IEC/PAS 62545

Edition 1.0 2008-01

PUBLICLY AVAILABLE SPECIFICATION

Environmental Information on Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EIEEE)

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

PRICE CODE R

ICS 13.020, 43.040.10

ISBN 2-8318-9583-9

CONTENTS

FOREWORD 3
INTRODUCTION 4
1 Scope 5
2 Normative references 5
3 Terms, definitions and abbreviations 5
4 Methodology and rules to be followed in order to build up environmental information on electrical and electronic equipment (EIEEE) 9
4.1 General 9
4.2 EIEEE for an environmentally homogeneous product category (EHPC) 11
5 Description of items to be considered when establishing an EIEEE frame 11
5.1 Information about the producer 11
5.2 Description of the product 12
5.3 Environmental aspect identification : reference product and methodology 12
5.4 Constitutive materials 12
5.5 Manufacturing process 12
5.6 Distribution 12
5.7 Use phase 13
5.8 End of life 13
5.9 Environmental impacts 13
5.10 Eco-solutions 15
5.11 Date of elaboration of the EIEEE 15

Annex A (informative) Life cycle impact category indicators 16

Bibliography 19

Figure 1 – General structure of the environmental information on electrical and electronic equipment 10

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

_____

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION ON ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT (EIEEE)

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 provides no marking procedure to indicate its approval and cannot be rendered responsible for any equipment declared to be in conformity with an IEC Publication.
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.

A PAS is a technical specification not fulfilling the requirements for a standard, but made available to the public.

IEC-PAS 62545 has been processed by IEC technical committee 111: Environmental standardization for electrical and electronic products and systems.

The text of this PAS is based on the following document:	This PAS was approved for publication by the P-members of the committee concerned as indicated in the following document
Draft PAS	**Report on voting**
111/86/NP	111/93/RVN

Following publication of this PAS, the technical committee or subcommittee concerned will investigate the possibility of transforming the PAS into an International Standard.

This PAS shall remain valid for an initial maximum period of 3 years starting from the date of publication. The validity may be extended for a single three-year period, following which it shall be revised to become another type of normative document, or shall be withdrawn.

INTRODUCTION

Global awareness of the urgency of preserving the natural environment has been resulting in the developments of local, national, and/or international regulations on products, a growing consciousness of consumers of products environmental impacts, and generally speaking a growing involvement of every stakeholder in these matters.

This is resulting in an increasing need of exchanges of environmental information between all actors of the product life cycle, from the raw material provider to the recycler, through the manufacturer and the finished product end user. At every stage, needs in terms of content and format of environmental information are different, and possible solutions to fit these needs are multiple. But the key actor of this chain is definitely the producer, who must put on the market products, which:

- are in conformity with the relevant environmental regulations,
- fulfil the technical and environmental requirements/expectations of users.

Every producer is then led to collect the necessary information upstream of the manufacturing stage, and deliver product-related environmental information downstream.

Upstream information is so far being collected by individual producers from their numerous suppliers. This means that every supplier is receiving as many requests as he has customers. Though these requests generally deal with the same items, they are all different and require customized answers.

In the same way, producers have to answer as many questionnaires as they have customers, or to provide consumers with the information they are expecting. This long-standing situation is more and more difficult to manage for companies because of the growing number of questionnaires, most often very different in contents and format, and the increasing number of answers to be provided. It is thus costly and burdensome for:

- every supplier to reply to a lot of different questionnaires,
- every producer to manage a huge quantity of data, and to deliver proper information.

But the main concern about the current situation is that it doesn’t ensure a level playing field on the market. Current rules of play appear insufficient to avoid misunderstanding between stakeholders, mistakes, false claims, which eventually lead to market distortion.

There are therefore clear and urgent needs for standardization to structure and harmonize these exchanges of information.

At that time, many different ways of meeting these needs for providing environmental product information exist. But existing systems all present some deficiencies (see Annex A), that this PAS claims to solve.

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION ON ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT (EIEEE)

1 Scope

This PAS provides guidelines on generic environmental attributes to be considered by product committees when preparing a declaration frame suited to a concerned product category to disclose credible, relevant, and harmonized product related environmental information to who needs or requests it. As a result, generic requirements to be followed by upstream suppliers to deliver necessary information to downstream producers are also specified.

This PAS is stand-alone and only applicable if relevant requirements on environmental aspects and impacts information does not exist in relevant product standard.

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) applies.

IEC/TR 62139:2004, *Guidelines for the addition of environmental aspects in product standards specific to TC23*

ISO 8601, *Data elements and interchange formats — Information interchange — Representation of dates and times*

ISO 14001:2004, *Environmental management systems – Requirements with guidance for use*

ISO 14020:2000, *Environmental labels and declarations – General principles*

ISO 14040:2006, *Environmental management – Life cycle assessment – Principles and framework*

ISO 14050:2002, *Environmental management – Vocabulary*

IEC Guide 109:2003, *Environmental aspects – Inclusion in electrotechnical product standards*

IEC Guide 114:2005, *Environmentally conscious design - Integrating environmental aspects into product design and development of electrotechnical products*