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# TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION



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**Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural  
electrification –  
Part 9-2: Microgrids**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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

## Part 9-2: Microgrids

### FOREWORD

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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 62257-9-2, which is a technical specification, has been prepared by IEC technical committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems.

This part of IEC 62257-9 is based on IEC/PAS 62111 (1999); it cancels and replaces the relevant parts of IEC/PAS 62111.

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This part of IEC 62257-9 is to be used in conjunction with the IEC 62257 series.

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

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
82/412/DTS	82/443/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 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 website.

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.

**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 publication using a colour printer.**

## INTRODUCTION

The IEC 62257 series 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 should 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.

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, microindustry, etc.).

The DRE systems fall into 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.

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

### Part 9-2: Microgrids

#### 1 Scope

The purpose this part of IEC 62257-9 is to specify the general requirements for the design and the implementation of microgrids used in decentralized rural electrification to ensure the safety of persons and property and their satisfactory operation according to the scheduled use.

This part of IEC 62257-9 applies to microgrids for decentralized rural electrification purposes. The microgrids covered by this part of IEC 62257-9 are low voltage a.c., three-phase or single-phase, with rated capacity less than or equal to 100 kVA. They are powered by a single micropowerplant and do not include voltage transformation.

The low-voltage levels covered under this part of IEC 62257-9 are the 230 V 1-Ø/400 V 3-Ø systems, 220 V 1-Ø/380 V 3-Ø, the 120 V 1-Ø/208 V 3-Ø, 60 Hz or 50 Hz systems.

This part of IEC 62257-9 specifies microgrids made of overhead lines because of technical and economical reasons in the context of decentralized rural electrification. In particular cases, underground cables can be used.

The requirements cover microgrids with radial architecture.

#### 2 Normative reference

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 62257 (all parts), *Recommendations for small renewable energy and hybrid systems for rural electrification*

IEC 60439 (all parts), *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear assemblies*