

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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Junction boxes for photovoltaic modules – Safety requirements and tests

Boîtes de jonction pour modules photovoltaïques – Exigences de sécurité et essais



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**JUNCTION BOXES FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC MODULES –
SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND TESTS**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 62790 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2014. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) Modifications in normative references and terms and definitions;
- b) Improvement of declaration of categories for junction boxes in 4.1;
- c) Clarification for ambient temperature in 4.1;
- d) Addition of requirement to provide information concerning RTE/RTI or TI in 4.2;
- e) Reference to IEC 62930 instead of EN 50618 in 4.6;
- f) Addition of "Functional insulation" in Table 1;

- g) Addition of "Distance through cemented joints" in Table 3;
- h) Correction of procedure of process to categorize material groups (deletion of PTI) in 4.15.2.3;
- i) Requirement for approval of RTE/RTI or TI for insulation parts in 4.16.1 and 4.16.2;
- j) Change of requirements concerning electrochemical potential in 4.17.2;
- k) Clarification for IP-test in 5.3.4.2;
- l) Addition of test voltage for cemented joints in 5.3.6 and 5.3.16;
- m) Addition of detailed description on how to prepare the test sample for the thermal cycle test in 5.3.9.1;
- n) New test procedure for bypass diode thermal test (5.3.18) in accordance with MQT 18.1 of IEC 61215-2:2016;
- o) New test procedure for reverse overload current test in 5.3.23;
- p) New Figure 1 for thermal cycle test.

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

| FDIS | Report on voting |
|--------------|------------------|
| 82/1719/FDIS | 82/1738/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 web site under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

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JUNCTION BOXES FOR PHOTOVOLTAIC MODULES – SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND TESTS

1 Scope

This document describes safety requirements, constructional requirements and tests for junction boxes up to 1 500 V DC for use on photovoltaic modules in accordance with class II of IEC 61140:2016.

This document applies also to enclosures mounted on PV-modules containing electronic circuits for converting, controlling, monitoring or similar operations. Additional requirements concerning the relevant operations are applied under consideration of the environmental conditions of the PV-modules. This document does not apply to the electronic circuits of these devices, for which other IEC standards apply.

NOTE For junction boxes in accordance with classes 0 and III of IEC 61140:2016, in photovoltaic-systems, this document can be used as a guideline.

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 60060-1, *High-voltage test techniques – Part 1: General definitions and test requirements*

IEC 60068-1, *Environmental testing – Part 1: General and guidance*

IEC 60068-2-14:2009, *Environmental testing – Part 2-14: Tests – Test N: Change of temperature*

IEC 60068-2-70, *Environmental testing – Part 2-70: Tests – Test Xb: Abrasion of markings and letterings caused by rubbing of fingers and hands*

IEC 60068-2-75, *Environmental testing – Part 2-75: Tests – Test Eh: Hammer tests*

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

IEC 60216-1, *Electrical insulating materials – Thermal endurance properties – Part 1: Ageing procedures and evaluation of test results*

IEC 60216-5, *Electrical insulating materials – Thermal endurance properties – Part 5: Determination of relative thermal endurance index (RTE) of an insulating material*

IEC 60352-2, *Solderless connections – Part 2: Crimped connections – General requirements, test methods and practical guidance*

IEC 60352-3, *Solderless connections – Part 3: Solderless accessible insulation displacement connections – General requirements, test methods and practical guidance*