

# FINAL VERSION

## VERSION FINALE

**Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials –  
Part 401: Miscellaneous tests – Thermal ageing methods – Ageing in an air oven**

**Câbles électriques et à fibres optiques – Méthodes d'essai pour les matériaux  
non-métalliques –  
Partie 401: Essais divers – Méthodes de vieillissement thermique –  
Vieillissement en étuve à air**

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**ELECTRIC AND OPTICAL FIBRE CABLES –  
TEST METHODS FOR NON-METALLIC MATERIALS –**

**Part 401: Miscellaneous tests –  
Thermal ageing methods – Ageing in an air oven**

FOREWORD

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use for convenience. Only the current versions of the standard and its amendment(s)  
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**This Consolidated version of IEC 60811-401 bears the edition number 1.1. It consists of  
the first edition (2012-03) [documents 20/1285/FDIS and 20/1334/RVD] and its  
amendment 1 (2017-07) [documents 20/1733/FDIS and 20/1738/RVD]. The technical  
content is identical to the base edition and its amendment.**

**This Final version does not show where the technical content is modified by amendment 1. A separate Redline version with all changes highlighted is available in this publication.**

International Standard IEC 60811-401 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 20: Electric cables.

There are no specific technical changes with respect to the previous edition, but see the Foreword to IEC 60811-100:2012.

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

This part of IEC 60811 shall be used in conjunction with IEC 60811-100.

A list of all the parts in the IEC 60811 series, published under the general title *Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendment 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

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- withdrawn,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

## INTRODUCTION

The IEC 60811 series specifies the test methods to be used for testing non-metallic materials of all types of cables. These test methods are intended to be referenced in standards for cable construction and for cable materials.

NOTE 1 Non-metallic materials are typically used for insulating, sheathing, bedding, filling or taping within cables.

NOTE 2 These test methods are accepted as basic and fundamental and have been developed and used over many years principally for the materials in all energy cables. They have also been widely accepted and used for other cables, in particular optical fibre cables, communication and control cables and cables for ships and offshore applications.

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# ELECTRIC AND OPTICAL FIBRE CABLES – TEST METHODS FOR NON-METALLIC MATERIALS –

## Part 401: Miscellaneous tests – Thermal ageing methods – Ageing in an air oven

### 1 Scope

This Part 401 of IEC 60811 specifies the procedure for ageing in an air oven, which typically applies to crosslinked and thermoplastic compounds used for insulating and sheathing materials.

### 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 60228, *Conductors of insulated cables*

IEC 60811-100:2012, *Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials – Part 100: General*

IEC 60811-409, *Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials – Part 409: Miscellaneous tests – Loss of mass test for thermoplastic insulations and sheaths*

IEC 60811-501, *Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials – Part 501: Mechanical tests – Tests for determining the mechanical properties of insulating and sheathing compounds*

IEC 60811-504, *Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials – Part 504: Mechanical tests – Bending tests at low temperature for insulation and sheaths*

### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60811-100 apply.

### 4 Test method

#### 4.1 General

This part of IEC 60811 shall be used in conjunction with IEC 60811-100.

An ageing treatment in an air oven may be required by the relevant cable standard:

- a) for prepared test pieces of insulating or sheathing material only (see 4.2.3.2);
- b) for prepared test pieces of cores (conductor and insulation) (see 4.2.3.2 and 4.2.3.3 if necessary);
- c) for test pieces of completed cable (see 4.2.3.4);