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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

colour inside

Photovoltaic (PV) module safety qualification – Part 2: Requirements for testing

Qualification pour la sûreté de fonctionnement des modules photovoltaïques (PV) – Partie 2: Exigences pour les essais



IEC 61730-2:2023-09(en-fr)



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Photovoltaic (PV) module safety qualification – Part 2: Requirements for testing

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD 6
1 Scope 9
2 Normative references 9
3 Terms and definitions 11
4 Test categories 11
4.1 General 11
4.2 Environmental stress tests 11
4.3 General inspection tests 12
4.4 Electrical shock hazard tests 12
4.5 Fire hazard tests 12
4.6 Mechanical stress tests 13
5 Classes and their necessary test procedures 13
6 Sampling 15
7 Test report 15
8 Testing 16
9 Pass criteria 18
10 Test procedures 18
10.1 General 18
10.2 Visual inspection MST 01 18
10.2.1 Purpose 18
10.2.2 Procedure 18
10.2.3 Pass criteria 18
10.3 Performance at STC MST 02 20
10.3.1 Purpose 20
10.3.2 Procedure 20
10.3.3 Pass criteria 20
10.4 Maximum power determination MST 03 21
10.4.1 Purpose 21
10.4.2 Procedure 21
10.4.3 Pass criteria 21
10.5 Insulation thickness test MST 04 21
10.5.1 Purpose 21
10.5.2 Procedure 21
10.5.3 Pass criteria 21
10.6 Durability of markings MST 05 22
10.7 Sharp edge test MST 06 22
10.7.1 Purpose 22
10.7.2 Apparatus 22
10.7.3 Procedure 23
10.7.4 Final measurements 24
10.7.5 Pass criteria 24
10.8 Bypass diode functionality test MST 07 24
10.9 Accessibility test MST 11 24
10.9.1 Purpose 24
10.9.2 Apparatus 24
10.9.3 Procedure 24

10.9.4 Final measurements 25
10.9.5 Pass criteria 25
10.10 Cut susceptibility test MST 12 25
10.10.1 Purpose 25
10.10.2 Apparatus 25
10.10.3 Procedure 25
10.10.4 Final measurements 26
10.10.5 Pass criteria 26
10.11 Continuity test of equipotential bonding MST 13 27
10.11.1 Purpose 27
10.11.2 Apparatus 27
10.11.3 Procedure 27
10.11.4 Final measurements 27
10.11.5 Pass criteria 27
10.12 Impulse voltage test MST 14 27
10.12.1 Purpose 27
10.12.2 Apparatus 28
10.12.3 Procedure 28
10.12.4 Final measurement 29
10.12.5 Pass criteria 29
10.13 Insulation test MST 16 29
10.14 Wet leakage current test MST 17 29
10.15 Placeholder section, formerly Temperature test MST 21 29
10.16 Hot-spot endurance test MST 22 29
10.17 Fire test MST 23 30
10.18 Ignitability test MST 24 30
10.18.1 Purpose 30
10.18.2 Apparatus 30
10.18.3 Test specimen 31
10.18.4 Conditioning 31
10.18.5 Procedure 31
10.18.6 Duration of test 34
10.18.7 Expresssion of results 34
10.18.8 Pass criteria 34
10.19 Bypass diode thermal test MST 25 34
10.20 Reverse current overload test MST 26 34
10.20.1 Purpose 34
10.20.2 Apparatus 34
10.20.3 Procedure 35
10.20.4 Pass criteria 35
10.21 Module breakage test MST 32 36
10.21.1 Purpose 36
10.21.2 Apparatus 36
10.21.3 Procedure 36
10.21.4 Pass criteria 36
10.22 Screw connections test MST 33 39
10.22.1 Test for general screw connections MST 33a 39
10.22.2 Test for locking screws MST 33b 41
10.23 Static mechanical load test MST 34 41

10.23.1 General 41
10.23.2 Pass criteria 41
10.24 Peel test MST 35 41
10.24.1 Purpose 41
10.24.2 Sample requirements 41
10.24.3 Apparatus 42
10.24.4 Procedure 42
10.24.5 Pass criteria 45
10.25 Lap shear strength test MST 36 45
10.25.1 Purpose 45
10.25.2 Test samples 45
10.25.3 Apparatus 46
10.25.4 Procedure 46
10.25.5 Pass criteria 47
10.26 Materials creep test MST 37 48
10.26.1 Purpose 48
10.26.2 Apparatus 48
10.26.3 Procedure 48
10.26.4 Final measurements 48
10.26.5 Pass criteria 48
10.27 Robustness of terminations test MST 42 48
10.28 Thermal cycling test MST 51 49
10.29 Humidity freeze test MST 52 49
10.30 Damp heat test MST 53 49
10.31 UV test MST 54 49
10.32 Cold conditioning test MST 55 49
10.32.1 Purpose 49
10.32.2 Apparatus 49
10.32.3 Procedure 50
10.32.4 Pass criteria 50
10.33 Dry heat conditioning test MST 56 50
10.33.1 Purpose 50
10.33.2 Apparatus 50
10.33.3 Procedure 50
10.33.4 Pass criteria 50
10.34 Evaluation of insulation coordination MST 57 50
10.34.1 Purpose 50
10.34.2 Apparatus 51
10.34.3 Procedure 51
10.34.4 Pass criteria 54
Annex A (informative) Recommendations for testing of PV modules from production 55
A.1 General 55
A.2 Module output power 55
A.3 Wet insulation test 55
A.4 Visual inspection 56
A.5 Bypass diodes 56
A.6 Continuity test of equipotential bonding 56
Annex B (informative) Fire tests, spread-of-flame and burning-brand tests for PV modules 57

B.1 General 57
B.2 Fire test for PV modules based on ENV 1187 57
B.2.1 General 57
B.2.2 External fire exposure to roofs 57
B.2.3 Classification according to EN 13501-5 59
B.3 Fire test for PV modules based on ANSI/UL 61730-2 59
Annex C (normative) Usage of representative samples for very large modules 60
Bibliography 63

Figure 1 – Test sequences – Pass criteria 17
Figure 2 – Assessment of bubbles for evaluation of clearances and creepage distances, or distance through insulation 20
Figure 3 – Test apparatus MST 06 23
Figure 4 – Position of test apparatus 24
Figure 5 – Cut susceptibility test 26
Figure 6 – Waveform of the impulse voltage following IEC 60060-1 28
Figure 7 – Application of burner for multilayer products 33
Figure 8 – Impactor 37
Figure 9 – Impact test frame 1 38
Figure 10 – Impact test frame 2 39
Figure 11 – Sample preparation of cemented joints ≤ 10 mm using a release sheet 42
Figure 12 – PV module with positions for peel samples on frontsheet or backsheet 43
Figure 13 – Typical peel-off measurement curves 44
Figure 14 – Lap shear test sample for proving cemented joint 46
Figure 15 – Lap-shear test flow 47
Figure B.1 – Example of test set-up for fire test 58
Figure C.1 – Example for a possible break 62

Table 1 – Environmental stress tests 11
Table 2 – General inspection tests 12
Table 3 – Electrical shock hazard tests 12
Table 4 – Fire hazard tests 13
Table 5 – Mechanical stress tests 13
Table 6 – Required tests, depending on the Class 14
Table 7 – Tapes for test finger 23
Table 8 – Torque tests on screws per IEC 60598-1:2014, Table 4.1 40
Table 9 – Altitude correction factor for test voltage for operating (installation) altitudes higher than 2 000 m 52
Table 10 – Altitude correction factor for test voltage for testing (laboratory) altitudes lower than 2 000 m 52
Table 11 – Rated impulse voltages 53
Table C.1 – Overview of tests 61

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PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) MODULE SAFETY QUALIFICATION –

Part 2: Requirements for testing

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IEC 61730-2 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems. It is an International Standard.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2016. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

a) MST 06: Sharp edge test revised.
b) MST 14: Impulse voltage test contains technical corrections to Figure 4.

c) MST 21: Temperature test has been removed from this standard because modules tested individually in unrestricted mounting systems in open-air climates below 40 °C operate at or below a 98th-percentile operating temperature of 70 °C. As a result, the existing IEC 61730-1 requirement for a minimum RTI/RTE/TI of 90 °C is adequate. To address modules operating at higher temperatures, IEC TS 63126 includes an informative annex to describe tests and analysis techniques suitable for estimating the 98th-percentile operating temperature. This covers system effects such as mounting methods that restrict airflow and result in a 98th-percentile module operating temperature in excess of 70 °C.

d) MST 24: Ignitability test revised.

e) MST 26: Reverse current overload test revised.

f) MST 32: Module breakage test is no longer required for Class 0 modules.

g) MST 54: Instead of sequential test with one module now one module for sequence B shall be irradiated from the front side and another module from the backside during the 60 kWh/m^2 cycle.

h) MST 57: Evaluation of insulation coordination added.

i) All MQT references updated to revised IEC 61215 series Ed.2.0 2021.

j) Bifacial modules: Requirements updated for MST 02 Performance at STC, MST 07 Bypass diode functionality test, MST 22 Hot-spot endurance test, MST 25 Bypass diode thermal test and MST 51 Thermal cycling (TC200).

k) Term “Very large module” defined and Annex C (normative) “Usage of representative samples for very large modules” added.

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

Draft	Report on voting
82/2122/FDIS	82/2166/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 61730 series, published under the general title *Photovoltaic (PV) module safety qualification*, 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

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PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) MODULE SAFETY QUALIFICATION –

Part 2: Requirements for testing

1 Scope

The scope of IEC 61730-1 is also applicable to this part of IEC 61730. While IEC 61730-1 outlines the requirements of construction, this document lists the tests a PV module is required to fulfill for safety qualification. This document applies for safety qualification only in conjunction with IEC 61730-1.

The sequence of tests required in this document may not test for all possible safety aspects associated with the use of PV modules in all possible applications. This document utilizes the best sequence of tests available at the time of its writing.

The objective of this document is to provide the testing sequence intended to verify the safety of PV modules whose construction has been assessed by IEC 61730-1. The test sequence and pass criteria are designed to detect the potential breakdown of internal and external components of PV modules that would result in fire, electric shock, and/or personal injury. This document defines the basic safety test requirements and additional tests that are a function of the PV module end-use applications. Test categories include general inspection, electrical shock hazard, fire hazard, mechanical stress, and environmental stress.

The additional testing requirements outlined in relevant ISO documents, or the national or local codes which govern the installation and use of these PV modules in their intended locations, are considered in addition to the requirements contained within this document.

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 60068-2-1:2007, *Environmental testing – Part 2-1: Tests – Test A: Cold*

IEC 60068-2-2:2007, *Environmental testing – Part 2-2: Tests – Test B: Dry heat*

IEC 60068-3-5, *Environmental testing – Part 3-5: Supporting documentation and guidance – Confirmation of the performance of temperature chambers*

IEC 60598-1:2020, *Luminaires – Part 1: General requirements and tests*

IEC 60664-1:2020, *Insulation co-ordination for equipment within low-voltage systems – Part 1: Principles, requirements and tests*

IEC 60695-2-10, *Fire hazard testing – Part 2-10: Glowing/hot-wire based test methods – Glow-wire apparatus and common test procedure*

IEC 60950-1:2005, *Information technology equipment – Safety – Part 1: General requirements*
IEC 60950-1:2005/AMD1:2009
IEC 60950-1:2005/AMD2:2013

IEC 61010-1, *Safety requirements for electrical equipment for measurement, control and laboratory use – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 61032:1997*, Protection of persons and equipment by enclosures – Probes for verification*

IEC 61140, *Protection against electric shock – Common aspects for installation and equipment*

IEC 61215 (all parts), *Terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) modules – Design qualification and type approval*

IEC 61215-2, *Terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) modules – Design qualification and type approval – Part 2: Test procedures*

IEC 61730-1:2023, *Photovoltaic (PV) module safety qualification – Part 1: Requirements for construction*

IEC TS 61836, *Solar photovoltaic energy systems – Terms, definitions and symbols*

IEC 62788-2-1:2023, *Measurement procedures for materials used in photovoltaic modules – Part 2-1: Polymeric materials – Frontsheet and backsheet – Safety requirements*

IEC 62790:2020, *Junction boxes for photovoltaic modules – Safety requirements and tests*

IEC TS 62915, *Photovoltaic (PV) modules – Type approval, design and safety qualification – Retesting*

ISO 813, *Rubber, vulcanized or thermoplastic – Determination of adhesion to a rigid substrate – 90 degree peel method*

ISO 4587:2003, *Adhesives – Determination of tensile lap-shear strength of rigid-to-rigid bonded assemblies*

ISO 5893, *Rubber and plastics test equipment – Tensile, flexural and compression types (constant rate of traverse) – Specification*

ISO 11925-2:2020, *Reaction to fire tests – Ignitability of products subjected to direct impingement of flame – Part 2: Single-flame source test*

ISO 23529, *Rubber – General procedures for preparing and conditioning test pieces for physical test methods*

ANSI/UL 1703:2015, *Flat-plate photovoltaic modules and panels*

ANSI Z97.1:2009, *Standard – Safety Glazing Materials Used in Buildings – Safety Performance Specifications and Methods of Test*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions in IEC 61730-1 and IEC TS 61836, as well as the following apply.

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

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

3.1
representative sample
sample that includes all the components of the module, except some repeated parts

3.2
very large module
module that exceeds 2,2 m in any dimension or exceeds 1,5 m in both dimensions

EXAMPLE: a 2,3 m × 0,3 m module is considered very large, as is a 1,6 m × 1,6 m module.

4 Test categories

4.1 General

The hazards described in the following subclause might influence the safety of PV modules. In accordance with these hazards, test procedures and criteria are described. The specific tests to which a PV module will be subjected will depend on the end-use application for which the minimum tests are specified in Clause 5.

NOTE PV module safety tests are labelled MST.

Table 1 through Table 5 show the origin of the required tests. For some tests the third column lists the origin of the tests for information only; the appropriate test requirements are given in 10.1 through 10.34. The other tests are based on or are identical to the MQT tests defined in the IEC 61215 series. References to the relevant tests are given in the last column. Some of the IEC 61215-based tests were modified for IEC 61730-2 and are included in 10.1 through 10.34.

4.2 Environmental stress tests

Table 1 – Environmental stress tests

Test	Title	Referenced standards	Based on
			IEC 61215-2
MST 51	Thermal cycling (TC50 or TC200)	–	**MQT 11**
MST 52	Humidity freeze (HF10)	–	**MQT 12**
MST 53	Damp heat (DH200 or DH1000)	–	**MQT 13**
MST 54	UV preconditioning	–	**MQT 10**
MST 55	Cold conditioning	IEC 60068-2-1	–
MST 56	Dry heat conditioning	IEC 60068-2-2	–