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TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

**Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural
electrification –
Part 9-1: Micropower systems**

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	5
INTRODUCTION.....	7
1 Scope.....	8
2 Normative references	9
3 Terms and definitions	9
4 General	11
4.1 Boundary of a micropower plant	11
4.2 Composition of a micropower plant.....	12
4.3 General functional layout of a micropower plant	12
5 Design.....	13
5.1 Design criteria.....	13
5.2 Power generation mix.....	14
5.2.1 General	14
5.2.2 Internal combustion generator sets	15
5.3 Electrical design.....	15
5.3.1 System voltage selection	15
5.3.2 Interconnection of generators	15
5.4 Mechanical and civil works	16
5.4.1 Civil works.....	16
5.4.2 Technical room.....	16
5.4.3 Battery room.....	17
5.4.4 Specific requirements	17
6 Safety issues.....	17
6.1 Electrical issues	17
6.1.1 General	17
6.1.2 Specific requirements	17
6.2 Mechanical issues.....	21
6.3 Thermal and fire issues	22
6.4 Noise issues.....	22
6.5 Access security	22
7 Erection of equipment.....	22
7.1 Siting.....	22
7.1.1 Photovoltaic array.....	22
7.1.2 Wind turbine	23
7.1.3 Micro-hydro turbine	23
7.1.4 Generator set	23
7.1.5 Technical room.....	23
7.2 Equipment installation	24
7.2.1 Mechanical	24
7.2.2 Electrical	24
8 Acceptance process	26
8.1 General.....	26
8.2 Phase 1: Preparation.....	27
8.3 Phase 2: Documentation	27
8.4 Phase 3: Commissioning	27

8.4.1	Step 1: Evaluation of the conformity of the installed system with the accepted design	27
8.4.2	Step 2: Evaluation of qualification of the installation	27
8.4.3	Step 3: Preliminary tests.....	27
8.4.4	Step 4: Performance testing	28
8.5	Phase 4: Agreement.....	28
8.6	Commissioning records	28
9	Operation, maintenance and replacement.....	28
10	Marking and documentation.....	29
10.1	Marking	29
10.1.1	Information for emergency services	29
10.1.2	Information for maintenance	29
10.1.3	Information for batteries	29
10.1.4	Information for sockets	29
10.1.5	Signs.....	29
10.2	Documentation	30
Annex A (informative)	Selectivity of protection	31
Annex B (informative)	Risk assessment of lightning stroke.....	32
Annex C (normative)	Voltage domains	35
Annex D (informative)	Battery room	36
Annex E (informative)	Energy fraction calculations	39
Annex F (informative)	Noise control	41
Annex G (informative)	Commissioning record sheet (examples).....	43
Bibliography	53
Figure 1	– Micropower system limits	11
Figure 2	– Example of functional layout for a micropower plant supplying a.c. energy.....	13
Figure 3	– Interconnection configuration with d.c. bus and a.c. bus.....	16
Figure 4	– Interconnection configuration with a.c. bus only	16
Figure 5	– Example of protection against effects of lightning and over-voltage for generators with two live conductors output (d.c. or a.c.) TNS P+N	18
Figure 6	– Example of protection against effects of lightning over-voltage for three phase generators with four live a.c. conductors (TNS P+N scheme) – Generator side.....	19
Figure 7	– Example of a simplified lightning protection including a crow’s foot earth termination.....	20
Figure 8	– Protection of a photovoltaic array.....	21
Figure 9	– Wiring arrangement for equipotential link	21
Figure A.1	– Example of the selectivity of protection	31
Table 1	– Minimum dimensions for lightning protection wires	20
Table 2	– Cross-section of 230 V a.c. power cables	24
Table 3	– Fuse ratings for protection from short-circuiting in 230 V/400 V a.c. circuits	25
Table 4	– Fuse ratings for protection from short-circuiting in 120 V/208 V a.c. circuits	26
Table 5	– Circuit-breaker ratings for protection from short-circuiting	26
Table B.1	– Stake index values.....	32
Table B.2	– Construction index values	33

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Table B.3 – Height index values.....	33
Table B.4 – Situation index values	33
Table B.5 – Lightning prevalence index values	33
Table B.6 – Assessment of risk and need for protection	34
Table C.1 – Voltage domains	35

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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

Part 9-1: Micropower systems

FOREWORD

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- 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 62257-9-1, which is a technical specification, has been prepared by IEC technical committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems.

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

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This technical specification is to be used in conjunction with the IEC 62257 series and with future parts of this series as and when they are published.

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

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
82/501/DTS	82/526/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this technical specification 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.

A list of all the parts of the IEC 62257 series, under the general title *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification*, can be found on the IEC web site.

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 version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

INTRODUCTION

The IEC 62257 series of documents intends to provide to the 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 must 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 (CO₂ 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.

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

Part 9-1: Micropower systems

1 Scope

Decentralized Rural Electrification Systems (DRES) are designed to supply electric power for sites which are not connected to a large interconnected system, or a national grid, in order to meet basic needs.

The majority of these sites are

- isolated dwellings;
- village houses;
- community services (public lighting, pumping, health centres, places of worship or cultural activities, administrative buildings, etc.);
- economic activities (workshops, micro-industry, etc.).

The DRES fall into the following three categories:

- process electrification systems (for example, for pumping);
- individual electrification systems (IES) for single users;
- collective electrification systems (CES) for multiple users.

Process or individual electrification systems exclusively consist of two subsystems:

- an electric energy generation subsystem;
- the user's electrical installation.

Collective electrification systems, however, consist of three subsystems:

- an electric energy generation subsystem;
- a distribution subsystem, also called microgrid;
- user's electrical installations including interface equipment between the installations and the microgrid.

This technical specification applies to a micropower plant which is the electric energy generation subsystem associated with a decentralized rural electrification system.

It provides general requirements for the design, erection and operation of micropower plants and general requirements to ensure the safety of persons and property.

The micropower plants covered by this specification are low-voltage a.c., three-phase or single-phase, with rated capacity less than, or equal to, 100 kVA. They do not include voltage transformation.

The low-voltage levels covered under this specification are

- the 230 V 1-Ø/400 V 3-Ø, the 220 V 1-Ø/380 V 3-Ø, and the 120 V 1-Ø/208 V 3-Ø systems at 60 Hz or 50 Hz;
- the ELV d.c. systems.

The requirements cover "centralized" micropower plants for application in

- process electrification;
- individual electrification systems and collective electrification systems.

It does not apply to distributed generation on microgrids.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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 60364 (all parts), *Low-voltage electrical installations*

IEC 60364-5-53:2001, *Electrical installations of buildings – Part 5-53: Selection and erection of electrical equipment – Isolation, switching and control*

IEC 60529 (all parts), *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures (IP Code)*

IEC/TS 62257-2:2004, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 2: From requirements to a range of electrification systems*

IEC/TS 62257-4:2005, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 4: System selection and design*

IEC/TS 62257-5:2005, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 5: Protection against electrical hazards*

IEC/TS 62257-6:2005, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 6: Acceptance, operation, maintenance and replacement*

IEC/TS 62257-7-1:2006, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 7-1: Generators – Photovoltaic arrays*

IEC/TS 62257-7-3:2008, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 7-3: Generator set – Selection of generator sets for rural electrification systems*

IEC/TS 62257-9-2:2006, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 9-2: Microgrids*

IEC/TS 62257-9-4:2006, *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification – Part 9-4: Integrated system – User installation*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1 generator set

equipment producing electricity from a fossil fuel; it consists basically of an internal combustion engine producing mechanical energy and a generator which converts the mechanical energy into electrical energy and mechanical transmission, support and assembly components