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Radiological protection — X and gamma reference radiation for calibrating dosimeters and doserate meters and for determining their response as a function of photon energy —

Part 3: Calibration of area and personal dosimeters and the measurement of their response as a function of energy and angle of incidence

Radioprotection — Rayonnements X et gamma de référence pour l'étalonnage des dosimètres et des débitmètres et pour la détermination de leur réponse en fonction de l'énergie des photons —

Partie 3: Étalonnage des dosimètres de zone et individuels et mesurage de leur réponse en fonction de l'énergie et de l'angle d'incidence



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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. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 85, *Nuclear energy, nuclear technologies and radiological protection*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Radiological protection*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 4037-3:1999), which has been technically revised.

A list of all the parts in the ISO 4037 series can be found on the ISO website.

Introduction

The maintenance release of this document incorporates the improvements to high voltage generators from 1996 to 2017 (e.g., the use of high frequency switching supplies providing nearly constant potential), and the spectral measurements at irradiation facilities equipped with such generators (e.g., the catalogue of X-ray spectra by Ankerhold^[1]). It also incorporates all published information with the aim to adjust the requirements for the technical parameters of the reference fields to the targeted overall uncertainty of about 6 % to 10 % for the phantom related operational quantities of the International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements (ICRU)^[2]. It does not change the general concept of the existing ISO 4037.

ISO 4037, focusing on photon reference radiation fields, is divided into four parts. ISO 4037-1 gives the methods of production and characterization of reference radiation fields in terms of the quantities spectral photon fluence and air kerma free-in-air. ISO 4037-2 describes the dosimetry of the reference radiation qualities in terms of air kerma and in terms of the phantom related operational quantities of the International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements (ICRU)^[2]. This document describes the methods for calibrating and determining the response of dosimeters and doserate meters in terms of the phantom related operational quantities of the ICRU^[2]. ISO 4037-4 gives special considerations and additional requirements for calibration of area and personal dosimeters in low energy X reference radiation fields, which are reference fields with generating potential ≤ 30 kV.

The determination of the response of dosimeters and doserate meters is essentially a three-step or two-step process. First, a basic quantity such as air kerma is measured free-in-air at the point of test. Then the appropriate operational quantity is derived by the application of the conversion coefficient that relates the quantity measured to the selected operational quantity. These two steps may be merged into a single-step if a standard for the phantom related quantities is used. Finally, the device under test is placed at the point of test for the determination of its response. Depending on the type of dosimeter under test, the irradiation is either carried out on a phantom or free-in-air for personal and area dosimeters, respectively. For area and individual monitoring this document describes details of the methods and provides, if applicable, the recommended conversion coefficients to be used for the determination of the response of dosimeters and doserate meters in terms of the phantom related operational quantities of the ICRU for photons. The use of these recommended conversion coefficients requires that the corresponding radiation quality of the reference field used for the irradiation is validated. For all non-validated radiation qualities, the recommended conversion coefficients cannot be used. For these radiation qualities, the dosimetry with respect to the phantom related operational quantities of the ICRU – see ISO 4037-2:2019, Clause 6 – or the spectrometry – see ISO 4037-2:2019, Annex B – should be performed. For tube potentials of 30 kV and below ISO 4037-4 gives special requirements.

The general procedures described in ISO 29661 are used as far as possible in this document. In addition, the symbols used are in line with ISO 29661.