

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear –  
Part 5-2: Control circuit devices and switching elements – Proximity switches**

**Appareillage à basse tension –  
Partie 5-2: Appareils et éléments de commutation pour circuits de commande –  
Détecteurs de proximité**



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DéTECTEURS DE PROXIMITÉ**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

COMMISSION  
ELECTROTECHNIQUE  
INTERNATIONALE

ICS 29.120.40; 29.130.20

ISBN 978-2-8322-7445-3

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## CONTENTS

FOREWORD .....	9
1 Scope .....	12
2 Normative references .....	13
3 Terms and definitions .....	14
3.1 Basic terms and definitions .....	17
3.2 Parts of a proximity switch .....	18
3.3 Operation of a proximity switch .....	20
3.4 Switching element characteristics .....	22
4 Classification .....	24
4.1 General .....	24
4.2 Classification according to sensing means .....	26
4.3 Classification according to the mechanical installation .....	26
4.4 Classification according to the construction form and size .....	26
4.5 Classification according to switching element function .....	26
4.6 Classification according to type of output .....	26
4.7 Classification according to method of connection .....	26
5 Characteristics .....	26
5.1 General .....	26
5.1.1 Summary of characteristics .....	26
5.1.2 Operation of an inductive or capacitive proximity switch .....	26
5.1.3 Operation of an ultrasonic proximity switch .....	27
5.1.4 Operation of a photoelectric proximity switch .....	27
5.1.5 Operation of a magnetic proximity switch .....	27
5.2 Operating conditions .....	27
5.2.1 Operating conditions for inductive and capacitive proximity switches .....	27
5.2.2 Operating distance (s) of an ultrasonic proximity switch .....	28
5.2.3 Operating distance (s) of a photoelectric proximity switch .....	29
5.3 Rated and limiting values for the proximity switch and switching element(s) .....	31
5.3.1 Voltages .....	31
5.3.2 Currents .....	31
5.3.3 Rated supply frequency .....	32
5.3.4 Frequency of operating cycles ( $f$ ) .....	32
5.3.5 Normal load and abnormal load characteristics .....	32
5.3.6 Short-circuit characteristics .....	32
5.4 Utilization categories for the switching element .....	32
6 Product information .....	33
6.1 Nature of information – Identification .....	33
6.2 Marking .....	34
6.2.1 General .....	34
6.2.2 Terminal identification and marking .....	34
6.2.3 Functional markings .....	34
6.3 Instructions for installation, operation and maintenance .....	34
6.4 Environmental information .....	35
6.4.1 Environmentally conscious design process (ECD process) .....	35

6.4.2	Procedure to establish material declaration .....	35
7	Normal service, mounting and transport conditions .....	35
7.1	Normal service conditions .....	35
7.1.1	General .....	35
7.1.2	Ambient air temperature .....	35
7.1.3	Altitude .....	36
7.1.4	Climatic conditions .....	36
7.2	Conditions during transport and storage .....	36
7.3	Mounting .....	36
8	Constructional and performance requirements .....	36
8.1	Constructional requirements .....	36
8.1.1	Materials .....	36
8.1.2	Current-carrying parts and their connections .....	37
8.1.3	Clearances and creepage distances .....	38
8.1.4	Actuation .....	38
8.1.5	Void .....	38
8.1.6	Void .....	38
8.1.7	Terminals .....	38
8.1.8	Void .....	40
8.1.9	Provisions for protective earthing .....	40
8.1.10	Degree of protection .....	40
8.1.11	Requirements for proximity switches with integrally connected cables .....	40
8.1.12	Class II proximity switches .....	41
8.1.13	Chemical stress .....	41
8.1.14	Equipment design .....	41
8.1.15	Protection against artificial optical radiation .....	41
8.1.16	Biological and chemical effects .....	42
8.1.17	Unattended operation .....	42
8.1.18	Safety related security .....	42
8.1.19	Requirements for embedded software .....	42
8.2	Performance requirements .....	42
8.2.1	Operating conditions .....	42
8.2.2	Temperature-rise .....	46
8.2.3	Dielectric properties .....	47
8.2.4	Ability to make and break under normal load and abnormal load conditions .....	48
8.2.5	Conditional short-circuit current .....	49
8.2.6	Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) .....	49
8.3	Physical dimensions .....	53
8.4	Shock and vibration and special environmental conditions .....	53
8.4.1	Shock .....	53
8.4.2	Vibration .....	53
8.4.3	Results to be obtained .....	53
8.4.4	Special environmental conditions – damp heat, salt mist, vibration and shock .....	54
9	Tests .....	54
9.1	Kinds of tests .....	54
9.1.1	General .....	54
9.1.2	Type tests .....	54

9.1.3	Routine tests .....	54
9.1.4	Sampling tests .....	54
9.1.5	Special tests .....	54
9.2	Compliance with constructional requirements .....	55
9.2.1	General .....	55
9.2.2	Materials .....	55
9.3	Performances .....	55
9.3.1	Test sequences .....	55
9.3.2	General test conditions .....	56
9.3.3	Performance under no load, normal load and abnormal load condition .....	58
9.3.4	Performance under short-circuit current conditions .....	54
9.4	Testing of operating distances .....	65
9.4.1	Inductive, capacitive, non-mechanical magnetic and ultrasonic proximity switches .....	65
9.4.2	Photoelectric proximity switches .....	66
9.5	Testing for the frequency of operating cycles .....	69
9.5.1	General .....	69
9.5.2	Method for measuring the frequency of operating cycles .....	70
9.5.3	Results to be obtained .....	72
9.5.4	Photoelectric proximity switches .....	72
9.6	Verification of the electromagnetic compatibility .....	74
9.6.1	General .....	74
9.6.2	Immunity .....	74
9.6.3	Emission .....	75
9.7	Test results and test report .....	75
Annex A (informative)	Typical dimensions and operating distances of proximity switches .....	76
A.1	MODEL IA, IB – INDUCTIVE CYLINDRICAL PROXIMITY SWITCHES WITH THREADED BARREL (IA) OR SMOOTH BARREL (IB) WITH CABLE OR CONNECTOR .....	76
A.1.1	(IA, IB) Dimensions .....	76
A.1.2	(IA, IB) Rated operating distances .....	79
A.1.3	(IA, IB) Installation (mounting) threaded barrel (IA) and smooth barrel (IB) .....	80
A.1.4	(IA, IB) Frequency of operating cycles ( <i>f</i> ) .....	80
A.2	MODEL IC – INDUCTIVE RECTANGULAR PROXIMITY SWITCHES WITH SQUARE CROSS-SECTION .....	81
A.2.1	(IC) Dimensions .....	81
A.2.2	(IC) Rated operating distance .....	83
A.2.3	(IC) Installation (mounting) .....	84
A.2.4	(IC) Frequency of operating cycles ( <i>f</i> ) .....	85
A.3	MODEL ID – INDUCTIVE RECTANGULAR PROXIMITY SWITCHES WITH RECTANGULAR CROSS-SECTION .....	86
A.3.1	(ID) Dimensions .....	86
A.3.2	(ID) Installation (mounting) .....	87
A.3.3	(IC) Frequency of operating cycles ( <i>f</i> ) .....	88
A.4	MODEL IX (IN, IS, FLATPACK, CUBICAL INDUCTIVE RECTANGULAR AND CUBICAL PROXIMITY SWITCHES WITH SMALL SIZES) .....	88

A.4.1	(IX) Dimensions .....	88
A.4.2	(Flatpack) Dimensions .....	89
A.4.3	(Cubical) Dimensions .....	90
A.4.4	(IX) Rated operating distance .....	92
A.4.5	(IX) Installation (mounting) .....	92
A.4.6	(IX) Frequency of operating cycles ( $f$ ) .....	92
A.5	MODEL CA – CAPACITIVE CYLINDRICAL PROXIMITY SWITCHES WITH THREADED BARREL .....	93
A.5.1	(CA) Dimensions .....	93
A.5.2	(CA) Rated operating distance ( $s_n$ ) .....	94
A.5.3	(CA) Installation (mounting) .....	94
A.5.4	(CA) Frequency of operating cycles ( $f$ ) .....	95
A.6	MODEL CB – CAPACITIVE PROXIMITY SWITCHES WITH SMOOTH BARREL .....	95
A.7	MODEL CC – CAPACITIVE RECTANGULAR PROXIMITY SWITCHES WITH SQUARE CROSS-SECTION .....	95
A.7.1	(CC) Dimensions .....	95
A.7.2	(CC) Rated operating distances ( $s_n$ ) .....	96
A.7.3	(CC) Installation (mounting) .....	97
A.7.4	(CC) Frequency of operating cycles ( $f$ ) .....	97
A.8	MODEL CD – CAPACITIVE RECTANGULAR PROXIMITY SWITCHES WITH RECTANGULAR CROSS-SECTION .....	98
A.8.1	(CD) Dimensions .....	98
A.8.2	(CD) Rated operating distance ( $s_n$ ) .....	98
A.8.3	(CD) Installation (mounting) .....	98
A.8.4	(CD) Frequency of operating cycles ( $f$ ) .....	99
A.9	MODEL CX – CAPACITIVE PROXIMITY SWITCHES WITH OTHER FORMS, DIMENSIONS AND SMALL SIZES .....	99
A.10	MODEL UA – THREADED BARREL ULTRASONIC CYLINDRICAL PROXIMITY SWITCHES .....	99
A.10.1	(UA) Dimensions .....	99
A.10.2	(UA) Sensing range .....	100
A.10.3	(UA) Installation (mounting) .....	100
A.10.4	(UA) Frequency of operating cycles ( $f$ ) .....	100
A.11	MODEL UD – ULTRASONIC RECTANGULAR PROXIMITY SWITCHES WITH RECTANGULAR CROSS-SECTION .....	101
A.11.1	(UD) Dimensions .....	101
A.11.2	(UD) Sensing range .....	101
A.11.3	(UD) Installation (mounting) .....	101
A.11.4	(UD) Frequency of operating cycles ( $f$ ) .....	101
Annex B (normative)	Class II proximity switches insulated by encapsulation – Requirements and tests .....	102
B.1	General .....	102
B.2	Terms and definitions .....	102
B.6	Marking .....	102
B.8	Constructional and functional requirements .....	103
B.9	Tests .....	103
Annex C (normative)	Additional requirements for proximity switches with integrally connected cables .....	106
C.1	General .....	106

C.2	Terms and definitions.....	106
C.8	Constructional and performance requirements .....	106
C.9	Tests .....	107
Annex D (normative) Integral connectors for plug-in proximity switches .....		111
Annex E (normative) Additional requirements for proximity switches suitable for use in strong magnetic fields.....		119
E.1	Preamble .....	119
E.3	Terms and definitions.....	119
E.4	Classification .....	119
E.8	Construction and performance requirements.....	120
E.9	Tests .....	121
Annex F (informative) Symbols for proximity switches.....		124
F.1	General.....	124
F.2	Standard symbols for proximity switches.....	124
F.3	Additional symbols for photoelectric proximity switches.....	126
F.3.1	Sensor principles.....	126
F.3.2	Optical actuation means .....	126
F.3.3	Functional symbol definitions.....	126
Bibliography.....		128
Figure 1 – Relationship between operating distances of inductive and capacitive proximity switches (see 8.2.1.3 and 9.4.1) .....		28
Figure 2 – Ultrasonic proximity switch operating distances.....		28
Figure 3 – Relationship between operating distances of ultrasonic proximity switches (see 8.2.1.3 and 9.4.1).....		29
Figure 4 – Sensing range and operating range of photoelectric proximity switches (see 8.2.1.3 and 9.4) .....		30
Figure 5 – Relationship between $U_{e\text{ on}}$ and $U_B$ .....		31
Figure 6 – Method of measuring the operating distance (see 9.3.2.1 and 9.4.1).....		57
Figure 7 – Test circuit for the verification of time delay before availability (see 8.2.1.7 and 9.3.3.2.1) .....		59
Figure 8 – Signal output across load in Figure 7 (see 9.3.3.2.1).....		60
Figure 9 – Test circuit for the verification of minimum operational current OFF-state current, voltage drop and independent action (see 9.3.3.2.2, 9.3.3.2.3, 9.3.3.2.4 and 9.3.3.2.5).....		61
Figure 10 – Test circuit for the verification of making and breaking capability (see 9.3.3.5).....		64
Figure 11 – Short-circuit testing (see 9.3.4.2) .....		65
Figure 12 – Testing of the sensing range (see 9.4.2) .....		68
Figure 13 – Methods for measuring the frequency of operating cycle of inductive, capacitive and non-mechanical magnetic proximity switches (if applicable).....		70
Figure 14 – Methods for measuring the frequency of operating cycles ( $f$ ), ultrasonic proximity switch .....		71
Figure 15 – Output signal of direct current proximity switch during the measurement of frequency of operating cycles ( $f$ ) .....		71
Figure 16 – Measurement means for turn-on time $t_{\text{on}}$ and turn-off time $t_{\text{off}}$ .....		72
Figure 17 – Turn-on time $t_{\text{on}}$ measurement.....		73

Figure 18 – Turn-off time $t_{off}$ measurement .....	73
Figure A.1 – (IA) – Dimensions for threaded barrel – cable type .....	76
Figure A.2 – (IB) – Dimensions for smooth barrel – cable type .....	77
Figure A.3 – Type A dimensions – Body M5x0,5, M8x1, Ø 4, Ø 6,5 with connector M5/M8 .....	78
Figure A.4 – Type B dimensions – Body M5x0,5, M8x1, Ø 4, Ø 6,5 with connector M8/M12 .....	78
Figure A.5 – Type C dimensions – Body M12x1, M18x1, M30x1,5 with connector M12 .....	79
Figure A.6 – (IA, IB) – Installation (mounting) <sup>a</sup> .....	80
Figure A.7 – Dimensions of Type I1C26 (in millimetres) .....	82
Figure A.8 – Dimensions of Types I2C40 and I1C40 (in millimetres) .....	82
Figure A.9 – Dimensions of Types I2IMC and I1IMC (IMC) 40 x 40 (cube) .....	83
Figure A.10 – Installation of a I1C proximity switch in damping material .....	84
Figure A.11 – (IC) Installation of I2C in damping material <sup>a</sup> .....	85
Figure A.12 – (ID) Dimensions .....	86
Figure A.13 – (IDC) Dimensions .....	87
Figure A.14 – (ID) Installation in damping material .....	88
Figure A.15 – (IN) with cable or connector M8 entry .....	89
Figure A.16 – (IS) with cable or connector M8 entry .....	89
Figure A.17 – (Flatpack) with cable or connector M8 entry .....	90
Figure A.18 – (5 mm x 5 mm) Cubical with cable .....	91
Figure A.19 – (8 mm x 8 mm) Cubical with cable .....	91
Figure A.20 – (8 mm x 8 mm) Cubical with M8 connector .....	92
Figure A.21 – (CA) Dimensions .....	93
Figure A.22 – (CA) Installation (mounting) .....	95
Figure A.23 – Model CC Dimensions .....	96
Figure A.24 – (CC) Installation (mounting) .....	97
Figure A.25 – (CD) Dimensions in millimetres .....	98
Figure A.26 – (CD) Installation (mounting) .....	99
Figure A.27 – (UA) Dimensions .....	100
Figure A.28 – (UD) Dimensions of Type D80 .....	101
Figure B.1 – Encapsulated device .....	103
Figure B.2 – Test device .....	105
Figure D.1 – M12 thread 3-pin integral connector for AC proximity switches .....	111
Figure D.2 – M12 thread 5-pin integral connector for DC proximity switches .....	112
Figure D.3 – 8 mm thread 3-pin integral connector for DC proximity switches .....	113
Figure D.4 – 8 mm thread 4-pin integral connector for DC proximity switches .....	114
Figure D.5 – M12 thread 4-pin integral connector for AC proximity switches .....	115
Figure D.6 – M12 thread 5-pin integral connector for AC proximity switches .....	116
Figure D.7 – M12 thread 6-pin integral connector for AC proximity switches .....	117
Figure D.8 – M5 thread 4-pin/3-pin integral connector for DC proximity switches .....	118
Figure E.1 – Examples of test configuration for verification of the immunity to an alternating field .....	122

Figure E.2 – Example of test configuration for verification of the immunity in a constant magnetic field .....	123
Figure F.1 – Examples of symbols for proximity switches .....	125
Figure F.2 – Examples of symbols for proximity switches .....	127
Table 1 – Classification of proximity switches .....	25
Table 2 – Cross reference between active optical signal and output function .....	27
Table 3 – Utilization categories for switching elements .....	33
Table 4 – Test conditions for glow-wire test .....	37
Table 5 – Connection and wiring identification .....	39
Table 6 – Burn threshold .....	47
Table 7 – Verification of making and breaking capacities of switching elements under normal conditions corresponding to the utilization categories <sup>a</sup> .....	48
Table 8 – Verification of making and breaking capacities of switching elements under abnormal conditions corresponding to the utilization categories <sup>a</sup> .....	49
Table 9 – Acceptance criteria .....	50
Table 10 – Immunity tests (1 of 2) .....	51
Table 11 – Target sizes of ultrasonic proximity switches .....	57
Table 12 – Test voltages .....	63
Table A.1 – (IA, IB) – Preferred and secondary series, smooth and threaded barrel cable types .....	77
Table A.2 – (IA) – Dimensions of nuts .....	77
Table A.3 – (Types A, B, C) – Preferred and secondary series, smooth and threaded barrel connector types .....	79
Table A.4 – (IA, IB) – Rated operating distances .....	80
Table A.5 – (IA, IB) – Frequency of operating cycles ( <i>f</i> ) in operating cycles per second – Minimum requirements .....	81
Table A.6 – (IC) – Rated operating distance .....	84
Table A.7 – (IC) – Frequency of operating cycles ( <i>f</i> ) in operating cycles per second – Minimum requirements .....	85
Table A.8 – (ID) – Dimensions .....	86
Table A.9 – (IC) – Frequency of operating cycles ( <i>f</i> ) in operating cycles per second – Minimum requirements .....	88
Table A.10 – (IA, IB) – Rated operating distances IN, IS, flatpack, cubical .....	92
Table A.11 – (IA, IB) – Frequency of operating cycles IN, IS, flatpack and cubical ( <i>f</i> ) in operating cycles per second .....	93
Table A.12 – (CA) – Dimensions .....	94
Table A.13 – (CA) – Rated operating distances .....	94
Table A.14 – (CC) – Rated operational distance .....	97
Table A.15 – (UA) – Dimensions .....	100
Table C.1 – Material characteristics .....	107
Table C.2 – Examples of standard cable types .....	108
Table C.3 – Tensile forces .....	109

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**LOW-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –****Part 5-2: Control circuit devices and switching elements –  
Proximity switches**

## FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 60947-5-2 has been prepared by subcommittee 121A: Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear, of IEC technical committee 121: Switchgear and controlgear and their assemblies for low voltage.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2007 and Amendment 1:2012. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- update of the scope;
- adaptation and update of the construction requirements according to IEC Guide 116 (e.g. material requirements, artificial optical radiation, instruction requirements, hot surface, unattended operation, foreseeable misuse...);
- modification of the specifications concerning the sensing range and operating distance;

- new definitions for photoelectric proximity switch type D with background suppression;
- integration of the requirements and test procedures of photoelectric proximity switch type D with background suppression;
- update of EMC requirements in Table 9 and Table 10;
- integration of environmental information requirements and environmental condition by referencing Annexes O, W and Q of IEC 60947-1:2007, IEC 60947-1:2007/AMD1:2010 and IEC 60947-1:2007/AMD2:2014;
- modification of impulse withstand voltage test (5.3.1.3, 9.3.3.4.5);
- modification of the references in the (normative) standard body to the (informative) Annex A;
- major update of Annex A (definitions update, new dimensions and shapes);
- update of C.9.1.1;
- update of Annex D in order to consider new connector types and normative references;
- update of Annex F (additional symbols for photoelectric proximity switches).

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

FDIS	Report on voting
121A/313/FDIS	121A/322/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.

A list of all the parts in the IEC 60947 series, under the general title *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear*, can be found on the IEC website.

This International Standard should be used in conjunction with IEC 60947-1:2007, IEC 60947-1:2007/AMD1:2010 and IEC 60947-1:2007/AMD2:2014.

The provisions of the general rules, IEC 60947-1, are applicable to this document, where specifically called for. General rules, clauses and subclauses thus applicable, as well as tables, figures and annexes are identified by a reference to IEC 60947-1, for example 1.2.3, Table 4 or Annex A of IEC 60947-1:2007.

The following differing practices of a less permanent nature exist in the countries indicated below.

- 8.1.7.3: recommendations are given in the National US Electrical Code about connections means;
- 8.1.7.4: in the United States of America, there are other documents that define conductor colour coding schemes that can apply to the installation of proximity switches;
- 8.1.15.2: for European Union Countries: in certain ranges the defined limits of exposure values in IEC 60825-1:2014 exceed the requirements of the European directive 2006/25/EC Directive on the minimum health and safety requirements regarding the exposure of workers to risks arising from physical agents (artificial optical radiation).

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website 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.**

## LOW-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

### Part 5-2: Control circuit devices and switching elements – Proximity switches

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60947 applies to inductive and capacitive proximity switches that sense the presence of metallic and/or non-metallic objects, ultrasonic proximity switches that sense the presence of sound reflecting objects, photoelectric proximity switches that sense the presence of objects and non-mechanical magnetic proximity switches that sense the presence of objects with a magnetic field.

Products covered by the scope of this document are not subjected to defined behaviours under fault conditions. Proximity switches with defined behaviour are covered by IEC 60947-5-3 and have to fulfil additional requirements.

These proximity switches are self-contained, have semiconductor switching element(s) and are intended to be connected to circuits, the rated voltage of which does not exceed 250 V 50 Hz/60 Hz AC RMS or 300 V DC.

Examples of typical applications for in-scope products:

- factory automation and machinery industry;
- logistic and packaging industry;
- conveyor belts, lifts;
- process industry;
- power plants.

Special applications (e.g. corrosive atmosphere) can cause additional requirements.

This document is not intended to cover proximity switches with analogue outputs.

The object of this document is to state for proximity switches:

- definitions;
- classification;
- characteristics;
- product information;
- normal service, mounting and transport conditions;
- constructional and performance requirements;
- tests to verify rated characteristics.

Products covered by the scope of this document are expected to be selected, installed, and maintained by skilled personnel only.