IEC 61400-4

Edition 1.0 2012-12

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

colour inside

Wind turbines –
Part 4: Design requirements for wind turbine gearboxes

Éoliennes –
Partie 4: Exigences de conception des boîtes de vitesses des éoliennes

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

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11
info@iec.ch
www.iec.ch

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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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.
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International Standard IEC 61400-4 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 88: Wind turbines, in cooperation with ISO technical committee 60: Gears.

It is published as a double logo standard.

This bilingual version (2020-02) corresponds to the monolingual English version, published in 2012-12.

This first edition cancels and replaces ISO 81400-4 published in 2005. It constitutes a technical revision of ISO 81400-4 with extended content and changes in all pertinent sections.

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

a) extension of the scope to wind turbines above 2 MW rated power;

b) considerations for converging differing approaches to reliability in gear, bearing and wind turbine standards;

c) a new clause on wind turbine loads specific to drivetrains;

d) new clause on testing and validation of new gearbox designs;

e) updated bearing selection tables for different locations in a wind turbine gearbox;

f) expanded design considerations on the use of bearings based on avoiding standard failures;

g) a new clause on considerations and requirements in the design and analysis of gearbox structural elements;

h) updated considerations and requirements on lubricants and lubrication systems.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
88/438/FDIS	88/441/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table. In ISO, the standard has been approved by 11 P-members out of 12 having cast a vote.

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.

A list of all parts in the IEC 61400 series, published under the general title *Wind turbines*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication 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.

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.

INTRODUCTION

IEC 61400-4 outlines minimum requirements for specification, design and verification of gearboxes in wind turbines. It is not intended for use as a complete design specification or instruction manual, and it is not intended to assure performance of assembled drive systems. It is intended for use by experienced gear designers capable of selecting reasonable values for the factors, based on knowledge of similar designs and the effects of such items as lubrication, deflection, manufacturing tolerances, metallurgy, residual stress and system dynamics. It is not intended for use by the engineering public at large.

Any of the requirements of this standard may be altered if it can be suitably demonstrated that the safety and reliability of the system is not compromised. Compliance with this standard does not relieve any person, organization, or corporation from the responsibility of observing other applicable regulations.

WIND TURBINES –

Part 4: Design requirements for wind turbine gearboxes

1 Scope

This part of the IEC 61400 series is applicable to enclosed speed increasing gearboxes for horizontal axis wind turbine drivetrains with a power rating in excess of 500 kW. This standard applies to wind turbines installed onshore or offshore.

This International Standard provides guidance on the analysis of the wind turbine loads in relation to the design of the gear and gearbox elements.

The gearing elements covered by this standard include such gears as spur, helical or double helical and their combinations in parallel and epicyclic arrangements in the main power path. This standard does not apply to power take off gears (PTO).

The standard is based on gearbox designs using rolling element bearings. Use of plain bearings is permissible under this standard, but the use and rating of them is not covered.

Also included is guidance on the engineering of shafts, shaft hub interfaces, bearings and the gear case structure in the development of a fully integrated design that meets the rigours of the operating conditions.

Lubrication of the transmission is covered along with prototype and production testing. Finally, guidance is provided on the operation and maintenance of the gearbox.

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 60050 (all parts), *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary*
Available at <http://www.electropedia.org>

IEC 61400-1:2005, *Wind turbines – Part 1: Design requirements*

IEC 61400-3, *Wind turbines – Part 3: Design requirements for offshore wind turbines*

IEC/TS 61400-13:2001, *Wind turbine generator systems – Part 13: Measurement of mechanical loads*

IEC 61400-22:2010, *Wind turbines – Part 22: Conformity testing and certification*

ISO 76, *Rolling bearings – Static load ratings*

ISO 281:2007, *Rolling bearings – Dynamic load ratings and rating life*

ISO 683 (all parts), *Heat-treatable steels, alloy steels and free-cutting steels*