

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



**High-voltage switchgear and controlgear –
Part 4: Handling procedures for sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and its mixtures**

**Appareillage à haute tension –
Partie 4: Utilisation et manipulation de l'hexafluorure de soufre (SF₆) et des
mélanges contenant du SF₆**



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INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

COMMISSION
ELECTROTECHNIQUE
INTERNATIONALE

PRICE CODE
CODE PRIX

XC

ICS 29.130.10; 29.130.99

ISBN 978-2-8322-1042-0

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

HIGH-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

Part 4: Handling procedures for sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and its mixtures

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 62271-4 has been prepared by subcommittee 17A: High-voltage switchgear and controlgear, of IEC technical committee 17: Switchgear and controlgear.

This first edition cancels and replaces the first edition of IEC/TR 62271-303 published in 2008.

This first edition constitutes a technical revision. This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) the description of the potential effects on health of SF₆ by-products (former Annex D of IEC/TR 62271-303:2008) has been replaced by the calculation methods for evaluating of the potential effects on health of SF₆ by-products (see Annex H);
- b) information about cryogenic reclaim of SF₆ have been added (see Annex I);
- c) handling procedures for the most popular SF₆ mixtures have been added (see Annex J).

The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
17A/1044/FDIS	17A/1051/RVD

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.

A list of all parts in the IEC 62271, published under the general title *High-voltage switchgear and controlgear*, can be found on the IEC website.

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

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

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INTRODUCTION

As agreed with TC 10, annexes A, E, F, G, H and I will be removed from this document as soon as the revised editions of IEC 60376 and IEC 60480 have been published.

HIGH-VOLTAGE SWITCHGEAR AND CONTROLGEAR –

Part 4: Handling procedures for sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and its mixtures

1 General

1.1 Scope

This part of IEC 62271 applies to the procedures for handling of SF₆ during installation, commissioning, normal and abnormal operations, disposal at the end-of-life of high-voltage switchgear and controlgear.

These procedures are regarded as minimum requirements to ensure the safety of personnel working with SF₆ (see Annex B) and to minimize the SF₆ emission to the environment.

This standard generally applies also to gas mixtures containing SF₆. The particularities for their handling are covered in Annex J.

NOTE 1 Throughout this standard, use of the term High-Voltage (refer to IEC 60050-601:1985, 601-01-27) means a rated voltage above 1 000 V. However the term Medium Voltage (refer to IEC 60050-601: 1985, 601-01-28) is commonly used for distribution systems with voltages above 1 kV and generally applied up to and including 52 kV.

NOTE 2 Throughout this standard, the term “electric power equipment” stands for “high-voltage and medium-voltage switchgear and controlgear”.

NOTE 3 Throughout this standard, the term “pressure” stands for “absolute pressure”.

1.2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60050-441, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary – Chapter 441: Switchgear, controlgear and fuses*

IEC 60050-601, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary – Chapter 601: Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity – General*

IEC 60376, *Specification of technical grade sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) for use in electrical equipment*

IEC 60480, *Guidelines for the checking and treatment of sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) taken from electrical equipment and specifications for its re-use*

IEC 62271-1, *High-voltage switchgear and controlgear – Part 1: Common specifications*

EN 1089-3, *Transportable gas cylinders. Gas cylinder identification (excluding LPG). Colour coding*