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# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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**Optical fibres –  
Part 2-40: Product specifications – Sectional specification for category A4  
multimode fibres**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

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## OPTICAL FIBRES –

**Part 2-40: Product specifications –  
Sectional specification for category A4 multimode fibres**

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International Standard IEC 60793-2-40 has been prepared by subcommittee 86A: Fibres and cables, of IEC technical committee 86: Fibre optics.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2006 and constitutes a technical revision which defines an enhanced A4a fibre named A4a.2 while the existing A4a fibre has been renamed A4a.1.

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

CDV	Report on voting
86A/1237/CDV	86A/1264/RVC

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.

A list of all parts of the IEC 60793 series, published under the general title *Optical fibres*, can be found on the IEC website.

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- withdrawn,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.

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

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## OPTICAL FIBRES –

### Part 2-40: Product specifications – Sectional specification for category A4 multimode fibres

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60793-2 is applicable to optical fibre categories A4a, A4b, A4c, A4d, A4e, A4f, A4g and A4h. These fibres have a plastic core and plastic cladding and may have step-index, multi-step index, or graded-index profiles. The fibres are used in information transmission equipment and optical fibre cables. Table 1 summarizes some of the salient characteristics and applications of these fibres.

**Table 1 – Characteristics and applications of category A4 Fibres**

	A4a	A4b	A4c	A4d	A4e	A4f	A4g	A4h
Core diameter (µm)	See Note 1	See Note 1	See Note 1	See Note 1	≥500	200	120	62,5
Cladding diameter (µm)	1000	750	500	1000	750	490	490	245
Numerical aperture	0,50 <sup>†</sup>	0,50 <sup>†</sup>	0,50 <sup>†</sup>	0,30 <sup>†</sup>	0,20 <sup>†</sup>	0,190 <sup>°</sup>	0,190 <sup>°</sup>	0,190 <sup>°</sup>
Operating wavelength(s) (nm)	650 See Note 2	650	650	650	650	650, 850, 1300	650, 850, 1300	850, 1300
Applications	Digital audio interface, automobile, industrial and sensor  Data transmission	Industrial and sensor	sensor	Digital audiovisual interface and data transmission	Digital audiovisual interface and data transmission	Industrial and mobile; compatible with A3 transmission equipment	Data transmission	Data transmission; primarily used in ribbon structures
NOTE 1 Typically 15µm to 35 µm smaller than the cladding diameter.								
NOTE 2 Other potential wavelengths for this fibre are described in Annex J.								
<sup>†</sup> Theoretical.								
<sup>°</sup> Measured effective.								

In addition to the applications shown in Table 1, other applications for A4 fibres include, but are not restricted to, the following: support for short reach high bit-rate systems in telephony, distribution and local networks, carrying data, voice and/or video services and on-premises intrabuilding and interbuilding fibre installations, including LANs, PBXs, video, various multiplexing uses, and miscellaneous related uses, such as consumer electronics and industrial and mobile networks.

Three types of requirements apply to A4 fibres:

- general requirements, as defined in IEC 60793-2;
- specific requirements common to category A4 multimode fibres covered in this standard and that are given in Clause 3;
- particular requirements applicable to individual fibre types or specific applications and that are defined in this standard in the normative family specification annexes.

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

IEC 60793-1 (all parts), *Optical fibres – Part 1: Measurement methods and test procedures*

IEC 60793-1-20:2001, *Optical fibres – Part 1-20: Measurement methods and test procedures – Fibre geometry*

IEC 60793-1-22:2001, *Optical fibres – Part 1-22: Measurement methods and test procedures – Length measurement*

IEC 60793-1-40:2001, *Optical fibres – Part 1-40: Measurement methods and test procedures – Attenuation*

IEC 60793-1-41:2001, *Optical fibres – Part 1-41: Measurement methods and test procedures – Bandwidth*

IEC 60793-1-42:2007, *Optical fibres – Part 1-42: Measurement methods and test procedures – Chromatic dispersion*

IEC 60793-1-43:2001, *Optical fibres – Part 1-43: Measurement methods and test procedures – Numerical aperture*

IEC 60793-1-46:2001, *Optical fibres – Part 1-46: Measurement methods and test procedures – Monitoring of changes in optical transmittance*

IEC 60793-1-47:2009, *Optical fibres – Part 1-47: Measurement methods and test procedures – Macrobending loss*

IEC 60793-1-50:2001, *Optical fibres – Part 1-50: Measurement methods and test procedures – Damp heat (steady state)*

IEC 60793-1-51:2001, *Optical fibres – Part 1-51: Measurement methods and test procedures – Dry heat*

IEC 60793-1-52:2001, *Optical fibres – Part 1-52: Measurement methods and test procedures – Change of temperature*

IEC 60793-2, *Optical fibres – Part 2: Product specifications – General*

IEC 60794-2-41, *Optical fibre cables – Part 2-41: Product specification for simplex and duplex buffered A4 fibres.*