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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

Electric cables – Calculation of the current rating – Part 1-1: Current rating equations (100 % load factor) and calculation of losses – General



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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ELECTRIC CABLES – CALCULATION OF THE CURRENT RATING –

Part 1-1: Current rating equations (100 % load factor) and calculation of losses – General

FOREWORD

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IEC 60287-1-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 20: Electric cables. It is an International Standard.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2006 and Amendment 1:2014. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

a) thorough redefinition of symbols used across the IEC 60287 and IEC 60853 series to realign and unify definitions, eliminate inconsistencies and to improve cross-use of the different parts of both IEC 60287 and IEC 60853 series;
b) introduction of corrective factors on relevant calculated physical characteristics to take into account the effect of multicore lay-lengths; a dedicated annex to highlight correction factors for different number of cores has been introduced (Annex A).

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

Draft	Report on voting
20/2096/FDIS	20/2103/RVD

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/publications.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60287 series, published under the general title *Electric cables – Calculation of the current rating*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under webstore.iec.ch in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

INTRODUCTION

This part of IEC 60287 contains formulae for the quantities R_C, W_d, λ_1 and λ_2.

It contains methods for calculating the permissible current rating of cables from details of the permissible temperature rise, conductor resistance, losses and thermal resistivities.

Formulae for the calculation of losses are also given.

The formulae in this document contain quantities which vary with cable design and materials used. The values given in the tables are either internationally agreed, for example, electrical resistivities and resistance temperature coefficients, or are those which are generally accepted in practice, for example, thermal resistivities and permittivities of materials. In this latter category, some of the values given are not characteristic of the quality of new cables but are considered to apply to cables after a long period of use. In order that uniform and comparable results can be obtained, the current ratings should be calculated with the values given in this document. However, where it is known with certainty that other values are more appropriate to the materials and design, then these may be used, and the corresponding current rating declared in addition, provided that the different values are quoted.

Quantities related to the operating conditions of cables are liable to vary considerably from one country to another. For instance, with respect to the ambient temperature and soil thermal resistivity, the values are governed in various countries by different considerations. Superficial comparisons between the values used in the various countries can lead to erroneous conclusions if they are not based on common criteria: for example, there can be different expectations for the life of the cables, and in some countries design is based on maximum values of soil thermal resistivity, whereas in others average values are used. Particularly, in the case of soil thermal resistivity, it is well known that this quantity is very sensitive to soil moisture content and can vary significantly with time, depending on the soil type, the topographical and meteorological conditions, and the cable loading.

The following procedure for choosing the values for the various parameters should, therefore, be adopted.

Numerical values should preferably be based on results of suitable measurements. Often such results are already included in national specifications as recommended values, so that the calculation can be based on these values generally used in the country in question; a survey of such values is given in IEC 60287-3-1.

A suggested list of the information required to select the appropriate type of cable is given in IEC 60287-3-1.

ELECTRIC CABLES – CALCULATION OF THE CURRENT RATING –

Part 1-1: Current rating equations (100 % load factor) and calculation of losses – General

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60287 is applicable to the conditions of steady-state operation of cables at all alternating voltages, and direct voltages up to 5 kV, buried directly in the ground, in ducts, troughs or in steel pipes, both with and without partial drying-out of the soil, as well as cables in air. The term "steady state" is intended to mean a continuous constant current (100 % load factor) just sufficient to produce asymptotically the maximum conductor temperature, the surrounding ambient conditions being assumed constant.

This document provides formulae for current ratings and losses.

The formulae given are essentially literal and designedly leave open the selection of certain important parameters. These can be divided into three groups:

– parameters related to construction of a cable (for example, thermal resistivity of insulating material) for which representative values have been selected based on published work;
– parameters related to the surrounding conditions, which can vary widely, the selection of which depends on the country in which the cables are used or will be used;
– parameters which result from an agreement between manufacturer and user and which involve a margin for security of service (for example, maximum conductor temperature).

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 60228, *Conductors of insulated cables*

IEC 60287-1-3, *Electric cables – Calculation of the current rating – Part 1-3: Current rating equations (100 % load factor) and calculation of losses – Current sharing between parallel single-core cables and calculation of circulating current losses*

IEC 60287-2-1:2023, *Electric cables – Calculation of the current rating – Part 2-1: Thermal resistance – Calculation of the thermal resistance*

3 Terms, definitions and symbols

3.1 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

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

- IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

3.2 Symbols

The symbols used in this document and the quantities which they represent are given in the following list.

A_A	cross-sectional area of the armour	mm^2
B_1, B_2	coefficients (see 5.4.3)	Ω/m
C	capacitance per core	F/m
C_F	coefficient defined in 5.3.6	
C_{fL}	coefficient to take into account the position of the neutral axis of the helically wound core in Annex A	
C_{gs}	coefficient used in 5.3.7.1	
C_{LL}	length correction factor for considering laying up of cores	
C_{M1}	coefficient defined in 5.3.6	
C_N	coefficient defined in 5.3.6	
C_P	coefficient defined in 5.3.4	Ω/m
C_p	coefficient used in 5.3.7.2	
C_Q	coefficient defined in 5.3.4	Ω/m
C_q	coefficient used in 5.3.7.2	
D_e^*	external diameter of cable	m
D_i	diameter over insulation	mm
D_p^*	diameter over the individual core of a multicore cable	m
D_s	external diameter of metal sheath	mm
D_{oc}	diameter of the imaginary coaxial cylinder which just touches the crests of a corrugated sheath	mm
D_{it}	diameter of the imaginary cylinder which just touches the inside surface of the troughs of a corrugated sheath	mm
E_e	intensity of solar radiation	W/m^2
H	magnetizing force (see 5.4.3)	A/m
H_s	inductance of sheath	H/m
H_1, H_2, H_3	components of inductance due to the steel wires (see 5.4.3)	H/m
I	current in one conductor (RMS value)	A
I_S	current in sheath (RMS value)	A
L_L^*	axial cable length over which the cores make one full helical turn	m