



**BSI Standards Publication**

## **Fixed installations for railway applications — Electrical safety, earthing and the return circuit**

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Part 2: Provisions against the effects of stray  
currents caused by DC traction systems

This is a preview of BS EN 50122-2:2022+A1:2025. [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

## National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 50122-2:2022+A1:2025. It supersedes BS EN 50122-2:2022, which will be withdrawn on 31 August 2028.

The start and finish of text introduced or altered by amendment is indicated in the text by tags. Tags indicating changes to CENELEC text carry the number of the CENELEC amendment. For example, text altered by CENELEC amendment A1 is indicated by A1 A1.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee GEL/9/3, Railway Electrotechnical Applications - Fixed Equipment.

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

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31 August 2025	Implementation of CENELEC amendment A1:2025

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## EUROPÄISCHE NORM

August 2025

ICS 29.120.50; 29.280

Supersedes EN 50122-2:2010

English Version

**A1** Fixed installations for railway application - Electrical safety, earthing and the return circuit - Part 2: Provisions against the effects of stray currents caused by DC traction systems **A1**

Applications ferroviaires - Installations fixes - Sécurité électrique, mise à la terre et circuit de retour - Partie 2: Mesures de protection contre les effets des courants vagabonds issus de la traction électrique à courant continu

Bahnanwendungen - Ortsfeste Anlagen - Elektrische Sicherheit, Erdung und Rückleitung - Teil 2: Schutzmaßnahmen gegen Streustromwirkungen durch Gleichstrombahnen

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2022-07-25. 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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This document (EN 50122-2:2022) has been prepared by CLC/SC 9XC “Electric supply and earthing systems for public transport equipment and ancillary apparatus (Fixed installations)”.

The following dates are fixed:

- latest date by which this document has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2023-07-25
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with this document have to be withdrawn (dow) 2025-07-25

This document supersedes EN 50122-2:2010 and all of its amendments and corrigenda (if any).

EN 50122-2:2022 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to EN 50122-2:2010:

- harmonization with EN 50122-1:2022;
- improvement of measurement specification in Annex A;
- new Annex D “Laboratory testing of materials for the insulation of rails”.

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.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national committee. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CENELEC website.

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## European foreword to Amendment 1

This document (EN 50122-2:2022/A1:2025) was prepared by SC 9XC, “Electric supply and earthing systems for public transport equipment and ancillary apparatus (fixed installations)”, of CLC/TC 9X, “Electrical and electronic applications for railways”.

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- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with this document have to be withdrawn (dow) 2028-08-31

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This document has been prepared under a Standardization Request addressed to CENELEC by the European Commission. The Standing Committee of the EFTA States subsequently approves these requests for its Member States.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national committee. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CENELEC website.

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This document specifies requirements for protective provisions against the effects of stray currents, which result from the operation of DC electric traction power supply systems.

As several decades' experience has not shown evident corrosion effects from AC electric traction power supply systems, this document only deals with stray currents flowing from a DC electric traction power supply system.

This document applies to all metallic fixed installations which form part of the traction system, and also to any other metallic components located in any position in the earth, which can carry stray currents resulting from the operation of the railway system.

This document applies to all new DC lines and to all major revisions to existing DC lines. The principles can also be applied to existing electrified transportation systems where it is necessary to consider the effects of stray currents.

This document does not specify working rules for maintenance but provides design requirements to allow maintenance.

The range of application includes:

- a) railways,
- b) guided mass transport systems such as:
  - 1) tramways,
  - 2) elevated and underground railways,
  - 3) mountain railways,
  - 4) magnetically levitated systems, which use a contact line system, and
  - 5) trolleybus systems,
- c) material transportation systems.

This document does not apply to

- a) electric traction power supply systems in underground mines,
- b) cranes, transportable platforms and similar transportation equipment on rails, temporary structures (e.g. exhibition structures) in so far as these are not supplied directly from the contact line system and are not endangered by the electric traction power supply system,
- c) suspended cable cars,
- d) funicular railways.

## 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.

EN 50122-1:2022, *Railway applications - Fixed installations - Electrical safety, earthing and the return circuit - Part 1: Protective provisions against electric shock*

EN 50122-3:2022, *Railway applications - Fixed installations - Electrical safety, earthing and the return circuit - Part 3: Mutual Interaction of AC and DC traction systems*

EN 50163, *Railway applications - Supply voltages of traction systems*

EN ISO 21857:2021, *Petroleum, petrochemical and natural gas industries - Prevention of corrosion on pipeline systems influenced by stray currents (ISO 21857:2021)*