

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Measurement of internal electric field in insulating materials – Pressure wave propagation method**

**Mesurage du champ électrique interne dans les matériaux isolants – Méthode de l'onde de pression**



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IEC Secretariat  
3, rue de Varembe  
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

**MEASUREMENT OF INTERNAL ELECTRIC FIELD IN INSULATING MATERIALS – PRESSURE WAVE PROPAGATION METHOD**

## FOREWORD

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IEC 62836 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 112: Evaluation and qualification of electrical insulating materials and systems. It is an International Standard.

This first edition cancels and replaces IEC TS 62836 published in 2020.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to IEC TS 62836:

- a) addition of Clause 12 for the measurement of space charge distribution in a planar sample;
- b) addition of Clause 13 for coaxial geometry samples;
- c) addition of Annex D with measurement examples for coaxial geometry samples;
- d) addition of a Bibliography;
- e) measurement examples for a planar sample have been moved from Clause 12 in IEC TS 62836 to Annex C.

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

| Draft        | Report on voting |
|--------------|------------------|
| 112/627/FDIS | 112/632/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/publications](http://www.iec.ch/publications).

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## INTRODUCTION

High-voltage insulating structures, especially high-voltage DC cables and capacitors etc., are subjected to charge accumulation and this can lead to electrical breakdown if the electric field produced by the charges exceeds the electrical breakdown threshold. With the trend to multiply power plants, especially green power plants such as wind or solar generators, more cables will be used for connecting these power plants to the grid and share the electric energy between countries. Therefore, a standardized procedure for testing how the internal electric field can be characterized has become essential for the materials used for the cables, and even the structure of these cables when considering electrodes or the junction between cables. The measurement of the internal electric field provides a tool for comparing materials and helps to establish thresholds on the internal electric field for high-voltage applications in order to avoid risks of breakdown as much as possible. The pressure wave propagation (PWP) method has been used by many researchers to measure the space charge distribution and the internal electric field distribution in insulators. However, since experimental equipment, with slight differences, is developed independently by researchers throughout the world, it is difficult to compare the measurement results between the different equipment.

The procedure outlined in this document provides a reliable point of comparison between different test results carried out by different laboratories in order to avoid interpretation errors. The method is suitable for a planar plaque sample as well as for a coaxial sample, with homogeneous insulating materials of thickness from 0,5 mm to 5 mm.

# MEASUREMENT OF INTERNAL ELECTRIC FIELD IN INSULATING MATERIALS – PRESSURE WAVE PROPAGATION METHOD

## 1 Scope

This document provides an efficient and reliable procedure to test the internal electric field in the insulating materials used for high-voltage applications, by using the pressure wave propagation (PWP) method. It is suitable for a planar and coaxial geometry sample with homogeneous insulating materials of thickness larger or equal to 0,5 mm and an electric field higher than 1 kV/mm, but it is also dependent on the thickness of the sample and the pressure wave generator.

## 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

## 3 Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms

### 3.1 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

#### 3.1.1

##### **pressure wave propagation**

procedure where a pressure wave is propagated in a material containing electric charges and the induced electric signal from electrodes is measured.

#### 3.1.2

##### **interface charge**

net layer of charges between two different materials, either two different insulators or a conductor and an insulator

#### 3.1.3

##### **space charge**

net charge inside an insulating dielectric material

### 3.2 Abbreviated terms

|      |                                      |
|------|--------------------------------------|
| CB   | carbon black                         |
| EVA  | ethylene vinyl acetate               |
| LDPE | low density polyethylene             |
| LIPP | laser induced pressure pulse         |
| PE   | polyethylene                         |
| PIPP | piezoelectric induced pressure pulse |
| PMMA | poly methyl methacrylate             |
| PWP  | pressure wave propagation            |
| S/N  | signal to noise ratio                |