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BS EN 60793-1-54:2013



BSI Standards Publication

Optical fibres

Part 1-54: Measurement
methods and test procedures
— Gamma irradiation

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This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 60793-1-54:2013. It is identical to IEC 60793-1-54:2012. It supersedes BS EN 60793-1-54:2003, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted by Technical Committee GEL/86, Fibre optics, to Subcommittee GEL/86/1, Optical fibres and cables.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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English version

**Optical fibres -
Part 1-54: Measurement methods and test procedures -
Gamma irradiation
(IEC 60793-1-54:2012)**

Fibres optiques -
Partie 1-54: Méthodes de mesure
et procédures d'essai -
Irradiation gamma
(CEI 60793-1-54:2012)

Lichtwellenleiter -
Teil 1-54: Messmethoden
und Prüfverfahren -
Radioaktive Strahlung
(IEC 60793-1-54:2012)

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European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique
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The text of document 86A/1413/CDV, future edition 2 of IEC 60793-1-54, prepared by SC 86A "Fibres and cables" of IEC/TC 86 "Fibre optics" was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN 60793-1-54:2013.

The following dates are fixed:

- latest date by which the document has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2013-08-29
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the document have to be withdrawn (dow) 2015-11-29

This document supersedes EN 60793-1-54:2003.

EN 60793-1-54:2013 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to EN 60793-1-54:2003:

- launching conditions and optical sources have been reviewed and are better defined.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CENELEC [and/or CEN] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

Endorsement notice

The text of the International Standard IEC 60793-1-54:2012 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

In the official version, for Bibliography, the following notes have to be added for the standards indicated:

IEC 60793-2-10	NOTE	Harmonised as EN 60793-2-10.
IEC 60793-2-20	NOTE	Harmonised as EN 60793-2-20.
IEC 60793-2-50	NOTE	Harmonised as EN 60793-2-50.

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(normative)

Normative references to international publications with their corresponding European publications

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

NOTE When an international publication has been modified by common modifications, indicated by (mod), the relevant EN/HD applies.

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>EN/HD</u>	<u>Year</u>
IEC 60793-1-40	-	Optical fibres - Part 1-40: Measurement methods and test procedures - Attenuation	EN 60793-1-40	-
IEC 60793-1-44	-	Optical fibres - Part 1-44: Measurement methods and test procedures - Cut-off wavelength	EN 60793-1-44	-
IEC 60793-1-46	-	Optical fibres - Part 1-46: Measurement methods and test procedures - Monitoring of changes in optical transmittance	EN 60793-1-46	-
IEC 61280-4-1	-	Fibre optic communication subsystem test procedures - Part 4-1: Installed cable plant - Multimode attenuation measurement	EN 61280-4-1	-

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OPTICAL FIBRES –

Part 1-54: Measurement methods and test procedures – Gamma irradiation

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60793 outlines a method for measuring the steady state response of optical fibres and optical cables exposed to gamma radiation. It can be employed to determine the level of radiation induced attenuation produced in Class B single-mode or Class A, category A1 and A2 multimode optical fibres, in either cabled or uncabled form, due to exposure to gamma radiation.

The attenuation of cabled and uncabled optical fibres generally increases when exposed to gamma radiation. This is primarily due to the trapping of radiolytic electrons and holes at defect sites in the glass (i.e. the formation of “colour centres”). This test procedure focuses on two regimes of interest: the low dose rate regime suitable for estimating the effect of environmental background radiation, and the high dose rate regime suitable for estimating the effect of adverse nuclear environments. The testing of the effects of environmental background radiation is achieved with an attenuation measurement approach similar to IEC 60793-1-40 Method A, cut-back. The effects of adverse nuclear environments are tested by monitoring the power before, during and after exposure of the test sample to gamma radiation. The depopulation of colour centres by light (photo bleaching) or by heat causes recovery (lessening of radiation induced attenuation). Recovery may occur over a wide range of time which depends on the irradiation time and annealing temperature. This complicates the characterization of radiation induced attenuation since the attenuation depends on many variables including the temperature of the test environment, the configuration of the sample, the total dose and the dose rate applied to the sample and the light level used to measure it.

This test is not a material test for the non-optical material components of a fibre optic cable. If degradation of cable materials exposed to irradiation is to be studied, other test methods will be required.

This test method is written to contain a clear, concise listing of instructions. The background knowledge that is necessary to perform correct, relevant and expressive irradiation tests as well as to limit measurement uncertainty is presented separately in IEC/TR 62283.

Attention is drawn to the fact that strict regulations and suitable protective facilities are to be adopted in the laboratory for this test. Carefully selected trained personnel shall be used to perform this test. It can be extremely hazardous to test personnel if it is improperly performed or without qualified conditions.

2 Normative references

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

IEC 60793-1-40, *Optical Fibres – Part 1-40: Measurement methods and test procedures – Attenuation*

IEC 60793-1-44, *Optical fibres – Part 1-44: Measurement methods and test procedures – Cut-off wavelength*