residual enthalpy method)	10
5.3.3 Parameter settings (melt/freeze method)	10
5.3.4 Parameter settings (combined enthalpy and melt/freeze method)	10
5.4 Test procedure for the secondary method	11
5.5 Calculation and expression of the results for the secondary method	11
5.5.1 Enthalpy method.....	11
5.5.2 Melt/freeze method.....	12
5.6 Uncertainty of measurements for the secondary method	16
6 The primary method.....	16
6.1 Principle for the primary method	16
6.2 Instrument and equipment for the primary method	17
6.2.1 Electronic balance	17
6.2.2 Soxhlet extractor	17
6.2.3 Thimble	17
6.2.4 Heating apparatus	17
6.2.5 Handling apparatus.....	18
6.2.6 Solvent	18
6.3 Specimen preparation for the primary method.....	18
6.3.1 Sampling and storage.....	18
6.3.2 Preparation procedures	18
6.4 Test requirements for the primary method – Environment requirements	19
6.5 Test procedure for the primary method.....	19
6.6 Calculation and expression of the results for the primary method.....	19
7 Test report.....	19
Annex A (informative) Limitations of the primary and secondary measurement methods	21
Bibliography.....	23
Figure 1 – Example result for the DSC residual enthalpy method	12

Figure 2 – Location of temperatures and temperature ranges used in the melt/freeze DSC method 13

Figure 3 – Example of the temperature bounds applied for an automated software integration algorithm 14

Figure 4 – Representation of the measurement profile for an EVA test specimen 16

Table 1 – Summary of the results for the example measurements shown in Figure 2 14

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**MEASUREMENT PROCEDURES FOR MATERIALS USED
IN PHOTOVOLTAIC MODULES –****Part 1-6: Encapsulants – Test methods for determining
the degree of cure in Ethylene-Vinyl Acetate**

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

FDIS	Report on voting
82/1197/FDIS	82/1231/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

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

A list of all parts in the IEC 62788 series, published under the general title *Measurement procedures for materials used in photovoltaic modules*, can be found on the IEC website.

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MEASUREMENT PROCEDURES FOR MATERIALS USED IN PHOTOVOLTAIC MODULES –

Part 1-6: Encapsulants – Test methods for determining the degree of cure in Ethylene-Vinyl Acetate

1 Scope

This part of IEC 62788 defines the terminology, test equipment, test environment, specimen preparation, test procedures, and test report for measuring the degree of cure of Ethylene-Vinyl Acetate (EVA) encapsulation sheet used in photovoltaic (PV) modules. The differential scanning calorimetry (both residual enthalpy and melt/freezing protocols) and gel content methods are included herein. This procedure can be used by material- or module-manufacturers to verify that the cross-linking additive is present and is active. The procedure can also be used to verify the module manufacturing (lamination) process for the purposes of quality- and process-control. The procedure can also be used to assess the uniformity of the EVA formulation within a roll as well as to compare variation of the EVA formulation from roll to roll. This procedure can be applied to uncured or recently cured EVA sheet as well as uncured or recently cured EVA from PV modules.

This test procedure can also be applied to cross-linking ethylenic co-polymers other than EVA. The temperatures identified for the calorimetry measurements in this procedure have been optimized for EVA. Therefore, if the test procedure is applied to other encapsulation materials, the range of the test temperatures can have to be adjusted based on the active temperature of the curing agent and/or the melt/freezing temperature of the base material.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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 61215-1, *Terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) modules – Design qualification and type approval – Part 1: Test requirements*

ISO/IEC 17025:2005, *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories*

ISO 291:2008, *Plastics – Standard atmospheres for conditioning and testing*

ISO 6427:2013, *Plastics – Determination of matter extractable by organic solvents (conventional methods)*

ISO 11357-1:2009, *Plastics – Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) – Part 1: General principles*

ISO 10147:2011, *Pipes and fittings made of crosslinked polyethylene (PE-X) – Estimation of the degree of cross-linking by determination of the gel content*

ASTM D2765-11, *Standard test methods for determination of gel content and swell ratio of crosslinked ethylene plastics*