

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE

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**Fire hazard testing –  
Part 5-1: Corrosion damage effects of fire effluent – General guidance**

**Essais relatifs aux risques du feu –  
Partie 5-1: Effets des dommages de corrosion des effluents du feu –  
Recommandations générales**



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

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11  
[info@iec.ch](mailto:info@iec.ch)  
[www.iec.ch](http://www.iec.ch)

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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**FIRE HAZARD TESTING –****Part 5-1: Corrosion damage effects of fire effluent –  
General guidance****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.
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International Standard IEC 60695-5-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 89: Fire hazard testing.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition, published in 2002, and constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) References to IEC TS 60695-5-3 (withdrawn in 2014) have been removed.
- b) References to IEC 60695-1-1 are now to its replacements: IEC 60695-1-10 and IEC 60695-1-11.
- c) ISO/TR 9122-1 has been revised by ISO 19706.
- d) Table 1 has been updated.

- e) References to ISO 11907-2 and ISO 11907-3 have been removed.
- f) Terms and definitions have been updated.
- g) Text in 6.4 has been updated.
- h) Bibliographic references have been updated.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
89/1539/FDIS	89/1543/RVD

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications](http://www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications).

It has the status of a basic safety publication in accordance with IEC Guide 104 and ISO/IEC Guide 51.

In this standard, the following print types are used:

Arial **bold**: terms referred to in Clause 2

This standard is to be read in conjunction with IEC TS 60695-5-2.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60695 series, published under the general title *Fire hazard testing*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under [webstore.iec.ch](http://webstore.iec.ch) in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

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

## INTRODUCTION

In the design of an electrotechnical product the risk of fire and the potential hazards associated with fire need to be considered. In this respect the objective of component, circuit and equipment design, as well as the choice of materials, is to reduce the risk of fire to a tolerable level even in the event of reasonably foreseeable (mis)use, malfunction or failure.

IEC 60695-1-10, IEC 60695-1-11, and IEC 60695-1-12 [1]<sup>1</sup> provide guidance on how this is to be accomplished.

Fires involving electrotechnical products can also be initiated from external non-electrical sources. Considerations of this nature are dealt with in an overall fire hazard assessment.

The aim of the IEC 60695 series is to save lives and property by reducing the number of fires or reducing the consequences of the fire. This can be accomplished by:

- trying to prevent ignition caused by an electrically energised component part and, in the event of ignition, to confine any resulting fire within the bounds of the enclosure of the electrotechnical product.
- trying to minimise flame spread beyond the product's enclosure and to minimise the harmful effects of **fire effluents** including heat, **smoke**, and toxic or corrosive combustion products.

All **fire effluent** is corrosive to some degree and the level of potential to corrode depends on the nature of the fire, the combination of combustible materials involved in the fire, the nature of the substrate under attack, and the temperature and relative humidity of the environment in which the **corrosion damage** is taking place. There is no evidence that **fire effluent** from electrotechnical products offers greater risk of **corrosion damage** than the **fire effluent** from other products such as furnishings or building materials.

The performance of electrical and electronic components can be adversely affected by **corrosion damage** when subjected to **fire effluent**. A wide variety of combinations of small quantities of effluent gases, **smoke** particles, moisture and temperature may provide conditions for electrical component or system failures from breakage, overheating or shorting.

Evaluation of potential **corrosion damage** is particularly important for high value and safety-related electrotechnical products and installations.

Technical committees responsible for products will choose the test(s) and specify the level of severity.

The study of **corrosion damage** requires an interdisciplinary approach involving chemistry, electricity, physics, mechanical engineering, metallurgy and electrochemistry. In the preparation of this part of IEC 60695-5, all of the above have been considered.

IEC 60695-5-1 defines the scope of the guidance and indicates the field of application.

IEC TS 60695-5-2 provides a summary of test methods including relevance and usefulness.

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<sup>1</sup> Numbers in square brackets refer to the bibliography.

## FIRE HAZARD TESTING –

### Part 5-1: Corrosion damage effects of fire effluent – General guidance

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60695 provides guidance on the following:

- a) general aspects of **corrosion damage** test methods;
- b) methods of measurement of **corrosion damage**;
- c) consideration of test methods;
- d) relevance of **corrosion damage** data to hazard assessment.

This basic safety publication is primarily intended for use by technical committees in the preparation of standards in accordance with the principles laid down in IEC Guide 104 and ISO/IEC Guide 51. It is not intended for use by manufacturers or certification bodies.

One of the responsibilities of a technical committee is, wherever applicable, to make use of basic safety publications in the preparation of its publications. The requirements, test methods or test conditions of this basic safety publication will not apply unless specifically referred to or included in the relevant publications.

#### 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 60695-1-10, *Fire hazard testing – Part 1-10: Guidance for assessing the fire hazard of electrotechnical products – General guidelines*

IEC 60695-1-11, *Fire hazard testing – Part 1-11: Guidance for assessing the fire hazard of electrotechnical products – Fire hazard assessment*

IEC TS 60695-5-2, *Fire hazard testing – Part 5-2: Corrosion damage effects of fire effluent – Summary and relevance of test methods*

IEC GUIDE 104, *The preparation of safety publications and the use of basic safety publications and group safety publications*

ISO/IEC Guide 51, *Safety aspects – Guidelines for their inclusion in standards*

ISO 11907-1:2019, *Plastics – Smoke generation – Determination of the corrosivity of fire effluents – Part 1: General concepts and applicability*

ISO 13943:2017, *Fire safety – Vocabulary*

ISO 19706:2011, *Guidelines for assessing the fire threat to people*