

IEEE Std C37.63™-2005  
(Revision of  
IEEE Std C37.63-1997)

# C37.63™

## IEEE Standard Requirements for Overhead, Pad-Mounted, Dry-Vault, and Submersible Automatic Line Sectionalizers for AC Systems

---

IEEE Power Engineering Society

Sponsored by the  
Switchgear Committee



3 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016-5997, USA

12 August 2005

Print: SH95324

PDF: SS95324

IEEE Standards

Currently in preview, click buy full versi

Recognized as an  
American National Standard (ANSI)

**IEEE Std C37.63™-2005**  
(Revision of  
IEEE Std C37.63-1997)

# IEEE Standard Requirements for Overhead, Pad-Mounted, Dry-Vault, and Submersible Automatic Line Sectionalizers for AC Systems

Sponsor

**Switchgear Committee**  
of the  
**IEEE Power Engineering Society**

Approved 6 May 2005

**American National Standards Institute**

Approved 14 February 2005

**IEEE-SA Standards Board**

**Abstract:** Required definitions (for cutout type sectionalizers), ratings, procedures for performing design tests and production tests, constructional requirements, and application considerations for overhead and pad-mounted, dry-vault, and submersible automatic line sectionalizers for ac systems are specified.

**Keywords:** sectionalizers: cutout type, dry-vault, pad-mounted; submersible

---

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.  
3 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016-5997, USA

Copyright © 2005 by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.  
All rights reserved. Published 12 August 2005. Printed in the United States of America.

IEEE is a registered trademark in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, owned by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Incorporated.

Print: ISBN 0-7381-4760-5 SH95324  
PDF: ISBN 0-7381-4761-3 SS95324

No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form, in an electronic retrieval system or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

**IEEE Standards** documents are developed within the IEEE Societies and the Standards Coordinating Committees of the IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA) Standards Board. The IEEE develops its standards through a consensus development process, approved by the American National Standards Institute, which brings together volunteers representing varied viewpoints and interests to achieve the final product. Volunteers are not necessarily members of the Institute and serve without compensation. While the IEEE administers the process and establishes rules to promote fairness in the consensus development process, the IEEE does not independently evaluate, test, or verify the accuracy of any of the information contained in its standards.

Use of an IEEE Standard is wholly voluntary. The IEEE disclaims liability for any personal injury, property or other damage, of any nature whatsoever, whether special, indirect, consequential, or compensatory, directly or indirectly resulting from the publication, use of, or reliance upon this, or any other IEEE Standard document.

The IEEE does not warrant or represent the accuracy or content of the material contained herein, and expressly disclaims any express or implied warranty, including any implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for a specific purpose or that the use of the material contained herein is free from patent infringement. IEEE Standards documents are supplied "AS IS."

The existence of an IEEE Standard does not imply that there are no other ways to produce, test, measure, purchase, market, or provide other goods and services related to the scope of the IEEE Standard. Furthermore, the viewpoint expressed at the time a standard is approved and issued is subject to change brought about through developments in the state of the art and comments received from users of the standard. Every IEEE Standard is subjected to review at least every five years for revision or reaffirmation. When a document is more than five years old and has not been reaffirmed, it is reasonable to conclude that its contents, although still of some value, do not wholly reflect the present state of the art. Users are cautioned to check to determine that they have the latest edition of any IEEE Standard.

In publishing and making this document available, the IEEE is not suggesting or endorsing professional or other services for, or on behalf of, any person or entity. Nor is the IEEE undertaking to perform any duty owed by any other person or entity to another. Any person utilizing this, and any other IEEE Standard document, should rely upon the advice of a competent professional in determining the exercise of reasonable care in any given circumstances.

**Interpretations:** Occasionally questions may arise regarding the meaning of portions of standards as they relate to specific applications. When the need for interpretations is brought to the attention of IEEE, the Institute will initiate action to prepare appropriate responses. Since IEEE Standards represent a consensus of concerned interests, it is important to ensure that any interpretation has also received the concurrence of a balance of interests. For this reason, IEEE and the members of its societies and Standards Coordinating Committees are not able to provide an instant response to interpretation requests except in those cases where the matter has previously received formal consideration. At lectures, symposia, seminars, or educational courses, an individual presenting information on IEEE standards shall make it clear that his or her views should be considered the personal views of that individual rather than a formal position, explanation, or interpretation of the IEEE.

Comments for revision of IEEE Standards are welcome from any interested party, regardless of membership affiliation with IEEE. Suggestions for changes in documents should be in the form of a proposed change of text, together with appropriate supporting comments. Comments on standards and requests for interpretations should be addressed to:

Secretary, IEEE-SA Standards Board  
445 Hoes Lane  
Piscataway, NJ 08854  
USA

<p><b>NOTE</b>—Attention is called to the possibility that implementation of this standard may require use of subject matter covered by patent rights. By publication of this standard, no position is taken with respect to the existence or validity of any patent rights in connection therewith. The IEEE shall not be responsible for identifying patents for which a license may be required by an IEEE standard or for conducting inquiries into the legal validity or scope of those patents that are brought to its attention.</p>
---

Authorization to photocopy portions of any individual standard for internal or personal use is granted by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc., provided that the appropriate fee is paid to Copyright Clearance Center. To arrange for payment of licensing fee, please contact Copyright Clearance Center, Customer Service, 222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA 01923 USA; +1 978 750 8400. Permission to photocopy portions of any individual standard for educational classroom use can also be obtained through the Copyright Clearance Center.

## Introduction

This introduction is not part of IEEE Std C37.63-2005, IEEE Standard Requirements for Overhead, Pad-Mounted, Dry-Vault, and Submersible Automatic Line Sectionalizers for AC Systems.

This standard has been revised and updated from the 1997 version of ANSI C37.63. This revision incorporates significant improvements that reflect the present state of the art in automatic line sectionalizers. These improvements include changes and additions in the following areas:

- Reorganization of the tests into Clause 6, following a format similar to IEEE Std 1247™-1998 and making reference to IEEE Std 1247-1998 for most of the test procedures.
- Review of underground sectionalizers tank construction by referring to IEEE Std C37.74™.
- General structure of the document has been made similar to other distribution standards.
- Revised limits of temperature and temperature rise to be consistent with circuit breaker standards.
- Radio influence voltage and partial discharge tests have been reviewed and aligned on IEEE Std C37.60™-2003.
- Replaced dc withstand voltage test by very low frequency tests for all field aged cables, as recommended by IEEE Transmission and Distribution committee and IEEE Std 133™.
- Cutout type sectionalizers ratings have been reviewed and reference made to ANSI C37.42.
- A normative Annex B have been added to cover series coil ratings.
- The notes have been reviewed and those containing normative material have been changed to be included in the main text. The only notes left are informative.

## Notice to users

### Errata

Errata, if any, for this and all other standards can be accessed at the following URL: <http://standards.ieee.org/reading/ieee/updates/errata/index.html>. Users are encouraged to check this URL for errata periodically.

### Interpretations

Current interpretations can be accessed at the following URL: <http://standards.ieee.org/reading/ieee/interp/index.html>.

## Patents

Attention is called to the possibility that implementation of this standard may require use of subject matter covered by patent rights. By publication of this standard, no position is taken with respect to the existence or validity of any patent rights in connection therewith. The IEEE shall not be responsible for identifying patents or patent applications for which a license may be required to implement an IEEE standard or for conducting inquiries into the legal validity or scope of those patents that are brought to its attention.

## Participants

At the time this standard was completed, the working group had the following participants:

### **Marcel Fortin, Chair**

Greg Bow  
Harry Hirz  
George House  
William Hurst

Edward Jankowich  
Ka Ming Law  
Ed Steele

Brian Steinbrecher  
David Stone  
John Wood  
Jan Zawadzki

The following members of the individual balloting committee voted on this standard. Balloters may have voted for approval, disapproval, or abstention.

Edward Bertolini  
Lyne Brisson  
Robert Brown  
Ted Burse  
Raymond Capra  
Tommy Cooper  
Ronald Daubert  
Randall Dotson  
Marcel Fortin  
David Gilmer  
Mietek Glinkowski  
Robert Goodin  
Randall Groves  
Erik Guillot  
Ian Harvey

Edward Horgan Jr.  
George House  
William Hurst  
Edward Jankowich  
Joseph L. Koenig  
Stephen R. Lambert  
Ward E. Laubert  
Hoan Le  
George Lester  
Giuseppe Luri  
William Majeski  
Nigel McQuiny  
Mary Michel  
Daleep C. Mohla

Alec Monroe  
Georges Montillet  
Frank Muench  
T. W. Olsen  
Paulette Payne  
Timothy Royster  
James Ruggieri  
David Stone  
Stanton Telander  
Charles Wagner  
Steve Whalen  
James Wilson  
John Wood  
Zhenxue Xu  
Jan Zawadzki

When the IEEE-SA Standards Board approved this standard on 14 February 2005, it had the following membership:

**Steve M. Mills**, *Chair*  
**Richard H. Hulett**, *Vice Chair*  
**Judith Gorman**, *Secretary*

Mark D. Bowman  
Dennis B. Brophy  
Joseph Bruder  
Richard Cox  
Bob Davis  
Julian Forster\*  
Joanna N. Guenin  
Mark S. Halpin  
Raymond Hapeman

William B. Hopf  
Lowell G. Johnson  
Herman Koch  
Joseph L. Koepfinger\*  
David J. Law  
Daleep C. Mohla  
Paul Nikolich

T. W. Olsen  
Glenn Parsons  
Ronald C. Petersen  
Gary S. Robinson  
Frank Stone  
Malcolm V. Thaden  
Richard L. Townsend  
Joe D. Watson  
Howard L. Wolfman

\*Member Emeritus

Also included are the following nonvoting IEEE-SA Standards Board liaisons:

Satish K. Aggarwal, *NRC Representative*  
Richard DeBlasio, *DOE Representative*  
Alan H. Cookson, *NIST Representative*

Michelle Turner  
*IEEE Standards Project Editor*

## CONTENTS

1. Overview .....	1
1.1 Scope .....	1
1.2 Purpose .....	1
2. Normative references.....	1
3. Definitions .....	3
4. Service conditions .....	3
4.1 Usual service conditions.....	3
4.2 Unusual service conditions.....	4
5. Ratings.....	4
5.1 Ratings information .....	4
5.2 Rated power frequency .....	5
5.3 Rated maximum voltage and rated withstand voltage.....	5
5.4 Preferred continuous and load switching current ratings.....	6
5.5 Preferred minimum actuating current ratings (series air circuit breakers).....	8
5.6 Preferred short-circuit withstand current ratings.....	8
5.7 Preferred control voltage ratings .....	9
5.8 Preferred line charging and cable charging current ratings .....	10
6. Design tests.....	10
6.1 General conditions for tests.....	10
6.2 Withstand voltage tests.....	10
6.3 Continuous current tests.....	10
6.4 Switching tests.....	11
6.5 Short-time withstand current tests.....	11
6.6 Fault-making current tests.....	11
6.7 Condition of the circuit breaker after switching tests, short-time withstand current tests, and fault-making current tests.....	11
6.8 Mechanical operation tests .....	11
6.9 Radio interference voltage (RIV) tests .....	12
6.10 Partial discharge tests .....	13
6.11 Operating duty tests.....	14
6.12 Minimum actuating current tests .....	16
7. Production tests (routine tests) .....	17
7.1 Operational calibration .....	17
8. Construction requirements.....	17
8.1 Nameplate.....	17
8.2 Indicators.....	18

8.3 Accessories .....	18
8.4 Instruction .....	19
8.5 Conductor terminal .....	19
8.6 Tank construction .....	19
Annex A (informative) X/R ratios .....	20
A.1 Time constant ( $\tau_{cc}$ ) and X/R ratio .....	20
A.2 Asymmetrical fault current .....	20
Annex B (normative) Ratings for series coil sectionalizers .....	22
B.1 Rating information .....	22
B.2 Series coil sectionalizer ratings .....	22

# IEEE Standard Requirements for Overhead, Pad-Mounted, Dry-Vault, and Submersible Automatic Line Sectionalizers for AC Systems

## 1. Overview

### 1.1 Scope

This standard applies to all overhead, pad-mounted, dry-vault, and submersible single-pole or multipole alternating-current automatic line sectionalizers for rated maximum voltages from 1000 V to 38 000 V. Voltages above 38 000 V shall be considered special applications.

In order to simplify the terminology in this standard, the term *sectionalizer* has been substituted for *automatic line sectionalizer* wherever possible.

### 1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this standard is to describe the requirements for sectionalizers. Qualification to this standard should give reasonable assurance to the user that equipment meeting the requirements of this standard will perform in a satisfactory manner, provided that it has been properly selected for the intended application and is installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

## 2. Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments or corrigenda) applies.

ANSI C 7.85, American National Standard for Switchgear—Alternating-Current High-Voltage Power System Interrupters—Safety Requirements for X-Radiation Limits.<sup>1</sup>

ANSI C37.42, American National Standard for Switchgear—Distribution Cutouts and Fuse Links—Specifications.

---

<sup>1</sup>ANSI publications are available from the Sales Department, American National Standards Institute, 25 West 43rd Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, USA (<http://www.ansi.org/>).