

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE

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**Fixed capacitors for use in electronic equipment  
Part 1: Generic specification**

**Condensateurs fixes utilisés dans les équipements électroniques –  
Partie 1: Spécification générique**





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ELECTROTECHNICAL  
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ICS 31.060

ISBN 978-2-8322-3153-1

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## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	9
INTRODUCTION.....	11
1 General.....	13
1.1 Scope.....	13
1.2 Normative references.....	13
2 Technical data.....	15
2.1 Symbols, units and abbreviated terms.....	15
2.1.1 General.....	15
2.1.2 Letter symbols.....	15
2.1.3 Abbreviations.....	16
2.2 Terms and definitions.....	16
2.3 Preferred values and additional technical requirements.....	21
2.3.1 General.....	21
2.3.2 Preferred values of nominal capacitance.....	21
2.3.3 Preferred values of rated voltage.....	21
2.3.4 Rated a.c. load.....	21
2.3.5 Rated pulse load.....	22
2.3.6 Temperature derated voltage.....	22
2.4 Marking.....	23
2.4.1 General.....	23
2.4.2 Coding.....	23
3 Quality assessment procedures.....	23
4 Tests and measurement procedures.....	24
4.1 General.....	25
4.2 Standard atmospheric conditions.....	25
4.2.1 Standard atmospheric conditions for testing.....	25
4.2.2 Recovery conditions.....	25
4.2.3 Referee conditions.....	26
4.2.4 Reference conditions.....	26
4.3 Drying.....	26
4.4 Visual examination and check of dimensions.....	26
4.4.1 Visual examination.....	26
4.4.2 Dimensions (gauging).....	26
4.4.3 Dimensions (detail).....	26
4.5 Insulation resistance.....	27
4.5.1 Preconditioning.....	27
4.5.2 Measuring conditions.....	27
4.5.3 Test points.....	27
4.5.4 Test methods.....	27
4.5.5 Temperature compensation.....	28
4.5.6 Conditions to be prescribed in the relevant specification.....	28
4.6 Voltage proof.....	29
4.6.1 General.....	29
4.6.2 Test circuit (for the test between terminations).....	29
4.6.3 Test.....	30
4.6.4 Requirements.....	32

4.6.5	Conditions to be prescribed in the relevant specification .....	32
4.7	Capacitance.....	32
4.7.1	Measuring frequency and measuring voltage .....	32
4.7.2	Measuring equipment.....	33
4.7.3	Conditions to be prescribed in the relevant specification .....	33
4.8	Tangent of loss angle and equivalent series resistance (ESR).....	33
4.8.1	Tangent of loss angle.....	33
4.8.2	Equivalent series resistance (ESR).....	33
4.9	Leakage current.....	34
4.9.1	Preconditioning.....	34
4.9.2	Test method.....	34
4.9.3	Power source.....	34
4.9.4	Measuring accuracy .....	34
4.9.5	Test circuit.....	34
4.9.6	Conditions to be prescribed in the relevant specification .....	34
4.10	Impedance .....	34
4.11	Self-resonant frequency and inductance .....	35
4.11.1	Self-resonant frequency ( $f_r$ ).....	35
4.11.2	Inductance.....	38
4.11.3	Conditions to be prescribed in the relevant specification .....	38
4.12	Outer foil termination.....	38
4.13	Robustness of terminations .....	39
4.13.1	General .....	39
4.13.2	Test Ua <sub>1</sub> – Tensile.....	39
4.13.3	Test Ub – Bending (half of the sample).....	40
4.13.4	Test Uc – Torsion (remaining sample) .....	40
4.13.5	Test Ud – Torque.....	40
4.13.6	Visual examination.....	40
4.14	Resistance to soldering heat .....	41
4.14.1	Preconditioning and initial measurement.....	41
4.14.2	Test procedure.....	41
4.14.3	Recovery .....	41
4.14.4	Final inspection, measurement and requirements.....	41
4.15	Solderability.....	41
4.15.1	General .....	41
4.15.2	Preconditioning.....	41
4.15.3	Test procedure.....	42
4.15.4	Final inspection, measurements and requirements.....	42
4.16	Rapid change of temperature .....	42
4.16.1	Initial measurement.....	42
4.16.2	Test procedure.....	42
4.16.3	Final inspection, measurements and requirements.....	42
4.17	Vibration .....	42
4.17.1	Initial measurement.....	42
4.17.2	Test procedure.....	43
4.17.3	Electrical test (intermediate measurement) .....	43
4.17.4	Final inspection, measurements and requirements.....	43
4.18	Bump (repetitive shock).....	43
4.18.1	Initial measurement.....	43

4.18.2	Test procedure.....	43
4.18.3	Final inspection, measurements and requirements.....	43
4.19	Shock.....	43
4.19.1	Initial measurement.....	43
4.19.2	Test procedure.....	43
4.19.3	Final inspection, measurements and requirements.....	44
4.20	Container sealing.....	44
4.21	Climatic sequence.....	44
4.21.1	General.....	44
4.21.2	Initial measurements.....	44
4.21.3	Dry heat.....	44
4.21.4	Damp heat, cyclic, Test Db, first cycle.....	44
4.21.5	Cold.....	44
4.21.6	Low air pressure.....	45
4.21.7	Damp heat, cyclic, Test Db, remaining cycles.....	45
4.21.8	Final measurements.....	45
4.22	Damp heat, steady state.....	45
4.22.1	Initial measurement.....	45
4.22.2	Test procedure.....	45
4.22.3	Final inspection, measurements and requirements.....	46
4.23	Endurance.....	46
4.23.1	Initial measurements.....	46
4.23.2	Test procedure.....	46
4.23.3	Conditions to be prescribed in the relevant specification.....	46
4.23.4	Test voltage.....	46
4.23.5	Placement in the test chamber.....	47
4.23.6	Recovery.....	47
4.23.7	Final inspection, measurements and requirements.....	47
4.24	Variation of capacitance with temperature.....	48
4.24.1	Static method.....	48
4.24.2	Dynamic method.....	48
4.24.3	Methods of circulation.....	49
4.25	Storage.....	50
4.25.1	Storage at high temperature.....	50
4.25.2	Storage at low temperature.....	50
4.26	Surge.....	51
4.26.1	Initial measurement.....	51
4.26.2	Test procedure.....	51
4.26.3	Final inspection, measurements and requirements.....	52
4.26.4	Information to be given in the relevant detail specification.....	52
4.27	Charge and discharge tests and inrush current test.....	52
4.27.1	Initial measurement.....	52
4.27.2	Test procedure.....	52
4.27.3	Charge and discharge.....	53
4.27.4	Inrush current.....	54
4.27.5	Final inspection, measurements and requirements.....	54
4.28	Pressure relief (for aluminium electrolytic capacitors).....	54
4.28.1	General.....	54
4.28.2	AC test.....	54

4.28.3	DC test .....	54
4.28.4	Pneumatic test .....	54
4.28.5	Final inspection, measurements and requirements .....	54
4.29	Characteristics at high and low temperature .....	54
4.29.1	Test procedure .....	54
4.29.2	Requirements .....	55
4.30	Thermal stability test .....	55
4.31	Component solvent resistance .....	55
4.31.1	Initial measurements .....	55
4.31.2	Test procedure .....	55
4.31.3	Final inspection, measurements and requirements .....	55
4.32	Solvent resistance of marking .....	55
4.32.1	Test procedure .....	55
4.32.2	Final inspection, measurements and requirements .....	56
4.33	Mounting (for surface mount capacitors only) .....	56
4.33.1	Substrate .....	56
4.33.2	Wave soldering .....	56
4.33.3	Reflow soldering .....	56
4.34	Shear test .....	59
4.34.1	Test procedure .....	59
4.34.2	Final inspection, measurements and requirements .....	59
4.35	Substrate bending test .....	59
4.35.1	Test procedure .....	59
4.35.2	Recovery .....	60
4.35.3	Final inspection and requirements .....	60
4.36	Dielectric absorption .....	60
4.36.1	Test procedure .....	60
4.36.2	Requirement .....	61
4.37	Damp heat, steady state, accelerated .....	61
4.37.1	Initial measurements .....	61
4.37.2	Test methods .....	61
4.37.3	Test procedures .....	61
4.37.4	Final inspection, measurements and requirements .....	61
4.38	Passive flameability .....	61
4.38.1	Test procedure .....	61
4.38.2	Final inspection, measurements and requirements .....	62
4.39	High surge current test .....	62
4.39.1	Initial measurements .....	62
4.39.2	Test procedure .....	62
4.39.3	Requirements for the charging circuit .....	63
4.39.4	Nonconforming items .....	63
4.40	Voltage transient overload (for aluminium electrolytic capacitors with non-solid electrolyte) .....	63
4.40.1	Initial measurement .....	63
4.40.2	Test procedure .....	63
4.40.3	Final inspection, measurements and requirements .....	65
4.40.4	Conditions to be prescribed in the relevant specification .....	65
4.41	Whisker growth test .....	65
4.41.1	General .....	65

4.41.2	Preparation of specimen.....	66
4.41.3	Initial measurement.....	66
4.41.4	Test procedures.....	66
4.41.5	Test severities.....	66
4.41.6	Final inspection, measurements and requirements.....	66
Annex A (informative) Interpretation of sampling plans and procedures as described in IEC 60410 for use within quality assessment systems.....		67
Annex B (informative) Rules for the preparation of detail specifications for capacitors and resistors for electronic equipment for use within quality assessment systems.....		68
B.1	Drafting.....	68
B.2	Reference standard.....	68
B.3	Circulation.....	68
Annex C (informative) Layout of the first page of a PCP/CQC specification.....		69
Annex D (informative) Requirements for capability approval test report.....		70
D.1	General.....	70
D.2	Requirements.....	70
D.3	Summary of test information (for each CQC).....	70
D.4	Measurement record.....	70
Annex E (informative) Guide for pulse testing of capacitors.....		71
E.1	Overview.....	71
E.2	Typical capacitor pulse conditions.....	71
E.3	Effect of inductance on pulse testing.....	72
Annex F (informative) Guidance for the extension of endurance tests on fixed capacitors.....		74
F.1	Overview.....	74
F.2	Guidelines.....	74
Annex G (normative) Damp heat, steady state, with voltage applied, for metallized film capacitors only.....		75
G.1	Overview.....	75
G.2	Test procedure.....	75
Annex H (normative) Accelerated damp heat, steady state, for multilayer ceramic capacitors only.....		76
H.1	Mounting of capacitors.....	76
H.2	Initial measurement.....	76
H.3	Test procedure.....	76
H.4	Recovery.....	76
H.5	Final inspection, measurements and requirements.....	76
Annex I (informative) Quality assessment procedures.....		77
I.1	General.....	77
I.1.1	Scope of this annex.....	77
I.1.2	Quality assessment definitions.....	78
I.1.3	Rework.....	78
I.1.4	Alternative test methods.....	79
I.1.5	Certified test records of released lots.....	79
I.1.6	Unchecked parameters.....	79
I.1.7	Delayed delivery.....	79
I.1.8	Repair.....	79
I.1.9	Registration of approvals.....	80
I.1.10	Manufacture outside the geographical limits.....	80

Q.2	Qualification approval (QA) procedures .....	80
Q.2.1	Eligibility for qualification approval.....	80
Q.2.2	Application for qualification approval .....	80
Q.2.3	Subcontracting.....	80
Q.2.4	Test procedure for the initial product qualification approval .....	80
Q.2.5	Granting of qualification approval .....	80
Q.2.6	Maintenance of qualification approval.....	81
Q.2.7	Quality conformance inspection.....	81
Q.3	Capability approval (CA) procedures.....	81
Q.3.1	General .....	81
Q.3.2	Eligibility for capability approval .....	81
Q.3.3	Application for capability approval .....	82
Q.3.4	Subcontracting.....	82
Q.3.5	Description of the capability .....	82
Q.3.6	Demonstration and verification of capability .....	82
Q.3.7	Granting of capability approval .....	82
Q.3.8	Maintenance of capability approval.....	82
Q.3.9	Quality conformance inspection.....	82
Q.4	Technology approval (TA) procedure .....	83
Q.4.1	General .....	83
Q.4.2	Eligibility for technology approval .....	83
Q.4.3	Application of technology approval .....	83
Q.4.4	Subcontracting.....	83
Q.4.5	Description of technology .....	83
Q.4.6	Demonstration and verification of the technology .....	83
Q.4.7	Granting of technology approval.....	84
Q.4.8	Maintenance of technology approval.....	84
Q.4.9	Quality conformance inspection.....	84
Bibliography .....		85
Figure 1 – Reactive power vs. inst. frequency .....		22
Figure 2 – Relation between category temperature range and applied voltage.....		23
Figure 3 – Voltage-plot of test circuit.....		30
Figure 4 – Schematic diagram of the impedance measuring circuit.....		35
Figure 5 – Capacitor mounting arrangement .....		36
Figure 6 – Capacitor mounting arrangement .....		37
Figure 7 – Typical diagram of an absorption oscillator-wavemeter.....		37
Figure 8 – Schematic diagram of the measuring circuit .....		38
Figure 9 – Test circuit .....		39
Figure 10 – Test circuit for electrolytic capacitors .....		47
Figure 11 – Relay circuit .....		51
Figure 12 – Thyristor circuit .....		51
Figure 13 – Voltage waveform across capacitor.....		52
Figure 14 – Voltage and current waveform .....		53
Figure 15 – Suitable substrate for mechanical tests .....		58
Figure 16 – Suitable substrate for electrical tests.....		59

Figure 17 – High surge current test .....63

Figure 18 – Voltage transient overload test circuit .....64

Figure 19 – Voltage waveform.....65

Table 1 – Referee conditions.....26

Table 2 – Measurement of insulation resistance .....27

Table 3 – Measuring points .....29

Table 4 – Tensile force .....40

Table 5 – Torque .....40

Table 6 – Number of cycles.....5

Table 7 – Severities and requirements .....62

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**FIXED CAPACITORS FOR USE IN ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT –****Part 1: Generic specification**

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International Standard IEC 60384-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 40: Capacitors and resistors for electronic equipment

This fifth edition cancels and replaces the fourth edition published in 2008 and constitutes a technical revision, including minor revisions related to tables, figures and references.

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

- INTRODUCTION added;
- 4.41 Whisker growth test added;
- Annex Q completely restructured.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
40/2420/FDIS	40/2444/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.

A list of all the parts of the IEC 60384 series, under the general title *Fixed capacitors for use in electronic equipment*, can be found on the IEC website.

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 stability date indicated on the IEC website 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

The specification system for fixed capacitors for use in electronic equipment is structured in a hierarchical system consisting of the following specification types.

### **Generic specification**

The generic specification covers all subjects mainly common to the family of fixed capacitors for use in electronic equipment, such as terminology, methods of measurement and tests. Where the individual subjects require the prescription conditions or parameters specific to the particular subfamily or type of fixed capacitor, such prescriptions are required to be given by one of the subordinate specifications.

For the scope of fixed capacitors, the numeric reference to the generic specification is IEC 60384-1.

### **Sectional specification**

Sectional specifications cover all subjects additional to those given in the generic specification, which are specific to a defined sub-group of fixed capacitors. These subjects normally are preferred values for dimensions and characteristics, additional test methods and relevant prescriptions for test methods given in the generic specification, prescriptions for sampling and for the preparation of specimen, recommended test severities and preferred acceptance criteria. The sectional specification also outlines the structure and scope of the test schedules which are to be applied in all subordinate detail specifications.

For the scope of fixed capacitors, the numeric references to the sectional specifications reach from IEC 60384-2 for polyester film capacitors to currently IEC 60384-26 for aluminium electrolytic capacitors with conductive polymer solid electrolyte. The variety of sectional specifications may be adapted to the portfolio of different technologies of fixed capacitors.

### **Detail specification**

Detail specifications give directly, or by making reference to other specifications, all information necessary to completely describe a given type and range of fixed capacitors, including prescriptions of all values for dimensions and characteristics. They also give all information required for the quality assessment of the covered type and range of fixed capacitors within a suitable quality assessment system, including prescriptions for all applied test severities and acceptance criteria, and the completed test schedules.

Detail specifications can be either specifications within the IEC system, another specification system linked to IEC, or specified by the manufacturer or user. For the scope of fixed capacitors, the numeric references to detail specifications are for example IEC 60384-3-101, if related to the sectional specification IEC 60384-3 and to the ancillary blank detail specification IEC 60384-3-1.

### **Blank detail specification**

The hierarchical system of specifications is supplemented by one or more blank detail specifications to a sectional specification, which are used to ensure a uniform presentation of detail specifications. The blank detail specifications provide the specification writer with a template on the layout to be adopted and on the information to be given and with guidance for the preparation of detail specifications in line with the requirements of the superior generic or sectional specifications. Blank detail specifications are not considered as relevant specifications since they do not themselves describe any particular component.

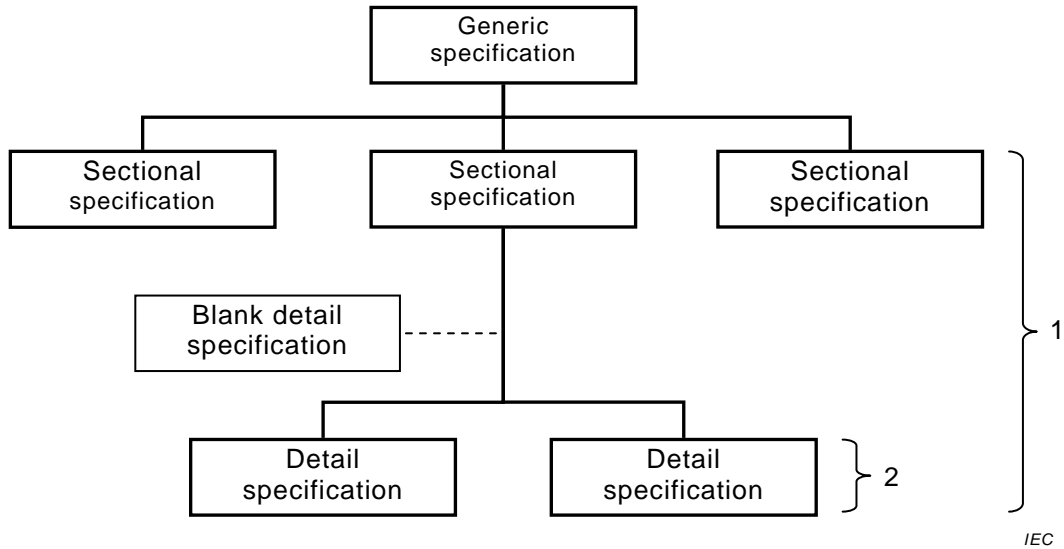
The presence of an established hierarchical specification system with blank detail specifications permits the preparation of detail specifications even outside of the relevant IEC technical committee.

For the scope of fixed capacitors, the numeric references to blank detail specifications are, for example, IEC 60384-3-1, if related to the sectional specification IEC 60384-3.

**Relevant specification**

In this system the term “relevant specification” addresses subordinate specifications containing specific requirements, where applicable.

Any generic or sectional specification may use abstract and universal references to subordinate specifications of either hierarchical level by use of the expression “relevant specification”.



**Key**

- 1 Indicates the range of “*Relevant specifications*” to the superior generic specification, where applicable.
- 2 Indicates the range of “*Relevant specifications*” to the superior sectional specification, where applicable.

# FIXED CAPACITORS FOR USE IN ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT –

## Part 1: Generic specification

### 1 General

#### 1.1 Scope

This part of IEC 60384 is a generic specification and is applicable to fixed capacitors for use in electronic equipment.

It establishes standard terms, inspection procedures and methods of test for use in sectional and detail specifications of electronic components for quality assessment or any other purpose.

#### 1.2 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 60027 (all parts), *Letter symbols to be used in electrical technology*

IEC 60050 (all parts), *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary*<sup>1</sup>

IEC 60062, *Marking codes for resistors and capacitors*

IEC 60063, *Preferred number series for resistors and capacitors*

IEC 60068-1:2013, *Environmental testing – Part 1: General and guidance*

IEC 60068-2-1:2007, *Environmental testing – Part 2-1: Tests – Tests A: Cold*

IEC 60068-2-2:2007, *Environmental testing – Part 2-2: Tests – Tests B: Dry heat*

IEC 60068-2-6:2007, *Environmental testing – Part 2-6: Tests – Test Fc: Vibration (sinusoidal)*

IEC 60068-2-13:1983, *Environmental testing – Part 2-13: Tests – Test M: Low air pressure*

IEC 60068-2-14:2009, *Environmental testing – Part 2-14: Tests – Test N: Change of temperature*

IEC 60068-2-17:1994, *Environmental testing – Part 2-17: Tests – Test Q: Sealing*

IEC 60068-2-20:2008, *Environmental testing – Part 2-20: Tests – Test T: Test methods for solderability and resistance to soldering heat of devices with leads*

IEC 60068-2-21:2006, *Environmental testing – Part 2-21: Tests – Test U: Robustness of terminations and integral mounting devices*

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<sup>1</sup> [www.electropedia.org](http://www.electropedia.org)