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International Standard



2678

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Environmental tests for aircraft equipment — Insulation resistance and high voltage tests for electrical equipment

Essais en environnement pour les équipements aéronautiques — Essais de résistance d'isolement et de haute tension pour les équipements électriques

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Descriptors : aircraft, aircraft equipment, electrical equipment, tests, environmental tests, high voltage tests, insulation resistance.

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council. They are approved in accordance with ISO procedures requiring at least 75 % approval by the member bodies voting.

International Standard ISO 2678 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 20, *Aircraft and space vehicles*.

ISO 2678 was first published in 1977. This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition, of which it constitutes a minor revision. The main changes are the following :

- title : deletion of "Part 4.3";
- clause 0 : insertion of sub-clause 0.1;
- clause 2 : replacement of the reference to ISO 2650 with the reference to ISO 7137 [and corresponding change to footnote 1) in table 2].

Environmental tests for aircraft equipment — Insulation resistance and high voltage tests for electrical equipment

0 Introduction

0.1 This International Standard is part of a series of standards, specifying environmental tests for aircraft equipment, and details of which are given in ISO 7137.

0.2 The operational safety of electrical equipment for aircraft requires a good quality of insulation and the avoidance of excess voltages. Dimensions and quality of the insulation have to be suitable for the operating voltages and the effects of climatic conditions encountered, such as temperature, humidity, atmospheric pressure and surface contamination. The trend towards smaller and safer designs can only be realized if the physical properties and the behaviour of the insulation are known and proven by accurate test procedures.

Insulation resistance measurements and high voltage testing have to be considered as two different tests. A high insulation resistance alone does not prove that the insulation is free from defects : cracks, for instance, may exist, provoking voltage flash-overs.

0.2.1 Purpose of high voltage test

The high voltage test serves to prove the capability of the insulation to withstand the effects induced by an electrical field.

0.2.2 Purpose of insulation resistance measurements

Insulation resistance measurements serve to prove that electrical equipment has an adequate insulation resistance capable of preventing leakage currents passing through the insulation from reaching non-permitted values; this applies especially to maintaining the insulation properties under the effects of climatic conditions, such as temperature, humidity and surface contamination.

0.2.3 Purpose of leakage current measurements

This type of measurement may be applied to equipment where semi-conductors are used. The test voltage is dependent on the rated voltage of the component.

1 Scope and field of application

This International Standard specifies requirements for tests to determine the electrical insulation resistance of equipment intended for use in aircraft, together with a high voltage test. It relates the insulation requirements to four categories of equipment.

This International Standard does not deal with the insulation testing of equipment installed in aircraft.

2 Reference

ISO 7137, *Aircraft — Environmental conditions and test procedures for airborne equipment*.¹⁾

3 Definitions

For the purposes of this International Standard, the following definitions apply.

3.1 means of insulation : The gaseous, liquid or solid material constituting the insulation.

3.2 insulation : The total of the insulation material in its final technical form.

3.3 insulation capability : The capability of withstanding all voltages up to the appropriate test voltage level.

3.4 rated voltage : The voltage specified in the electrical equipment identification and to which certain operating characteristics are related.

¹⁾ Endorsement, in part, of the publication EUROCAE ED-14A/RTCA DO-160A (a document published jointly by the European Organisation for Civil Aviation Electronics and the Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics).