

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

---

**Coaxial communication cables –  
Part 6: Sectional specification for CATV drop cables**





**THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED**  
**Copyright © 2021 IEC, Geneva, Switzerland**

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from either IEC or IEC's member National Committee in the country of the requester. If you have any questions about IEC copyright or have an enquiry about obtaining additional rights to this publication, please contact the address below or your local IEC member National Committee for further information.

IEC Central Office  
3, rue de Varembe  
CH-1211 Geneva 20  
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11  
[info@iec.ch](mailto:info@iec.ch)  
[www.iec.ch](http://www.iec.ch)

**About the IEC**

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is the leading global organization that prepares and publishes International Standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies.

**About IEC publications**

The technical content of IEC publications is kept under constant review by the IEC. Please make sure that you have the latest edition, a corrigendum or an amendment might have been published.

**IEC publications search - [webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform](http://webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform)**

The advanced search enables to find IEC publications by a variety of criteria (reference number, text, technical committee, ...). It also gives information on projects, replaced and withdrawn publications.

**IEC Just Published - [webstore.iec.ch/justpublished](http://webstore.iec.ch/justpublished)**

Stay up to date on all new IEC publications. Just Published details all new publications released. Available online and once a month by email.

**IEC Customer Service Centre - [webstore.iec.ch/csc](http://webstore.iec.ch/csc)**

If you wish to give us your feedback on this publication or need further assistance, please contact the Customer Service Centre: [sales@iec.ch](mailto:sales@iec.ch).

**IEC online collection - [oc.iec.ch](http://oc.iec.ch)**

Discover our powerful search engine and read freely all the publications previews. With a subscription you will always have access to up to date content tailored to your needs.

**Electropedia - [www.electropedia.org](http://www.electropedia.org)**

The world's leading online dictionary on electrotechnology, containing more than 22 000 terminological entries in English and French, with equivalent terms in 18 additional languages. Also known as the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) online.

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

---

**Coaxial communication cables –  
Part 6: Sectional specification for CATV drop cables**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

---

ICS 33.120.10

ISBN 978-2-8322-1015-4

**Warning! Make sure that you obtained this publication from an authorized distributor.**

## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	3
1 Scope.....	5
2 Normative references.....	5
3 Terms and definitions .....	7
4 Materials and cable construction .....	7
4.1 Cable construction .....	7
4.2 Inner conductor.....	7
4.2.1 Conductor material.....	7
4.2.2 Conductor construction .....	7
4.3 Dielectric .....	7
4.4 Outer conductor or screen .....	8
4.5 Sheath.....	8
4.6 Completed cable .....	8
5 Standard ratings and characteristics .....	8
6 Identification and marking .....	9
6.1 Cable identification.....	9
6.2 Sheath marking.....	9
6.3 Labelling.....	9
7 Tests for completed cables .....	10
7.1 General.....	10
7.2 Electrical testing of the finished cable.....	10
7.2.1 Low-frequency and DC electrical measurements.....	10
7.2.2 High-frequency electrical and transmission measurements.....	11
7.3 Environmental testing of the finished cable .....	13
7.4 Tests for mechanical characteristics of the finished cable.....	14
7.5 Fire performance test methods .....	14
8 Quality assessment .....	15
9 Delivery and storage.....	15
10 Fire performance test methods (FFS).....	15
Annex A (normative) Cable identification and marking .....	16
A.1 Cable identification.....	16
A.1.1 Type name.....	16
A.1.2 Variants .....	16
A.1.3 Screening classes .....	16
A.2 Cable marking.....	17
Bibliography .....	18
Table 1 – Low-frequency and DC electrical measurements .....	10
Table 2 – High-frequency electrical and transmission measurements .....	11
Table 3 – Environmental testing of the finished cable .....	13
Table 4 – Tests for mechanical characteristics of the finished cable.....	14
Table 5 – Fire performance test methods (FFS).....	15

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

## COAXIAL COMMUNICATION CABLES –

## Part 6: Sectional specification for CATV drop cables

## FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as “IEC Publication(s)”). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
- 2) The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

IEC 61196-6 has been prepared by subcommittee 46A: Coaxial cables, of IEC technical committee 46: Cables, wires, waveguides, RF connectors, RF and microwave passive components and accessories. It is an International Standard.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2009. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) extended scope,
- b) revised sheath marking and labelling.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
46A/1498/FDIS	46A/1514/RVD

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

A list of all the parts in the IEC 61196 series, published under the general title *Coxial communication cables*, can be found on the IEC website.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications](http://www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications).

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under [webstore.iec.ch](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.

## COAXIAL COMMUNICATION CABLES –

### Part 6: Sectional specification for CATV drop cables

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 61196 applies to coaxial communications cables. It specifies the requirements for CATV drop cables for analogue and digital one and two way signal transmission, e.g. for cable networks for television signals, sound signals, interactive services, surveillance & control systems, and satellite television receiving systems according to the requirements of IEC 60728-1, IEC 60728-1-1, IEC 60728-101, IEC 60728-10, ISO/IEC 11801-1 and ISO/IEC 11801-4. This also includes the transmission of DC signals provided by a CATV, MATV or SMATV cable network.

The operating frequency is from 5 MHz to 1 000 MHz or from 5 MHz to 3 000 MHz.

Operating temperature is between –40 °C and +70 °C.

#### 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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 60068-1:2013, *Environmental testing – Part 1: General and guidance*

IEC 60068-2-78, *Environmental testing – Part 2-78: Tests – Test Cab: Damp heat, steady state*

IEC 60096-0-1, *Radio frequency cables – Part 0-1: Guidelines to the design of detail specifications – Coaxial cables*

IEC 60811-605, *Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials – Part 605: Physical tests – Measurement of carbon black and/or mineral filler in polyethylene compounds*

IEC 61196-1:2005, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1: Generic specification – General, definitions and requirements*

IEC 61196-1-1, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-1: Capability approval for coaxial cables*

IEC 61196-1-101, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-101: Electrical test methods – Test for conductor d.c. resistance of cable*

IEC 61196-1-102, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-102: Electrical test methods – Test for insulation resistance of cable dielectric*

IEC 61196-1-105, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-105: Electrical test methods – Test for withstand voltage of cable dielectric*