IEC 61400-12-2

Edition 1.0 2013-03

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

colour inside

Wind turbines –
Part 12-2: Power performance of electricity-producing wind turbines based on nacelle anemometry

Eoliennes –
Partie 12-2: Performance de puissance des éoliennes de production d'électricité basée sur l'anémométrie de nacelle

IEC 61400-12-2:2013

IEC Central Office
3, rue de Varembé
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11
Fax: +41 22 919 03 00
info@iec.ch
www.iec.ch

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FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61400-12-2 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 88: Wind turbines.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
88/442/FDIS	88/445/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 61400 series, published under the general title *Wind turbines*, 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

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- withdrawn,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

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this part of IEC 61400-12 is to provide a uniform methodology of measurement, analysis, and reporting of power performance characteristics for individual electricity-producing wind turbines utilising nacelle-anemometry methods. This standard is intended to be applied only to horizontal axis wind turbines of sufficient size that the nacelle-mounted anemometer does not significantly affect the flow through the turbine's rotor and around the nacelle and hence does not affect the wind turbine's performance. The intent of this standard is that the methods presented herein be utilised when the requirements set forth in IEC 61400-12-1:2005 are not feasible. This will ensure that the results are as consistent, accurate, and reproducible as possible within the current state of the art for instrumentation and measurement techniques.

This procedure describes how to characterise a wind turbine's power performance characteristics in terms of a measured power curve and the estimated annual energy production (AEP) based on nacelle-anemometry. In this procedure, the anemometer is located on or near the test turbine's nacelle. In this location, the anemometer is measuring wind speed that is strongly affected by the test turbine's rotor. This procedure includes methods for determining and applying appropriate corrections for this interference. However, it must be noted that these corrections inherently increase the measurement uncertainty compared to a properly-configured test conducted in accordance with IEC 61400-12-1:2005. The procedure also provides guidance on determination of measurement uncertainty including assessment of uncertainty sources and recommendations for combining them into uncertainties in reported power and AEP.

A key element of power performance testing is the measurement of wind speed. Even when anemometers are carefully calibrated in a quality wind tunnel, fluctuations in magnitude and direction of the wind vector can cause different anemometers to perform differently in the field. Further, the flow conditions close to a turbine nacelle are complex and variable. Therefore special care should be taken in the selection and installation of the anemometer. These issues are addressed in this standard.

The standard will benefit those parties involved in the manufacture, installation, planning and permitting, operation, utilisation and regulation of wind turbines. When appropriate, the technically accurate measurement and analysis techniques recommended in this standard should be applied by all parties to ensure that continuing development and operation of wind turbines is carried out in an atmosphere of consistent and accurate communication relative to environmental concerns. This standard presents measurement and reporting procedures expected to provide accurate results that can be replicated by others.

Meanwhile, a user of the standard should be aware of differences that arise from large variations in wind shear and turbulence intensity, and from the chosen criteria for data selection. Therefore, a user should consider the influence of these differences and the data selection criteria in relation to the purpose of the test before contracting power performance measurements.

WIND TURBINES –

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1 Scope

This part of IEC 61400-12 specifies a procedure for verifying the power performance characteristics of a single electricity-producing, horizontal axis wind turbine, which is not considered to be a small wind turbine per IEC 61400-2. It is expected that this standard will be used when the specific operational or contractual specifications may not comply with the requirements set forth in IEC 61400-12-1:2005. The procedure can be used for power performance evaluation of specific turbines at specific locations, but equally the methodology can be used to make generic comparisons between different turbine models or different turbine settings.

The wind turbine power performance characterised by the measured power curve and the estimated AEP based on nacelle-measured wind speed will be affected by the turbine rotor (i.e. speeded up or slowed down wind speed). The nacelle-measured wind speed shall be corrected for this flow distortion effect. Procedures for determining that correction will be included in the methodology. In IEC 61400-12-1:2005, an anemometer is located on a meteorological tower that is located between two and four rotor diameters upwind of the test turbine. This location allows direct measurement of the 'free' wind with minimum interference from the test turbine's rotor. In this IEC 61400-12-2 procedure, the anemometer is located on or near the test turbine's nacelle. In this location, the anemometer is measuring wind speed that is strongly affected by the test turbine's rotor and the nacelle. This procedure includes methods for determining and applying appropriate corrections for this interference. However, it should be noted that these corrections inherently increase the measurement uncertainty compared to a properly-configured test conducted in accordance with IEC 61400-12-1:2005.

This IEC 61400-12-2 standard describes how to characterise a wind turbine's power performance in terms of a measured power curve and the estimated AEP. The measured power curve is determined by collecting simultaneous measurements of nacelle-measured wind speed and power output for a period that is long enough to establish a statistically significant database over a range of wind speeds and under varying wind and atmospheric conditions. In order to accurately measure the power curve, the nacelle-measured wind speed is adjusted using a transfer function to estimate the free stream wind speed. The procedure to measure and validate such a transfer function is presented herein. The AEP is calculated by applying the measured power curve to the reference wind speed frequency distributions, assuming 100 % availability. The procedure also provides guidance on determination of measurement uncertainty including assessment of uncertainty sources and recommendations for combining them into uncertainties in reported power and AEP.

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/TR 60688, *Electrical measuring transducers for converting a.c. electrical quantities to analogue or digital signals*
Amendment 1 (1997)
Amendment 2 (2001)

IEC 61400-12-1:2005, *Wind turbines – Part 12-1: Power performance measurements of electricity producing wind turbines*

IEC 61869-2, *Instrument transformers – Part 2: Additional requirements for current transformers*

IEC 61869-3, *Instrument transformers – Part 3: Additional requirements for inductive voltage transformers*

ISO/IEC 17025, *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories*

ISO/IEC Guide 98-3, *Uncertainty of measurement – Part 3: Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement (GUM:1995)*

ISO 2533, *Standard atmosphere*

3 Terms and definitions

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

3.1
accuracy
closeness of the agreement between the result of a measurement and a true value of the measurand

3.2
annual energy production (AEP)
estimate of the total energy production of a wind turbine during a one-year period by applying the measured power curve to different reference wind speed frequency distributions at hub height, assuming 100 % availability

3.3
annual energy production – measured (AEP-measured)
estimate of the total energy production of a wind turbine during a one-year period by applying the measured power curve to different reference wind speed frequency distributions at hub height, assuming 100 % availability, without power curve extrapolation to higher wind speeds

3.4
annual energy production – extrapolated (AEP-extrapolated)
estimate of the total energy production of a wind turbine during a one-year period by applying the measured power curve to different reference wind speed frequency distributions at hub height, assuming 100 % availability, with power curve extrapolation to cut-out wind speed of the turbine

3.5
complex terrain
terrain surrounding the test site that features significant variations in topography and terrain obstacles that may cause flow distortion

3.6
data set
collection of data that was sampled over a contiguous period