

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



Calibration of fibre-optic power meters

Étalonnage de wattmètres pour dispositifs à fibres optiques



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

CALIBRATION OF FIBRE-OPTIC POWER METERS

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61315 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 86: Fibre optics.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2005. It constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) update of terms and definitions;
- b) update of 5.1, including Table 1 (new type of source);
- c) update of Annex A;
- d) addition of Annex B on dB conversion.

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

CDV	Report on voting
86/533/CDV	86/540A/RVC

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.

In this document, the following print types are used:

– *terms defined in the document: in italic type.*

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- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
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INTRODUCTION

Fibre-optic power meters are designed to measure optical power from fibre-optic sources as accurately as possible. This capability depends largely on the quality of the *calibration* process. In contrast to other types of measuring equipment, the *measurement results of fibre-optic power meters* usually depend on many conditions of measurement. The conditions of measurement during the *calibration* process are called *calibration conditions*. Their precise description is therefore an integral part of the *calibration*.

This document defines all of the steps involved in the *calibration* process: establishing the *calibration conditions*, carrying out the *calibration*, calculating the uncertainty, and reporting the uncertainty, the *calibration conditions* and the *traceability*.

The absolute power *calibration* describes how to determine the ratio between the value of the input power and the power meter's result. This ratio is called *correction factor*. The measurement uncertainty of the *correction factor* is combined following Annex A from uncertainty contributions from the *reference meter*, the *test meter*, the setup and the procedure.

The calculations go through detailed characterizations of individual uncertainties. It is important to know that

- a) some uncertainties are type B estimations, experience-based,
- b) a detailed uncertainty analysis is usually only done once for each power meter type under test, and all subsequent *calibrations* are usually based on this one-time analysis, using the appropriate type A measurement contributions evaluated at the time of the *calibration*, and
- c) some of the individual uncertainties are simply considered to be part of a checklist, with an actual value which can be neglected.

Clause 5 defines absolute power *calibration*, which is mandatory for *calibration* reports referring to this document.

Clause 6 describes the evaluation of the measurement uncertainty of a calibrated power meter operated within *reference conditions* or within *operating conditions*. It depends on the *calibration* uncertainty of the power meter as calculated in 5.4, the conditions and its dependence on the conditions. It is usually performed by manufacturers in order to establish specifications and is not mandatory for reports referring to this document. One of these dependences, the *nonlinearity* is determined in a separate *calibration* (Clause 7).

CALIBRATION OF FIBRE-OPTIC POWER METERS

1 Scope

This document is applicable to instruments measuring *radiant power* emitted from sources that are typical for the fibre-optic communications industry. These sources include laser diodes, light emitting diodes (LEDs) and fibre-type sources. Both divergent and collimated radiations are covered. This document defines the *calibration* of power meters to be performed by *calibration* laboratories or by power meter manufacturers.

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

IEC TR 61931:1998, *Fibre optic – Terminology*

ISO/IEC Guide 98-3:2008, *Uncertainty of measurement – Part 3: Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement (GUM:1995)*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC TR 61931 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

3.1

accredited calibration laboratory

calibration laboratory authorized by the appropriate national organization to issue *calibration* certificates with a minimum specified uncertainty, which demonstrate *traceability* to *national standards* (3.14)

adjustment

set of operations carried out on an instrument in order that it provides given indications corresponding to given values of the measurand

Note 1 to entry: When the instrument is made to give a null indication corresponding to a null value of the measurand, the set of operations is called zero adjustment.

Note 2 to entry: For more information, see ISO/IEC Guide 99:2007, 3.11.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-311:2001, 311-03-16, modified – The words "of a measuring instrument" have been deleted from the term, and Note 2 to entry has been added.]