

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Radiation protection instrumentation –  
Vehicle-mounted mobile systems for the detection of illicit trafficking of  
radioactive materials**

**Instrumentation pour la radioprotection –  
Systèmes mobiles montés sur véhicules pour la détection du trafic illicite des  
matières radioactives**



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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**RADIATION PROTECTION INSTRUMENTATION –  
VEHICLE-MOUNTED MOBILE SYSTEMS FOR THE DETECTION  
OF ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS**

## FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 63121 has been prepared by subcommittee 45B: Radiation protection instrumentation, of IEC technical committee 45: Nuclear instrumentation.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
45B/946/FDIS	45B/955/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.

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## INTRODUCTION

Illicit and inadvertent movement of radioactive materials in the form of radiation sources and contaminated metallurgical scrap has become a problem of increasing importance. Radioactive sources out of regulatory control, so-called “orphan sources”, have frequently caused serious radiation exposures and widespread contamination. Although illicit trafficking of nuclear and other radioactive materials is not a new problem, concern about a nuclear “black market” has increased, particularly in view of its terrorist potential.

In response to the technical policy of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the World Customs Organization (WCO), and the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) related to the detection and identification of special nuclear materials and security trends, radiation instrumentation companies have developed and manufactured instruments to assist in the detection of illicit movement of radioactive and special nuclear materials. This type of instrumentation is widely used for security purposes at nuclear facilities, border control checkpoints, and international seaports and airports.

To ensure that measurement results made at different locations are consistent, it is imperative that radiation instrumentation be designed to rigorous specifications based upon agreed performance requirements stated in this document. IEC standards have also been developed to address personal radiation detectors, radiation portal monitors, highly sensitive gamma and neutron detection systems, spectrometric personal radiation detectors, and backpack-based radiation detection and identification systems. Those standards are listed below.

Type of instrumentation	IEC number	Title of the standard
Body-worn	62401	Radiation protection instrumentation – Alarming Personal Radiation Devices (PRDs) for the detection of illicit trafficking of radioactive material
	62618	Radiation protection instrumentation – Spectroscopy-Based Alarming Personal Radiation Devices (SPRD) for the detection of illicit trafficking of radioactive material
	62694	Radiation protection instrumentation – Backpack-type radiation detector (BRD) for the detection of illicit trafficking of radioactive material
Portable or hand-held	62327	Radiation protection instrumentation – Hand-held instruments for the detection and identification of radionuclides and for the estimation of ambient dose equivalent rate from photon radiation
	62533	Radiation protection instrumentation – Highly sensitive hand-held instruments for photon detection of radioactive material
	62534	Radiation protection instrumentation – Highly sensitive hand-held instruments for neutron detection of radioactive material
Portal	62244	Radiation protection instrumentation – Installed radiation portal monitors (RPMs) for the detection of illicit trafficking of radioactive and nuclear materials
	62484	Radiation protection instrumentation – Spectroscopy-based portal monitors used for the detection and identification of illicit trafficking of radioactive material
Mobile system	63121	Radiation protection instrumentation – Vehicle-mounted mobile systems for the detection of illicit trafficking of radioactive materials
Data format	62755	Radiation protection instrumentation – Data format for radiation instruments used in the detection of illicit trafficking of radioactive materials

# **RADIATION PROTECTION INSTRUMENTATION – VEHICLE-MOUNTED MOBILE SYSTEMS FOR THE DETECTION OF ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS**

## **1 Scope**

This document applies to vehicle-mounted mobile systems (also known as mobile systems or mobile monitors) that are used for the detection of illicit trafficking of radioactive materials; these instruments may also be used for protection of major public events and for rapid screening of large areas. These vehicle-mounted mobile systems consist of one or more radiation detectors mounted in a vehicle, e.g., car or van, which travels predominantly on public roads. This document does not apply to detection systems mounted in other types of vehicles, e.g., planes, helicopters, trains, or boats. Vehicle-mounted detection systems covered by this document are designed to detect radioactive sources while the vehicle is in motion. They may also be used as stationary monitors that scan stationary or moving objects. Vehicle-mounted mobile systems detect gamma radiation and may include neutron detection and/or identification of gamma-ray emitting radionuclides.

The purpose of this document is to set minimum requirements for vehicle-mounted mobile systems for the detection of radioactive material. This document establishes general, radiological, climatic, mechanical, electric and electromagnetic, and documentation requirements, and the associated test methods.

## **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 60050-395:2014, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV): Part 395: Nuclear instrumentation: physical phenomena, basic concepts, instruments, systems, equipment and detectors*

IEC 61187, *Electrical and electronic measuring equipment – Documentation*

IEC 62706, *Radiation protection instrumentation – Environmental, electromagnetic and mechanical performance requirements*

IEC 62755, *Radiation protection instrumentation – Data format for radiation instruments used in the detection of illicit trafficking of radioactive materials*

## **3 Terms and definitions, abbreviated terms and symbols, quantities and units**

### **3.1 Terms and definitions**

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60050-395, as well as the following apply.