

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Fluids for electrotechnical applications – Mineral insulating oils for electrical equipment**

**Fluides pour applications électrotechniques – Huiles minérales isolantes pour matériel électrique**



**THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED**  
**Copyright © 2020 IEC, Geneva, Switzerland**

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from either IEC or IEC's member National Committee in the country of the requester. If you have any questions about IEC copyright or have an enquiry about obtaining additional rights to this publication, please contact the address below or your local IEC member National Committee for further information.

Droits de reproduction réservés. Sauf indication contraire, aucune partie de cette publication ne peut être reproduite ni utilisée sous quelque forme que ce soit et par aucun procédé, électronique ou mécanique, y compris la photocopie et les microfilms, sans l'accord écrit de l'IEC ou du Comité national de l'IEC du pays du demandeur. Si vous avez des questions sur le copyright de l'IEC ou si vous désirez obtenir des droits supplémentaires sur cette publication, utilisez les coordonnées ci-après ou contactez le Comité national de l'IEC de votre pays de résidence.

IEC Central Office  
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)

#### **About the IEC**

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is the leading global organization that prepares and publishes International Standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies.

#### **About IEC publications**

The technical content of IEC publications is kept under constant review by the IEC. Please make sure that you have the latest edition, a corrigendum or an amendment might have been published.

#### **IEC publications search - [webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform](http://webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform)**

The advanced search enables to find IEC publications by a variety of criteria (reference number, text, technical committee,...). It also gives information on projects, replaced and withdrawn publications.

#### **IEC Just Published - [webstore.iec.ch/justpublished](http://webstore.iec.ch/justpublished)**

Stay up to date on all new IEC publications. Just Published details all new publications released. Available online and once a month by email.

#### **IEC Customer Service Centre - [webstore.iec.ch/csc](http://webstore.iec.ch/csc)**

If you wish to give us your feedback on this publication or need further assistance, please contact the Customer Service Centre: [sales@iec.ch](mailto:sales@iec.ch).

#### **Electropedia - [www.electropedia.org](http://www.electropedia.org)**

The world's leading online dictionary on electrotechnology, containing more than 22 000 terminological entries in English and French, with equivalent terms in 16 additional languages. Also known as the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) online.

#### **IEC Glossary - [std.iec.ch/glossary](http://std.iec.ch/glossary)**

67 000 electrotechnical terminology entries in English and French extracted from the Terms and Definitions clause of IEC publications issued since 2002. Some entries have been collected from earlier publications of IEC TC 37, 77, 86 and CISPR.

---

#### **A propos de l'IEC**

La Commission Electrotechnique Internationale (IEC) est la première organisation mondiale qui élabore et publie des Normes internationales pour tout ce qui a trait à l'électricité, à l'électronique et aux technologies apparentées.

#### **A propos des publications IEC**

Le contenu technique des publications IEC est constamment revu. Veuillez vous assurer que vous possédez l'édition la plus récente, un corrigendum ou amendement peut avoir été publié.

#### **Recherche de publications IEC - [webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform](http://webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform)**

La recherche avancée permet de trouver des publications IEC en utilisant différents critères (numéro de référence, texte, comité d'études,...). Elle donne aussi des informations sur les projets et les publications remplacées ou retirées.

#### **IEC Just Published - [webstore.iec.ch/justpublished](http://webstore.iec.ch/justpublished)**

Restez informé sur les nouvelles publications IEC. Just Published détaille les nouvelles publications parues. Disponible en ligne et une fois par mois par email.

#### **Service Clients - [webstore.iec.ch/csc](http://webstore.iec.ch/csc)**

Si vous désirez nous donner des commentaires sur cette publication ou si vous avez des questions contactez-nous: [sales@iec.ch](mailto:sales@iec.ch).

#### **Electropedia - [www.electropedia.org](http://www.electropedia.org)**

Le premier dictionnaire d'électrotechnologie en ligne au monde, avec plus de 22 000 articles terminologiques en anglais et en français, ainsi que les termes équivalents dans 16 langues additionnelles. Egalement appelé Vocabulaire Electrotechnique International (IEV) en ligne.

#### **Glossaire IEC - [std.iec.ch/glossary](http://std.iec.ch/glossary)**

67 000 entrées terminologiques électrotechniques, en anglais et en français, extraites des articles Termes et Définitions des publications IEC parues depuis 2002. Plus certaines entrées antérieures extraites des publications des CE 37, 77, 86 et CISPR de l'IEC.

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Fluids for electrotechnical applications – Mineral insulating oils for electrical equipment**

**Fluides pour applications électrotechniques – Huiles minérales isolantes pour matériel électrique**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

COMMISSION  
ELECTROTECHNIQUE  
INTERNATIONALE

ICS 29.040.10

ISBN 978-2-8322-8377-6

**Warning! Make sure that you obtained this publication from an authorized distributor.  
Attention! Veuillez vous assurer que vous avez obtenu cette publication via un distributeur agréé.**

## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	5
INTRODUCTION.....	7
1 Scope.....	8
2 Normative references .....	8
3 Terms and definitions .....	10
4 Properties of oil .....	12
4.1 General.....	12
4.2 Functional properties .....	12
4.3 Production and stability.....	12
4.4 Performance .....	13
4.5 Health, safety and environment (HSE) properties.....	13
5 Classification, labelling, identification, general delivery requirements and sampling.....	13
5.1 Classification and labelling.....	13
5.1.1 Classes .....	13
5.1.2 Antioxidant (oxidation inhibitor) content.....	13
5.1.3 Lowest cold start energizing temperature (LCSET).....	14
5.1.4 Labelling and ordering designation .....	14
5.2 Requirements .....	14
5.3 Miscibility and compatibility.....	14
5.4 Identification and general delivery requirements .....	15
5.5 Sampling.....	15
6 Properties, their significance and test methods.....	15
6.1 Viscosity .....	15
6.2 Pour point.....	16
6.3 Water content .....	16
6.4 Breakdown voltage .....	16
6.5 Density .....	16
6.6 Dielectric dissipation factor (DDF).....	17
6.7 Colour and appearance.....	17
6.8 Acidity.....	17
6.9 Interfacial tension (IFT).....	17
6.10 Sulphur content.....	17
6.11 Corrosive and potentially corrosive sulphur.....	17
6.12 Additives (see 3.3).....	18
6.12.1 General .....	18
6.12.2 Antioxidants (see 3.4).....	18
6.12.3 Metal passivators.....	18
6.12.4 Pour point depressants .....	18
6.13 Oxidation stability .....	19
6.14 Flash point.....	19
6.15 Polycyclic aromatics (PCAs) and polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).....	19
6.16 Polychlorinated biphenyl content (PCBs).....	19
6.17 2-furfural (2-FAL) and related compounds content .....	19
6.18 DBDS content .....	20
6.19 Stray gassing under thermo-oxidative stress.....	20
7 Additional properties.....	24

7.1	General.....	24
7.2	Electrostatic charging tendency (ECT) .....	24
7.3	Gassing tendency .....	24
7.4	Thermal properties.....	25
7.5	Properties connected with consistency (aromatic content, distribution of PAHs, refractive index) .....	25
7.6	Lubricating properties .....	25
7.7	Particle content.....	25
7.8	Foaming.....	25
7.9	Transformer oil test equivalents .....	25
Annex A (normative) Method for stray gassing under thermo-oxidative stress .....		26
A.1	Overview of the method .....	26
A.2	Required materials.....	26
A.3	Pretreatment of syringes .....	26
A.4	Procedure A: stray gassing under oxidative conditions (high oxygen content) .....	27
A.4.1	Pretreatment of mineral oil.....	27
A.4.2	Filling syringes with mineral oil .....	27
A.4.3	Incubation procedure .....	27
A.4.4	Dissolved gas analysis .....	27
A.5	Procedure B: stray gassing under inert conditions (low oxygen content) .....	27
A.6	Reporting .....	28
A.6.1	Test report.....	28
A.6.2	Evaluation of the stray gassing behaviour of the oil .....	28
A.7	Precision data.....	28
A.7.1	General .....	28
A.7.2	Repeatability .....	28
A.7.3	Reproducibility.....	28
A.8	Results of the RRT.....	29
A.8.1	General .....	29
A.8.2	Stray gassing pattern 1.....	29
A.8.3	Stray gassing pattern 2.....	30
A.8.4	Stray gassing pattern 3.....	31
A.8.5	Stray gassing pattern 4.....	32
Annex B (informative) Potentially corrosive sulphur .....		33
B.1	Mechanism of copper sulphide deposition .....	33
B.2	Corrosive sulphur compounds in oil .....	33
B.3	Detection of corrosive sulphur compounds in oils containing passivators .....	33
B.3.1	General .....	33
B.3.2	Procedure 1.....	34
B.3.3	Procedure 2.....	34
Annex C (informative) Contamination of oils with silicone.....		35
Annex D (informative) Transformer oil test equivalents .....		36
Bibliography.....		38
Figure A.1 – Syringes with and without copper.....		27
Figure A.2 – Stray gassing pattern 1 .....		29
Figure A.3 – Stray gassing pattern 2 .....		30
Figure A.4 – Stray gassing pattern 3 .....		31

Figure A.5 – Stray gassing pattern 4 ..... 32

Table 1 – Meaning of the identifying letter codes in the ordering designation of mineral oil according to IEC 60296 ..... 14

Table 2 – Maximum viscosity and pour point of mineral insulating oil ..... 16

Table 3 – General specifications, Type A (fully inhibited high grade oils) ..... 21

Table 4 – General specifications, Type B (uninhibited and inhibited standard grade oils) ..... 23

Table D.1 – Some transformer oil test equivalents ..... 36

Currently in preview, click buy full version.

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**FLUIDS FOR ELECTROTECHNICAL APPLICATIONS –  
MINERAL INSULATING OILS FOR ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT**

## 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.
- 2) The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard IEC 60296 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 10: Fluids for electrotechnical applications.

This fifth edition cancels and replaces the fourth edition published in 2012. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- This International Standard is applicable to specifications and test methods for unused and recycled mineral insulating oils in the delivered state.
- Within the transformer insulating oils, two groups, Type A and Type B, are defined, based on their performance.
- A new method for stray gassing under thermo-oxidative stress of mineral insulating oils, which has been tested in a joint round robin test (RRT) between CIGRE D1 and IEC technical committee 10, has been included.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
10/1117/FDIS	10/1118/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This document has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document 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 document. At this date, the document will be

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

**IMPORTANT – The 'colour inside' logo on the cover page of this publication indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this document using a colour printer.**

## INTRODUCTION

**WARNING** – This document does not purport to address all the safety problems associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this document to establish appropriate health and safety practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

The mineral insulating oils which are the subject of this document should be handled in compliance with local regulations and suppliers safety data-sheets.

This document is applicable to mineral insulating oils, chemicals and used sample containers. The disposal of these items should be carried out according to local regulations with regard to their impact on the environment.

Currently in preview, click buy full version

# FLUIDS FOR ELECTROTECHNICAL APPLICATIONS – MINERAL INSULATING OILS FOR ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

## 1 Scope

This document provides specifications and test methods for unused and recycled mineral insulating oils (see Clause 3 for definitions). It applies to mineral oil delivered according to the contractual agreement, intended for use in transformers, switchgear and similar electrical equipment in which oil is required for insulation and heat transfer. Both unused oil and recycled oil under the scope of this document have not been used in, nor been in contact with, electrical equipment or other equipment not required for manufacture, storage or transport.

Unused oils are obtained by refining, modifying and/or blending of petroleum products and other hydrocarbons from virgin feedstock.

Recycled oils are produced from oils previously used as mineral insulating oil in electrical equipment that have been subjected to re-refining or reclaiming (regeneration) by processes employed offsite. Such oils will have originally been supplied in compliance with a recognized unused mineral insulating oil specification. This document does not differentiate between the methods used to recycle mineral insulating oil. Oils treated on-site (see IEC 60422) are not within the scope of this document.

Oils with and without additives are both within the scope of this document.

This document does not apply to mineral insulating oils used as impregnating medium in cables or capacitors.

## 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 60156, *Insulating liquids – Determination of the breakdown voltage at power frequency – Test method*

IEC 60247, *Insulating liquids – Measurement of relative permittivity, dielectric dissipation factor ( $\tan \delta$ ) and d.c. resistivity*

IEC 60422:2013, *Mineral insulating oils in electrical equipment – Supervision and maintenance guidance*

IEC 60475, *Method of sampling liquid dielectrics*

IEC 60567:2011, *Oil-filled electrical equipment – Sampling of gases and analysis of free and dissolved gases – Guidance*

IEC 60628:1985, *Gassing of insulating liquids under electrical stress and ionization*

IEC 60666:2010, *Detection and determination of specified additives in mineral insulating oils*