IEC 62760

Edition 1.0 2016-02

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

Audio reproduction method for normalized loudness level

Méthode de reproduction audio pour niveau d'ins sonie normalisé

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

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11
Fax: +41 22 919 03 00
info@iec.ch
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 corrigenda or an amendment might have been published.

IEC Catalogue - webstore.iec.ch/catalogue
The stand-alone application for consulting the entire bibliographical information on IEC International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports and other documents. Available for PC, Mac OS, Android Tablets and iPad.

IEC publications search - www.iec.ch/searchpub
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 It also gives information on projects, replaced and withdrawn publications.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
Stay up to date on all new IEC publications. Just Published details all new publications released. Available online and also once a month by email.

Electropedia - www.electropedia.org
The world's leading online dictionary of electronic and electrical terms containing 20 000 terms and definitions in English and French, with equivalent terms in 15 additional languages. Also known as the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) online.

IEC Glossary - std.iec.ch/glossary
65 000 electrotechnical terminology entries in English and French extracted from the Terms and Definitions clause of IEC publications issued since 2002. Some entries have been collected from earlier publications of IEC TC 37, 77, 86 and CISPR.

IEC Customer Service Centre - 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: csc@iec.ch.

A propos de l'IEC
La Commission Electrotechnique Internationale (IEC) est la première organisation mondiale qui élabore et publie des Normes internationales pour tout ce qui a trait à l'électricité, à l'électronique et aux technologies apparentées.

A propos des publications IEC
Le contenu technique des publications IEC est constamment revu. Veuillez vous assurer que vous possédez l'édition la plus récente, un corrigendum ou amendement peut avoir été publié.

Catalogue IEC - webstore.iec.ch/catalogue
Application autonome pour consulter tous les renseignements bibliographiques sur les Normes internationales, Spécifications techniques, Rapports techniques et autres documents de l'IEC. Disponible pour PC, Mac OS, tablettes Android et iPad.

Recherche de publications IEC - www.iec.ch/searchpub
La recherche avancée permet de trouver des publications IEC en utilisant différents critères (numéro de référence, texte, comité d'études,…). Elle donne aussi des informations sur les projets et les publications remplacées ou retirées.

IEC Just Published - webstore.iec.ch/justpublished
Restez informé sur les nouvelles publications IEC. Just Published détaille les nouvelles publications parues. Disponible en ligne et aussi une fois par mois par email.

Electropedia - www.electropedia.org
Le premier dictionnaire en ligne de termes électroniques et électriques. Il contient 20 000 termes et définitions en anglais et en français, ainsi que les termes équivalents dans 15 langues additionnelles. Egalement appelé Vocabulaire Electrotechnique International (IEV) en ligne.

Glossaire IEC - std.iec.ch/glossary
65 000 entrées terminologiques électrotechniques, en anglais et en français, extraites des articles Termes et Définitions des publications IEC parues depuis 2002. Plus certaines entrées antérieures extraites des publications des CE 37, 77, 86 et CISPR de l'IEC.

Service Clients - webstore.iec.ch/csc
Si vous désirez nous donner des commentaires sur cette publication ou si vous avez des questions contactez-nous: csc@iec.ch.

IEC 62760

Edition 1.0 2016-02

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

Audio reproduction method for normalized loudness level

Méthode de reproduction audio pour niveau d'écoute normalisé

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

COMMISSION ELECTROTECHNIQUE INTERNATIONALE

ICS 33.160.30

ISBN 978-2-8322-3155-5

CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

AUDIO REPRODUCTION METHOD FOR NORMALIZED LOUDNESS LEVEL

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.

International Standard IEC 62760 has been prepared by technical area 11: Quality for audio, video and multimedia systems, of IEC technical committee 100: Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
100/2591/FDIS	100/2635/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.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

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

INTRODUCTION

The loudness level of audio reproduction varies according to the level of the input source and whether it is mono, stereo or multichannel. Without a suitable form of automatic control, users are forced to adjust the volume level of equipment to obtain an appropriate loudness level when the user selects another audio source or audio mode such as mono, stereo or downmix. There are some specific adjustment methods applied to consumer equipment but these methods are not standardized. For broadcast audio, broadcasting studios apply loudness level measurements and settle a reference level for their audio content depending on ITU-R BS.1770 and ITU-R BS.1864, the first standardisation work for loudness level in broadcasting. The audio loudness levels of other services are also expected to be standardized.

Broadcast audio with regulated loudness levels can be reproduced correctly with appropriately-configured reproduction systems and equipment. This International Standard specifies the method for reproduction with channel mode level setting and other level settings, and provides improved quality of listening for users. This method is also applicable for various audio content other than broadcasting audio. This International Standard is applicable to electrical signal levels and excludes acoustic audio levels from loudspeakers.

AUDIO REPRODUCTION METHOD FOR NORMALIZED LOUDNESS LEVEL

1 Scope

This International Standard specifies the audio reproduction method for normalized loudness level of audio sources for consumer equipment and systems.

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 62574, *Audio, video and multimedia systems – General channel assignment of multichannel audio*

ITU-R BS.1770-3:08/2012, *Algorithms to measure audio programme loudness and true-peak audio level*

3 Terms, definitions and abbreviations

3.1 Terms and definitions

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

3.1.1
loudness
subjective notion describing the magnitude of the perception of the sound by the human sense of hearing

Note 1 to entry: The magnitude of the auditory sensation mainly depends on sound pressure, it differs with frequency and sustain time of sound (see ISO 226:2003).

Note 2 to entry: The loudness is based on a sound that is pure tone of 40 dB sound pressure level and 1 kHz frequency, whose level is defined as 1 sone. Its symbol is N.

3.1.2
loudness level
level of a sound equal to the sound pressure level of 1 kHz sine wave

Note 1 to entry: The loudness level is sensed by humans as equal to the subjective sound level. The reference is 1 kHz sine wave and 40 dB sound pressure level, its loudness level is 40 phon.

Note 2 to entry: The symbol for loudness level is L_N and its unit is phon.

3.1.3
gated loudness
numerical value of loudness measured according to ITU-R BS.1770-3

Note 1 to entry: Gated loudness is measured in LKFS.

3.1.4
LKFS
loudness, K-weighted, relative to nominal full scale