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**Hydraulic machines – Guidelines for dealing with hydro-abrasive erosion
in kaplan, francis, and pelton turbines**

**Machines hydrauliques – Lignes directrices relatives
au traitement de l'érosion hydro-abrasive des turbines kaplan, francis et pelton**



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**HYDRAULIC MACHINES –
GUIDELINES FOR DEALING WITH HYDRO-ABRASIVE
EROSION IN KAPLAN, FRANCIS, AND PELTON TURBINES**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 62364 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 4: Hydraulic turbines.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2013. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) the formula for TBO in Pelton reference model has been modified;
- b) the formula for calculating sampling interval has been modified;
- c) the chapter in hydro-abrasive erosion resistant coatings has been substantially modified;
- d) the annex with test data for hydro-abrasive erosion resistant materials has been removed;
- e) a simplified hydro-abrasive erosion evaluation has been added.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
4/351/FDIS	4/366/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.

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

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INTRODUCTION

The number of hydro power plants with hydro-abrasive erosion is increasing worldwide.

An overall approach is needed to minimize the impact of this phenomenon. Already at the start of the planning phase an evaluation should be done to quantify the hydro-abrasive erosion and the impact on the operation. For this, the influencing parameters and their impact on the hydro-abrasive erosion have to be known. The necessary information for the evaluation comprises among others the future design, the particle parameters of the water, which will pass the turbine, the reservoir sedimentation and the power plant owner's framework for the future operation like availability or maximum allowable efficiency loss, before an overhaul needs to be done.

Based on this evaluation of the hydro-abrasive erosion, an optimised solution can then be found, by analysing all measures in relation to investments, energy production and maintenance costs as decision parameters. Often a more hydro-abrasive erosion-resistant design, instead of choosing the turbine design with the highest efficiency, will lead to higher revenue. This analysis is best performed by the overall plant designer.

With regards to the machines, owners should find the means to communicate to potential suppliers for their sites, their desire to have the particular attention of the designers at the turbine design phase, directed to the minimization of the severity and effects of hydro-abrasive erosion.

Limited consensus and very little quantitative data exists on the steps which the designer could and should take to extend the useful life before a major overhaul of the turbine components when they are operated under severe hydro-abrasive erosion service. This has led some owners to write into their specifications, conditions which cannot be met with known methods and materials.

HYDRAULIC MACHINES – GUIDELINES FOR DEALING WITH HYDRO-ABRASIVE EROSION IN KAPLAN, FRANCIS, AND PELTON TURBINES

1 Scope

This document gives guidelines for:

- a) presenting data on hydro-abrasive erosion rates on several combinations of water quality, operating conditions, component materials, and component properties collected from a variety of hydro sites;
- b) developing guidelines for the methods of minimizing hydro-abrasive erosion by modifications to hydraulic design for clean water. These guidelines do not include details such as hydraulic profile shapes which are determined by the hydraulic design experts for a given site;
- c) developing guidelines based on “experience data” concerning the relative resistance of materials faced with hydro-abrasive erosion problems;
- d) developing guidelines concerning the maintainability of materials with high resistance to hydro-abrasive erosion and hardcoatings;
- e) developing guidelines on a recommended approach, which owners could and should take to ensure that specifications communicate the need for particular attention to this aspect of hydraulic design at their sites without establishing criteria which cannot be satisfied because the means are beyond the control of the manufacturers;
- f) developing guidelines concerning operation modes of the hydro turbines in water with particle materials to increase the operation life.

It is assumed in this document that the water is not chemically aggressive. Since chemical aggressiveness is dependent upon so many possible chemical compositions, and the materials of the machine, it is beyond the scope of this document to address these issues.

It is assumed in this document that cavitation is not present in the turbine. Cavitation and hydro-abrasive erosion can reinforce each other so that the resulting erosion is larger than the sum of cavitation erosion plus hydro-abrasive erosion. The quantitative relationship of the resulting hydro-abrasive erosion is not known and it is beyond the scope of this document to assess it, except to suggest that special efforts be made in the turbine design phase to minimize cavitation.

Large solids (e.g. stones, wood, ice, metal objects, etc.) traveling with the water can impact turbine components and produce damage. This damage can in turn increase the flow turbulence thereby accelerating wear by both cavitation and hydro-abrasive erosion. Hydro-abrasive erosion resistant coatings can also be damaged locally by impact of large solids. It is beyond the scope of this document to address these issues.

This document focuses mainly on hydroelectric powerplant equipment. Certain portions can also be applicable to other hydraulic machines.

2 Terms, definitions and symbols

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

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