



BSI Standards Publication

# Electrical insulation materials — Thermal endurance properties

Part 7-1: Accelerated determination of relative thermal endurance using analytical test methods ( $RTE_A$ ) — Instructions for calculations based on activation energy

**National foreword**

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A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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# TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

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**Electrical insulation materials – Thermal endurance properties –  
Part 7-1: Accelerated determination of relative thermal endurance using  
analytical test methods (RTE<sub>A</sub>) – Instructions for calculations based on  
activation energy**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**ELECTRICAL INSULATION MATERIALS –  
THERMAL ENDURANCE PROPERTIES –****Part 7-1: Accelerated determination of relative thermal  
endurance using analytical test methods (RTE<sub>A</sub>) –  
Instructions for calculations based on activation energy**

## FOREWORD

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- the required support cannot be obtained for the publication of an International Standard, despite repeated efforts, or
- the subject is still under technical development or where, for any other reason, there is the future but no immediate possibility of an agreement on an International Standard.

Technical specifications are subject to review within three years of publication to decide whether they can be transformed into International Standards.

IEC TS 60216-7-1, which is a technical specification, has been prepared by IEC technical committee 112: Evaluation and qualification of electrical insulation materials and systems.

The text of this technical specification is based on the following documents:

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
112/298/DTS	112/314/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this technical specification 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.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60216 series, published under the general title *Electrical insulating materials – Thermal endurance properties*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability 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

- transformed into an International standard,
- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

## INTRODUCTION

The existing procedures of the IEC 60216 series for the evaluation of thermal endurance of an electrical insulation material can be time consuming. These methods are therefore of limited use during development of new materials or screening of existing products for use as a material in an electrical insulation. There is an important demand from industry for a rapid test method of relative thermal endurance (RTE) / temperature index (TI) and halving interval (HIC) to reduce project times and cost. A short-term test procedure for conventional thermal endurance characterization is proposed in IEC 60216-5 and a simplified approach to data processing is described in IEC 60216-8. Non-conventional methodology for thermal endurance characterization which can reduce further test times is considered in this technical specification.

The basic procedure is based on thermal analysis methods (DSC and TGA in particular, but not restricted to them) to evaluate the activation energy of the thermal degradation of the material. The activation energy is directly correlated with the HIC of the thermal endurance.

With this information, a single-point thermal endurance test, according to IEC 60216-1 and IEC 60216-5, at the highest temperature of those selected for the conventional thermal ageing procedure, is sufficient to calculate the temperature corresponding to a selected life, typically 20 000 h, i.e. an estimate of TI. However, due to the inherent uncertainty associated with this analytical approach, only RTE can be provided for material characterization. This is obtained performing the single-point thermal endurance test in the same conditions of temperature and environment as a reference material of known thermal endurance characteristics, i.e. TI and HIC.

The analytical test methods described in this technical specification may satisfy the demand of shortening the insulating material characterization procedure, if used with care and considering the restrictions these methods imply. At present, the universal applicability and the accuracy of these methods is not validated, thus a round robin test is required to provide an IEC standard based on these procedures. This part of IEC 60216 is therefore published as a technical specification.

A general assessment process of new procedures will be developed in other sub-parts of IEC 60216-7.

## ELECTRICAL INSULATION MATERIALS – THERMAL ENDURANCE PROPERTIES –

### Part 7-1: Accelerated determination of relative thermal endurance using analytical test methods (RTE<sub>A</sub>) – Instructions for calculations based on activation energy

#### 1 Scope

This technical specification describes the procedure for the evaluation of the thermal endurance of electrical insulating materials, based on thermal analysis methods for the evaluation of the activation energy of the thermal degradation reaction and a conventional life test providing a life point in the thermal endurance graph. The purpose of the test procedure is to estimate the relative temperature index (RTE).

Predictions of thermal endurance based on this procedure are limited to ageing reactions where one single reaction is predominant and directly correlated to the end-point criteria for a specific application.

#### 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60085, *Electrical insulation – Thermal evaluation and designation*

IEC 60216-1, *Electrical insulating materials – Thermal endurance properties – Part 1: Ageing procedures and evaluation of test results*

IEC 60216-2, *Electrical insulating materials – Thermal endurance properties – Part 2: Determination of thermal endurance properties of electrical insulating materials – Choice of test criteria*

IEC 60216-5, *Electrical insulating materials – Thermal endurance properties – Part 5: Determination of relative thermal endurance index (RTE) of an insulating material.*

IEC 60216-8, *Electrical insulating materials – Thermal endurance properties – Part 8: Instructions for calculating thermal endurance characteristics using simplified procedures*

ISO 11357-6, *Plastics – Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) – Part 6: Determination of oxidation induction time (isothermal OIT) and oxidation induction temperature (dynamic OIT)*

ISO 11358-2, *Plastics – Thermogravimetry (TG) of polymers – Part 2: Determination of activation energy*

ISO 11358-3, *Plastics – Thermogravimetry (TG) of polymers – Part 3: Determination of the activation energy using the Ozawa-Friedman plot and analysis of the reaction kinetics*