

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Explosive atmospheres –
Part 17: Electrical installations inspection and maintenance**

**Atmosphères explosives –
Partie 17: Inspection et entretien des installations électriques**

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –**Part 17: Electrical installations inspection and maintenance**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 60079-17 has been prepared by subcommittee 31J: Classification of hazardous areas and installation requirements, of IEC technical committee 31: Equipment for explosive atmospheres.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2002 and constitutes a technical revision.

The significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition are as follows:

- Additional requirements for inspection and maintenance of electrical installations for combustible dusts are included.
- Knowledge, skills and competencies of "responsible persons", "technical persons with executive function" and "operatives" are explained in new Annex B.
- Equipment Protection Levels (EPLs) have been introduced and are explained in the new Annex C.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
31J/145/FDIS	31J/148/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 of the IEC 60079 series, under the general title *Explosive atmospheres*, 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

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- withdrawn,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

INTRODUCTION

Electrical installations in hazardous areas possess features specially designed to render them suitable for operations in such atmospheres. It is essential for reasons of safety in those areas that, throughout the life of such installations, the integrity of those special features is preserved; they therefore require initial inspection and either

- a) regular periodic inspections thereafter, or
- b) continuous supervision by skilled personnel

in accordance with this standard and, when necessary, maintenance.

NOTE Correct functional operation of hazardous area installations does not mean, and should not be interpreted as meaning, that the integrity of the special features referred to above is preserved.

EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

Part 17: Electrical installations inspection and maintenance

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60079 applies to users and covers factors directly related to the inspection and maintenance of electrical installations within hazardous areas only, where the hazard may be caused by flammable gases, vapours, mists, dusts, fibres or flyings.

It does not include:

- other fundamental installation and inspection requirements for electrical installations;
- the verification of electrical equipment;
- the repair and reclamation of explosion protected equipment (see IEC 60079-19).

This standard supplements the requirements of IEC 60364-6.

In the case of dusts, fibres or flyings the level of housekeeping may influence the inspection and maintenance requirements.

This standard is intended to be applied where there can be a risk due to the presence of explosive gas or dust mixtures with air or combustible dust layers under normal atmospheric conditions. It does not apply to

- underground mining areas,
- areas where a risk can arise due to the presence of hybrid mixtures,
- dusts of explosives that do not require atmospheric oxygen for combustion,
- pyrophoric substances.

2 Normative references

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 60079-0, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 0: Equipment – General requirements*

IEC 60079-1, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 1: Equipment protection by flameproof enclosures "d"*

IEC 60079-2, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 2: Equipment protection by pressurized enclosures "p"*

IEC 60079-7, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 7: Equipment protection by increased safety "e"*

IEC 60079-10, *Electrical apparatus for explosive gas atmospheres – Part 10: Classification of hazardous areas*

IEC 60079-11, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 11: Equipment protection by intrinsic safety "i"*