

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Safety of laser products –  
Part 2: Safety of optical fibre communication systems (OFCS)**

**Sécurité des appareils à laser –  
Partie 2: Sécurité des systèmes de télécommunication par fibres optiques  
(STFO)**



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### SAFETY OF LASER PRODUCTS –

#### Part 2: Safety of optical fibre communication systems (OFCS)

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International Standard IEC 60825-2 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 76: Optical radiation safety and laser equipment

This consolidated version of IEC 60825-2 consists of the third edition (2004) [documents 76/38/FDIS and 76/293/RVD], its amendment 1 (2006) [documents 76/346/FDIS and 76/350/RVD] and its amendment 2 (2010) [documents 76/409/CDV and 76/419/RVC].

The technical content is therefore identical to the base edition and its amendments and has been prepared for user convenience.

It bears the edition number 3.2.

A vertical line in the margin shows where the base publication has been modified by amendments 1 and 2.

The French version of this standard has not been voted upon.

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

IEC 60825 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Safety of laser products*:

- Part 1: Equipment classification, requirements and user's guide
- Part 2: Safety of optical fibre communication systems (OFCS)
- Part 3: Guidance for laser displays and shows
- Part 4: Laser guards
- Part 5: Manufacturer's checklist for IEC 60825-1
- Part 8: Guidelines for the safe use of laser beams on humans
- Part 9: Compilation of maximum permissible exposure to incoherent optical radiation
- Part 10: Application guidelines and explanatory notes to IEC 60825-1
- Part 12: Safety of free space optical communication systems used for transmission of information
- Part 13: Measurements for classification of laser products
- Part 14: A user's guide

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## SAFETY OF LASER PRODUCTS –

### Part 2: Safety of optical fibre communication systems (OFCS)

#### 1 Scope and object

This Part 2 of IEC 60825 provides requirements and specific guidance for the safe operation and maintenance of optical fibre communication systems (OFCS). In these systems optical power may be accessible outside the confinements of transmitting equipment or at great distance from the optical source.

This Part 2 requires the assessment of hazard levels at accessible locations as a replacement for classification according to IEC 60825-1. It applies to the complete installed end-to-end OFCS, including its components and subassemblies that generate or amplify optical radiation. Individual components and subassemblies that are sold only to OEM vendors for incorporation into a complete installed end-to-end OFCS need not be assessed to this standard, since the final OFCS should itself be assessed according to this standard.

NOTE 1 The above statement is not intended to prevent manufacturers of such components and subassemblies from using this standard if they wish to do so, or are required to do so by contract.

This standard does not apply to optical fibre systems primarily designed to transmit optical power for applications such as material processing or medical treatment.

In addition to the hazards resulting from laser radiation, OFCS may also give rise to other hazards, such as fire.

This standard does not address safety issues associated with explosion or fire with respect to OFCS deployed in explosive atmospheres.

Throughout this part of IEC 60825, reference to 'laser' is taken to include light-emitting diodes (LEDs) and optical amplifiers.

NOTE 2 The optical hazard of light emerging from a fibre is determined by the wavelength and power emerging from the fibre and the optical characteristics of the fibre. (See Annex A.)

The objective of this Part 2 of IEC 60825 is to:

- protect people from optical radiation resulting from OFCS;
- provide requirements for manufacturers, installation organizations, service organizations and operating organizations in order to establish procedures and supply information so that proper precautions can be adopted;
- ensure adequate warnings are provided to individuals regarding the potential hazards associated with OFCS through the use of signs, labels and instructions.

Annex A gives a more detailed rationale for this part of IEC 60825.

The safety of an OFCS depends to a significant degree on the characteristics of the equipment forming that system. Depending on the characteristics of the equipment, it may be necessary to mark safety relevant information on the product or include it within the instructions for use.