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# TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

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**Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural  
electrification –  
Part 4: System selection and design**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

PRICE CODE **XB**

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SMALL RENEWABLE ENERGY AND HYBRID SYSTEMS FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION –

## Part 4: System selection and design

### 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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The main task of IEC technical committees is to prepare International Standards. In exceptional circumstances, a technical committee may propose the publication of a technical specification when

- The required support cannot be obtained for the publication of an International Standard, despite repeated efforts, or
- The subject is still under technical development or where, for any other reason, there is the future but no immediate possibility of an agreement on an International Standard.

Technical specifications are subject to review within three years of publication to decide whether they can be transformed into International Standards.

IEC 62257-4, which is a technical specification, has been prepared by IEC technical committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems.

This document is based on IEC/PAS 62111(1999); it cancels and replaces the relevant parts of IEC/PAS 62111.

This technical specification is to be used in conjunction with IEC 62257 series.

The text of this technical specification is based on the following documents:

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
82/369/DTS	82/389/RVC

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

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

IEC 62257 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification*:

- Part 1: General introduction to rural electrification
- Part 2: From requirements to a range of electrification systems
- Part 3: Project development and management
- Part 4: System selection and design
- Part 5: Protection against electrical hazards
- Part 6: Acceptance, operation, maintenance and replacement
- Part 7: Technical specifications: generators <sup>1</sup>
- Part 8: Technical specifications: batteries and converters <sup>1</sup>
- Part 9: Technical specifications: integrated systems <sup>1</sup>
- Part 10: Technical specifications: energy manager <sup>1</sup>
- Part 11: Technical specifications: considerations for grid connection <sup>1</sup>
- Part 12: Appliances <sup>1</sup>
- Part 13: Other topics <sup>1</sup>

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the maintenance result 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

- transformed into an International standard,
- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual edition of this publication may be issued at a later date.

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<sup>1</sup> Under consideration.

## INTRODUCTION

The IEC 62257 series of documents intends to provide to different players involved in rural electrification projects (such as project implementers, project contractors, project supervisors, installers, etc.) documents for the setting up of renewable energy and hybrid systems with a.c. nominal voltage below 500 V d.c. nominal voltage below 750 V and nominal power below 100 kVA.

These documents are recommendations:

- to choose the right system for the right place,
- to design the system,
- to operate and maintain the system.

These documents are focused only on rural electrification concentrating on but not specific to developing countries. They shall not be considered as all inclusive to rural electrification. The documents try to promote the use of Renewable energies in rural electrification; they do not deal with clean mechanisms developments at this time (CO<sub>2</sub> emission, carbon credit, etc.). Further developments in this field could be introduced in future steps.

This consistent set of documents is best considered as a whole with different parts corresponding to items for safety, sustainability of systems and at the lowest life cycle cost as possible. One of the main objectives is to provide the minimum sufficient requirements, relevant to the field of application that is: small renewable energy and hybrid off-grid systems.

The purpose of this part of IEC 62257 is to provide a method to assist project contractors and project developers to select and design the electrification system for isolated sites while matching the identified needs, such as those described in IEC 62257-2.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SMALL RENEWABLE ENERGY AND HYBRID SYSTEMS FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION –

### Part 4: System selection and design

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 62257 provides a method for describing the results to be achieved by the electrification system independently of the technical solutions that could be implemented.

IEC 62257-2 assessed the needs of the users and the different power system architectures which can be used for meeting these needs.

In relation to the needs of the different participants to the project, functional requirements that shall be achieved by the production and distribution subsystems are listed.

In Clause 5, energy management rules to be considered are described. These are key issues as they have a great influence on the sizing of the electrification system.

In Clause 6, the information that shall be provided by the system sizing process to allow the participants to select the equipment or component able to fulfill the functional requirements are listed.

To allow and facilitate the management of the micro-power plant and the maintenance of the whole electrification system, some information shall be collected and monitored. Clause 7 is dedicated to defining the parameters and specifying rules for data acquisition.

#### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For updated references, the last edition of the referenced document (including any amendment) applies.

IEC 62257-1, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 1: General introduction to rural electrification*

IEC 62257-2, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 2: From requirements to a range of electrification systems*

IEC 62257-3, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 3: Project development and management*

IEC 62257-4, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 4: System selection and design*

IEC 62257-5, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 5: Protection against electrical hazards*

IEC 62257-6, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 6: Acceptance, operation, maintenance and replacement*

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IEC 62257-7, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 7: Technical specifications: generators*<sup>2</sup>

IEC 62257-8, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 8: Technical specifications: batteries and converters*<sup>2</sup>

IEC 62257-9, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 9: Technical specifications: integrated systems*<sup>2</sup>

IEC 62257-10, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 10: Technical specifications: energy manager*<sup>2</sup>

IEC 62257-11, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 11: Technical specifications: considerations for grid connection*<sup>2</sup>

IEC 62257-12, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 12: Appliances*<sup>2</sup>

IEC 62257-13, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 13: Other topics*<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Under consideration.