



BSI Standards Publication

Terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) modules - Design qualification and type approval

Part 2: Test procedures

This is a preview of "BS EN 61215-2:2017". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 61215-2:2016. It is identical to IEC 61215-2:2016, incorporating corrigendum March 2018. Together with BS EN 61215-1:2016 and BS EN 61215-1-1:2016 it supersedes BS EN 61215:2005, which will be withdrawn on 1 May 2020.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee GEL/82, Photovoltaic Energy Systems.

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

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

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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
30 November 2017	Implementation of CENELEC corrigendum July 2017: CENELEC supersession on Title page and Foreword corrected
30 June 2018	Implementation of IEC corrigendum March 2018: 4.9.4a), 4.9.5.3.1, Figure 11 and Figure 12 replaced; Table 4 amended
31 August 2018	Correction to supersession details in National Foreword

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EUROPÄISCHE NORM

February 2017

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Supersedes EN 61215:2005 (partially)

English Version

Terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) modules - Design qualification and type approval - Part 2: Test procedures (IEC 61215-2:2016)

Modules photovoltaïques (PV) pour applications terrestres -
Qualification de la conception et homologation - Partie 2:
Procédures d'essai
(IEC 61215-2:2016)

Terrestrische Photovoltaik (PV) Module - Bauarteignung
und Bauartzulassung - Teil 2: Prüfverfahren
(IEC 61215-2:2016)

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2016-04-13. 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
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CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Avenue Marnix 17, B-1000 Brussels

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The text of document 82/1048/FDIS, future edition 1 of IEC 61215-2, prepared by IEC/TC 82 "Solar photovoltaic energy systems" was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN 61215-2:2017.

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) 2017-08-10
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the document have to be withdrawn (dow) 2020-02-10

This document supersedes EN 61215:2005 (partially).

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 61215-2:2016 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

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Annex ZA (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 1 When 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.

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Year</u> series	<u>Title</u>	<u>EN/HD</u>	<u>Year</u> series
IEC 60050		International Electrotechnical Vocabulary	-	
IEC 60068-1	-	Environmental testing -- Part 1: General and guidance	EN 60068-1	-
IEC 60068-2-21	-	Environmental testing -- Part 2-21: Tests - Test U: Robustness of terminations and integral mounting devices	EN 60068-2-21	-
IEC 60068-2-78	-	Environmental testing -- Part 2-78: Tests - Test Cab: Damp heat, steady state	EN 60068-2-78	-
IEC 60721-2-1	-	Classification of environmental conditions appearing in nature - Temperature and humidity	EN 60721-2-1	-
IEC 60891	-	Photovoltaic devices - Procedures for temperature and irradiance corrections to measured I-V characteristics	EN 60891	-
IEC 60904-1	-	Photovoltaic devices -- Part 1: Measurement of photovoltaic current-voltage characteristics	EN 60904-1	-
IEC 60904-2	-	Photovoltaic devices - Part 2: Requirements for photovoltaic reference devices	EN 60904-2	-
IEC 60904-3	-	Photovoltaic devices - Part 3: Measurement principles for terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) solar devices with reference spectral irradiance data	EN 60904-3	-
IEC 60904-7	-	Photovoltaic devices -- Part 7: Computation of the spectral mismatch correction for measurements of photovoltaic devices	EN 60904-7	-
IEC 60904-8	-	Photovoltaic devices -- Part 8: Measurement of spectral response of a photovoltaic (PV) device	EN 60904-8	-
IEC 60904-9	-	Photovoltaic devices -- Part 9: Solar simulator performance requirements	EN 60904-9	-
IEC 60904-10	-	Photovoltaic devices -- Part 10: Methods of linearity measurement	EN 60904-10	-
IEC 61215-1	-	Terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) modules - Design qualification and type approval -- Part 1: Requirements for testing	EN 61215-1	-
IEC 61853-2	-	Photovoltaic (PV) module performance testing and energy rating -- Part 2: Spectral response, incidence angle and module operating temperature measurements	-	-
IEC 62790	-	Junction boxes for photovoltaic modules - Safety requirements and tests	EN 62790	-
ISO 868	-	Plastics and ebonite - Determination of indentation hardness by means of a durometer (Shore hardness)	EN ISO 868	-

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Terms, definitions and symbols

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**TERRESTRIAL PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) MODULES –
DESIGN QUALIFICATION AND TYPE APPROVAL –**

Part 2: Test procedures

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61215-2 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems.

This first edition of IEC 61215-2 cancels and replaces the second edition of IEC 61215 (2005) and parts of the second edition of 61646 (2008) and constitutes a technical revision.

The main technical changes with regard to these previous editions are as follows:

This standard includes the testing procedures – formally Clause 10 – of the previous edition. Revisions were made to subclauses NMOT (replaces NOCT – MQT 05), performance measurements (MQT 06), robustness of terminations (MQT 14) and stabilization (MQT 19).

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The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
82/1048/FDIS	82/1076/RVD

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

A list of all parts in the IEC 61215 series, published under the general title *Terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) modules – Design qualification and type approval*, can be found on the IEC website.

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

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

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

The contents of the corrigendum of March 2018 have been included in this copy.

IMPORTANT – The 'colour inside' logo on the cover page of this publication indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this document using a colour printer.

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INTRODUCTION

Whereas Part 1 of this standard series describes requirements (both in general and specific with respect to device technology), the sub-parts of Part 1 define technology variations and Part 2 defines a set of test procedures necessary for design qualification and type approval. The test procedures described in Part 2 are valid for all device technologies.

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TERRESTRIAL PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) MODULES – DESIGN QUALIFICATION AND TYPE APPROVAL –

Part 2: Test procedures

1 Scope and object

This International Standard series lays down IEC requirements for the design qualification and type approval of terrestrial photovoltaic modules suitable for long-term operation in general open-air climates, as defined in IEC 60721-2-1. This part of IEC 61215 is intended to apply to all terrestrial flat plate module materials such as crystalline silicon module types as well as thin-film modules.

This standard does not apply to modules used with concentrated sunlight although it may be utilized for low concentrator modules (1 to 3 suns). For low concentration modules, all tests are performed using the current, voltage and power levels expected at the design concentration.

The objective of this test sequence is to determine the electrical and thermal characteristics of the module and to show, as far as possible within reasonable constraints of cost and time, that the module is capable of withstanding prolonged exposure in general open-air climates. The actual lifetime expectancy of modules so qualified will depend on their design, their environment and the conditions under which they are operated.

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 60050, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary* (available at <http://www.electropedia.org>)

IEC 60068-1, *Environmental testing – Part 1: General and guidance*

IEC 60068-2-21, *Environmental testing – Part 2-21: Tests – Test U: Robustness of terminations and integral mounting devices*

IEC 60068-2-78, *Environmental testing – Part 2-78: Tests – Test Cab: Damp heat, steady state*

IEC 60721-2-1, *Classification of environmental conditions – Part 2-1: Environmental conditions appearing in nature – Temperature and humidity*

IEC 60891, *Photovoltaic devices – Procedures for temperature and irradiance corrections to measured I-V characteristics*

IEC 60904-1, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 1: Measurements of photovoltaic current-voltage characteristics*

IEC 60904-2, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 2: Requirements for photovoltaic reference devices*