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STANDARDS
Australia



Insulators for overhead lines — Composite line post insulators for A.C. systems with a nominal voltage greater than 1 000 V — Definitions, test methods and acceptance criteria (IEC 61952:2008 (ED 2.0) MOD)



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AS 61952:2020

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Electrical Regulatory Authorities Council
Energy Networks Australia
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(ED.2.0) MOD)**

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Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Committee EL-010, Overhead Lines to supersede AS 4435.4—2005, *Insulators — Composite for overhead power lines — Voltages greater than 1000 V a.c., Part 4: Definitions, test methods, acceptance criteria for post insulator units*.

The objective of this document is to define the terms used and prescribe test methods and acceptance or failure criteria.

This document applies to composite line post insulators consisting of a loadbearing cylindrical insulating solid core consisting of fibres (usually glass) in a resin-based matrix, a housing (outside the insulating core) made of polymeric material and end fittings permanently attached to the insulating core.

This document does not include requirements dealing with the choice of insulators for specific operating conditions.

This document is an adoption with national modifications, and has been reproduced from, IEC 61952:2008, *Insulators for overhead lines — Composite line post insulators for A.C. systems with a nominal voltage greater than 1 000 V — Definitions, test methods and acceptance criteria*.

The modifications are additional requirements and are set out in [Appendix ZZ](#), which has been added at the end of the source text.

[Appendix ZZ](#) lists the variations to IEC 61952:2008 for the application of this document in Australia.

As this document has been reproduced from an International Standard, the following applies:

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The terms “normative” and “informative” are used in Standards to define the application of the appendices or annexes to which they apply. A “normative” appendix or annex is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an “informative” appendix or annex is only for information and guidance.

NOTES

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
INTRODUCTION.....	6
1 Scope.....	8
2 Normative references.....	8
3 Terms and definitions.....	8
4 Abbreviations.....	10
5 Identification.....	10
6 Environmental conditions.....	11
7 Transport, storage and installation.....	11
8 Tolerances.....	11
9 Classification of tests.....	11
9.1 Design tests.....	11
9.2 Type tests.....	12
9.3 Sample tests.....	12
9.4 Routine tests.....	12
10 Design tests.....	13
10.1 General.....	13
10.2 Test specimens for IEC 62217.....	14
10.2.1 Tests on interfaces and connections of end fittings.....	14
10.2.2 Tracking and erosion test.....	14
10.2.3 Tests on core material.....	15
10.3 Product specific pre-stressing for IEC 62217 tests on interfaces and connections of end fittings.....	15
10.3.1 Thermal-mechanical pre-stressing.....	15
10.4 Assembled core load tests.....	15
10.4.1 Test for the verification of the maximum design cantilever load (MDCL).....	15
10.4.2 Tensile load test.....	16
11 Type tests.....	16
11.1 Electrical tests.....	17
11.1.1 Vertical mounting arrangement.....	17
11.1.2 Horizontal mounting arrangement.....	17
11.2 Mechanical tests.....	18
11.2.1 Cantilever failing load test.....	18
12 Sample tests.....	19
12.1 General rules.....	19
12.2 Verification of dimensions (E1 + E2).....	19
12.3 Galvanizing test (E1 + E2).....	19
12.4 Verification of the SCL (E1).....	19
12.4.1 Test procedure.....	19
12.4.2 Acceptance criteria.....	20
12.5 Re-testing procedure.....	20
13 Routine tests.....	20
13.1 Tensile load test.....	20
13.2 Visual examination.....	20

Annex A (informative) Notes on the mechanical loads and tests	22
Annex B (informative) Determination of the equivalent bending moment caused by combined loads.....	24
Bibliography.....	27
Figure 1 – Thermal-mechanical pre-stressing test – Typical cycles	21
Figure B.1 – Combined loads applied to unbraced insulators	25
Figure B.2 – Combined loads applied to braced insulators	26
Table 1 – Tests to be carried out after design changes	13
Table 2 – Design tests	14
Table 3 – Mounting arrangements for electrical tests	17
Table 4 – Sample sizes according to lot size.....	19

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**INSULATORS FOR OVERHEAD LINES –
COMPOSITE LINE POST INSULATORS FOR A.C.
SYSTEMS WITH A NOMINAL VOLTAGE
GREATER THAN 1 000 V –
DEFINITIONS, TEST METHODS AND ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61952 has been prepared by subcommittee 36B: Insulators for overhead lines, of IEC technical committee 36: Insulators.

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

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

- removal of tests procedures now given in IEC 62217,
- inclusion of clauses on tolerances, environmental conditions, transport, storage and installation,
- changes in the parameters determining the need to repeat design and type tests,
- clarification of the mounting arrangements for electrical type tests,
- modification of the specification of load application in bending tests to simplify testing,

- additional requirements for the visual examination,
- removal of the annex explaining the concept of classes for design tests.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
36B/273/FDIS	36B/275/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.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the maintenance result date indicated on the IEC web site 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.

INTRODUCTION

Composite line post insulators consist of a cylindrical solid insulating core, bearing the mechanical load, protected by a polymeric housing, the loads being transmitted to the core by metal fittings. Despite these common features, the materials used and the construction details employed by different manufacturers may be different.

Some tests have been grouped together as "design tests", to be performed only once on insulators which satisfy the same design conditions. All the design tests defined in IEC 62217 are applied for composite line post insulators; additional specific mechanical tests are given in this standard. As far as practical, the influence of time on the electrical and mechanical properties of the components (core material, housing, interfaces, etc.) and of the complete composite insulators has been considered in specifying the design tests to ensure a satisfactory life-time under normally known stress conditions of transmission lines.

Composite insulators are used in both a.c. and d.c. applications. In spite of this fact a specific tracking and erosion test procedure for d.c. applications as a design test has not yet been defined and accepted. The 1 000 h a.c. tracking and erosion test of IEC 62217 is used to establish a minimum requirement for the tracking resistance of the housing material.

The approach for mechanical testing under bending loads used in this standard is based on the work of CIGRE [1]¹. This approach uses the concept of a damage limit which is the maximum stress which can be developed in the insulator before damage begins to occur. Annex A gives some notes on the mechanical loads and tests used in this standard.

Line post insulators are often used in braced structures whose geometry varies from line to line. A combined loading test to reproduce the complex loading cases in such structures is outside the scope of this standard and it would be very difficult to specify a general test which covers the majority of geometry and loading cases. In order to give some guidance, Annex B explains how to calculate the moment in the insulators resulting from combined loads. This moment can then be equated to an equivalent bending load or stress for design purposes. Further information is available from CIGRE [1].

Compression load tests are not specified in this standard. The mechanical loads expected from service stress acting on line post insulators are mostly combined loads. These loads will cause some deflection on the insulator. Compression loads applied on pre-deflected insulators will lead to results largely dependent on the pre-deflection. Therefore a pure compression test has little meaning since the deflection prior to the cantilever load test cannot be specified.

Pollution tests, as specified in IEC 60507 [3], are not included in this standard, their applicability to composite line post insulators not having been proven. Such pollution tests performed on insulators made of non-ceramic materials do not correlate with experience obtained from service. Specific pollution tests for non-ceramic insulators are under consideration.

¹ Figures in square brackets refer to the bibliography.

It has not been considered useful to specify a power arc test as a mandatory test. The test parameters are manifold and can have very different values depending on the configurations of the network and the supports and on the design of arc-protection devices. The heating effect of power arcs should be considered in the design of metal fittings. Critical damage to the metal fittings, resulting from the magnitude and duration of the short-circuit current can be avoided by properly designed arc-protection devices.

This standard, however, does not exclude the possibility of a power arc test by agreement between the user and manufacturer. IEC 61467 [4] gives details of a.c. power arc testing of insulator sets.

Radio interference and corona tests are not specified in this standard since the RIV and corona performance are not characteristics of the insulator alone.

Composite hollow core line post insulators are currently not dealt with in this standard. IEC 61462 [5] gives details of tests on hollow core composite insulators, many of which can be applied to such line post insulators.

Torsion loads are not dealt with in this standard since they are usually negligible in the configuration in which line post insulators are generally used. Specific applications where high torsion loads can occur are outside the scope of this standard.

The application of this standard to hybrid line post insulators (e.g. those having a core made of a material other than resin impregnated fibres) has not been fully studied. For example, in general the load-time mechanical tests and tests for core material are not applicable to porcelain cores. It is therefore recommended that this standard be considered as a provisional standard for hybrid line post insulators, using an agreed selection of tests from this standard and from IEC 60383-1.

Wherever possible, IEC Guide 111 [6] has been followed for the drafting of this standard.

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SYSTEMS WITH A NOMINAL VOLTAGE
GREATER THAN 1 000 V –
DEFINITIONS, TEST METHODS AND ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA**

1 Scope

This International Standard applies to composite line post insulators consisting of a load-bearing cylindrical insulating solid core consisting of fibres – usually glass – in a resin-based matrix, a housing (outside the insulating core) made of polymeric material and end fittings permanently attached to the insulating core.

Composite line post insulators covered by this standard are subjected to cantilever, tensile and compressive loads, when supporting the line conductors. They are intended for use on a.c. overhead lines with a rated voltage greater than 1 000 V and a frequency not greater than 100 Hz.

The object of this standard is

- to define the terms used,
- to prescribe test methods,
- to prescribe acceptance or failure criteria.

This standard does not include requirements dealing with the choice of insulators for specific operating conditions.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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 60383-1, *Insulators for overhead lines with a nominal voltage above 1 000 V – Part 1: Ceramic or glass insulator units for a.c. systems – Definitions, test methods and acceptance criteria*

IEC 60383-2, *Insulators for overhead lines with a nominal voltage above 1 000 V – Part 2: Insulator strings and insulator sets for a.c. systems – Definitions, test methods and acceptance criteria*

IEC 62217, *Polymeric insulators for indoor and outdoor use with a nominal voltage above 1 000 V – General definitions, test methods and acceptance criteria*

ISO 3452, *Non-destructive testing – Penetrant inspection – General principles*

3 Terms and definitions

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

NOTE Certain terms from IEC 62217 are reproduced here for ease of reference. Additional definitions applicable to insulators can be found in IEC 60050(471) [7].