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BSI Standards Publication

## Failure modes and effects analysis (FMEA and FMECA)

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## National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN IEC 60812:2018. It is identical to IEC 60812:2018. It supersedes BS EN 60812:2006, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee DS/1, Dependability.

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

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**Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.**

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### Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
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## EUROPÄISCHE NORM

October 2018

ICS 03.120.01; 03.120.30; 21.020

Supersedes EN 60812:2006

English Version

## Failure modes and effects analysis (FMEA and FMECA) (IEC 60812:2018)

Analyse des modes de défaillance et de leurs effets (AMDE  
et AMDEC)  
(IEC 60812:2018)

Ausfalleffektanalyse (FMEA und FMECA)  
(IEC 60812:2018)

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2018-09-14. CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization  
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique  
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

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## European foreword

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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) 2019-06-14
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the document have to be withdrawn (dow) 2021-09-14

This document supersedes EN 60812:2006.

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

## Endorsement notice

The text of the International Standard IEC 60812:2018 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 60300-1	NOTE Harmonized as EN 60300-1
IEC 60300-3-1	NOTE Harmonized as EN 60300-3-1
IEC 60300-3-12	NOTE Harmonized as EN 60300-3-12
IEC 60300-3-11	NOTE Harmonized as EN 60300-3-11
IEC 61025	NOTE Harmonized as EN 61025
IEC 61078	NOTE Harmonized as EN 61078
IEC 61165	NOTE Harmonized as EN 61165
IEC 61508 series	NOTE Harmonized as EN 61508 series
IEC 61709	NOTE Harmonized as EN 61709
IEC 62061	NOTE Harmonized as EN 62061
IEC 62308	NOTE Harmonized as EN 62308
IEC 62502	NOTE Harmonized as EN 62502
IEC 62508	NOTE Harmonized as EN 62508
IEC 62551	NOTE Harmonized as EN 62551
IEC 62740	NOTE Harmonized as EN 62740
IEC 62741	NOTE Harmonized as EN 62741
ISO 9000	NOTE Harmonized as EN ISO 9000
ISO 13849-1	NOTE Harmonized as EN ISO 13849-1

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(normative)

### Normative references to international publications with their corresponding European publications

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.

NOTE 1 Where an International Publication has been modified by common modifications, indicated by (mod), the relevant EN/HD applies.

NOTE 2 Up-to-date information on the latest versions of the European Standards listed in this annex is available here: [www.cenelec.eu](http://www.cenelec.eu).

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>EN/HD</u>	<u>Year</u>
IEC 60050-192	-	International electrotechnical vocabulary -- Part 192: Dependability	--	-

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**FAILURE MODES AND EFFECTS ANALYSIS (FMEA and FMECA)**

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.
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International Standard IEC 60812 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 56: Dependability.

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

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

- a) the normative text is generic and covers all applications;
- b) examples of applications for safety, automotive, software and (service) processes have been added as informative annexes;
- c) tailoring the FMEA for different applications is described;
- d) different reporting formats are described, including a database information system;
- e) alternative means of calculating risk priority numbers (RPN) have been added;
- f) a criticality matrix based method has been added;
- g) the relationship to other dependability analysis methods have been described.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
56/1775/FDIS	56/1782/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This document has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://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.

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## INTRODUCTION

Failure modes and effects analysis (FMEA) is a systematic method of evaluating an item or process to identify the ways in which it might potentially fail, and the effects of the mode of failure upon the performance of the item or process and on the surrounding environment and personnel. This document describes how to perform an FMEA.

The purpose of performing an FMEA is to support decisions that reduce the likelihood of failures and their effects, and thus contribute to improved outcomes either directly or through other analyses. Such improved outcomes include, but are not limited to, improved reliability, reduced environmental impact, reduced procurement and operating costs, and enhanced business reputation.

FMEA can be adapted to meet the needs of any industry or organization. FMEA is applicable to hardware, software, processes, human action and their interfaces, in any combination.

FMEA can be carried out several times in the lifetime for the same item or process. A preliminary analysis can be conducted during the early stages of design and planning, followed by a more detailed analysis when more information is available. FMEA can include existing controls, or recommended treatments, to reduce the likelihood or the effects of a failure mode. In the case of a closed loop analysis, FMEA allows for evaluation of the effectiveness of any treatment.

FMEA can be tailored and applied in different ways depending on the objectives.

Failure modes may be prioritized according to their importance. The prioritization can be based on a ranking of the severity alone, or this can be combined with other measures of importance. When failure modes are prioritized, the process is referred to as failure modes, effects and criticality analysis (FMECA). This document uses the term FMEA to include FMECA.

This document gives general guidance on how to plan, perform, document and maintain an FMEA by:

- a) describing the principles;
- b) providing the steps in analysis;
- c) giving examples of the documentation;
- d) providing example applications.

FMEA may be used in a certification or assurance process. For example, FMEA may be used in safety analysis for regulatory purposes but, as this document is a generic standard, it does not specifically address safety.

FMEA should be conducted in a manner that is consistent with any legislation, which is in effect within the scope of FMEA, or the type of risks involved.

Primary users of this document are those who are leading or participating in the analysis.

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## FAILURE MODES AND EFFECTS ANALYSIS (FMEA and FMECA)

### 1 Scope

This document explains how failure modes and effects analysis (FMEA), including the failure modes, effects and criticality analysis (FMECA) variant, is planned, performed, documented and maintained.

The purpose of failure modes and effects analysis (FMEA) is to establish how items or processes might fail to perform their function so that any required treatments could be identified. An FMEA provides a systematic method for identifying modes of failure together with their effects on the item or process, both locally and globally. It may also include identifying the causes of failure modes. Failure modes can be prioritized to support decisions about treatment. Where the ranking of criticality involves at least the severity of consequences, and often other measures of importance, the analysis is known as failure modes, effects and criticality analysis (FMECA).

This document is applicable to hardware, software, processes including human action, and their interfaces, in any combination.

An FMEA can be used in a safety analysis, for regulatory and other purposes, but this being a generic standard, does not give specific guidance for safety applications.

### 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 60050-192, *International electrotechnical vocabulary – Part 192: Dependability* (available at <http://www.electropedia.org>)

### 3 Terms, definitions and abbreviated terms

#### 3.1 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60050-192 and 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>

##### 3.1.1

##### **failure mode**

DEPRECATED: fault mode  
manner in which failure occurs

Note 1 to entry: A failure mode may be determined by the function lost or other state transition that occurred.