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**Optical circuit boards – Basic test and measurement procedures –
Part 2: General guidance for definition of measurement conditions for optical
characteristics of optical circuit boards**

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
INTRODUCTION.....	6
1 Scope	7
2 Normative references	7
3 Terms and definitions	7
4 Measurement definition system for optical circuit boards	9
4.1 General.....	9
4.2 Measurement definition system requirements.....	9
4.2.1 Accuracy	9
4.2.2 Accountability	9
4.2.3 Efficiency.....	10
4.2.4 Convenience	10
4.2.5 Independent	10
4.2.6 Scalable	10
4.2.7 Customised requirements	10
4.2.8 Prioritised structure	10
4.3 Measurement definition criteria	10
4.3.1 General	10
4.3.2 Source characteristics	11
4.3.3 Launch conditions.....	11
4.3.4 Input coupling conditions	14
4.3.5 Output coupling conditions	15
4.3.6 Capturing conditions	16
4.4 Launch and capturing position	16
4.5 Launch and capture direction	17
5 Measurement identification code	19
5.1 General.....	19
5.2 Measurement identification code construction	19
5.2.1 General	19
5.2.2 AAA – Source characteristics.....	19
5.2.3 BBB(b1) – Launch conditions.....	19
5.2.4 CCC – Input coupling conditions	20
5.2.5 DDD – Output coupling conditions	20
5.2.6 EEE – Capturing conditions	20
5.3 Extended measurement identification code with customisation parameters	20
5.3.1 General	20
5.3.2 Customisation parameters with placeholders	20
5.4 Reference measurements	21
5.5 Coordinate table AAA – Source characteristics	21
5.5.1 Mandatory parameters.....	21
5.5.2 Customisation parameters	21
5.6 Coordinate table BBB – Launch conditions.....	24
5.6.1 Mandatory parameter.....	24
5.6.2 Customisation parameters	24
5.7 Coordinate table CCC – Input coupling conditions.....	27

5.7.1	Mandatory parameters	27
5.7.2	Customisation parameters	27
5.8	Coordinate table DDD – Output coupling conditions	29
5.8.1	Mandatory parameters	29
5.8.2	Customisation parameters	29
5.9	Coordinate table EEE – Capturing conditions	31
5.9.1	Mandatory parameters	31
5.9.2	Customisation parameters	31
5.10	Examples of deployment	34
5.10.1	General	34
5.10.2	MIC-042-113(400)-001-001-112 (integrating sphere device details including supplier and model number)	34
5.10.3	MIC-072-123(205)-053(1.56, X,X)-001-042 (integrating sphere device details including supplier and model number)	34
5.10.4	Fast polarisation axis: MIC-091-072(150)-042(1.53, 25, -30)-051-004; slow polarisation axis: MIC-091-072(75)-042(1.53, 25, -120)-051-004	35
Annex A (informative)	State of the art in optical interconnect technologies	36
A.1	Diversity of optical interconnect technologies	36
A.2	Fibre-optic circuit laminates	36
A.3	Polymer waveguides	36
A.4	Planar glass waveguides	36
A.5	Free space optics	37
A.6	Target applications	37
Bibliography	38	
Figure 1 – Optical circuit board varieties	6	
Figure 2 – Recommended test setup for single-mode fibre launch conditions	13	
Figure 3 – Recommended test setup for multimode fibre launch conditions	13	
Figure 4 – Cross-sectional views of channel under test at input	15	
Figure 5 – Cross-sectional views of the channel under test at output	16	
Figure 6 – Measurement setup with collinear launch and capture direction	17	
Figure 7 – Measurement setup with orthogonal launch and capture direction	18	
Figure 8 – Measurement setup with oblique launch and capture direction	18	
Figure 9 – Measurement identification code construction	19	
Figure 10 – Reference measurements with the same MIC	21	
Table 1 – Recommended modal launch profiles	12	
Table 2 – AAA coordinate reference for source characteristics	22	
Table 3 – BBB coordinate reference for launch conditions	25	
Table 4 – CCC coordinate reference for input coupling conditions	28	
Table 5 – DDD coordinate reference for output coupling conditions	30	
Table 6 – EEE coordinate reference for capturing conditions	32	

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**OPTICAL CIRCUIT BOARDS –
BASIC TEST AND MEASUREMENT PROCEDURES –****Part 2: General guidance for definition of measurement conditions for
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86/509/CDV	86/515/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

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A list of all parts in the IEC 62496 series, published under the general title *Optical circuit boards – Basic test and measurement procedures*, can be found on the IEC website.

Future standards in this series will carry the new general title as cited above. Titles of existing standards in this series will be updated at the time of the next edition.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

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

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INTRODUCTION

Bandwidth densities in modern data communication systems are driven by interconnect speeds and scalable input/output (I/O) and will continue to increase over the coming years, thereby severely impacting cost and performance in future data communication systems, bringing increased demands in terms of signal integrity and power consumption.

The projected increase in capacity, processing power and bandwidth density in future information communication systems will need to be addressed by the migration of embedded optical interconnects into system enclosures. In particular, this would necessitate the deployment of optical circuit board technologies on some or all key system cards, such as the backplane, motherboard and peripheral circuit boards.

Many varieties of optical circuit board technology exist today, which differ strongly from each other in terms of their intrinsic waveguide technology. As shown in Figure 1, these varieties include, but are not limited to: a) fibre-optic laminate, b) polymer waveguides and c) planar glass waveguides. Annex A provides a detailed overview of the state of the art of such optical interconnect technologies.

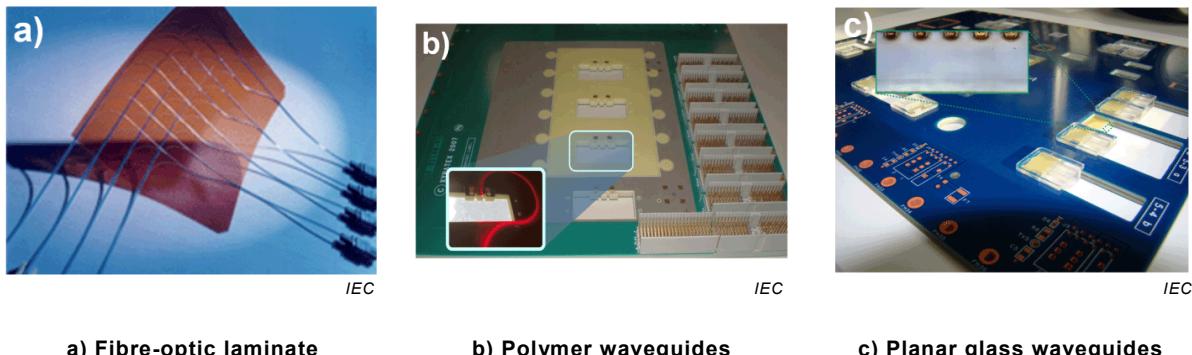


Figure 1 – Optical circuit board varieties

One important prerequisite to the commercial adoption of optical circuit boards is a reliable test and measurement definition system that is agnostic to the type of waveguide system under test and, therefore, can be applied to different optical circuit board technologies as well as being adaptable to future variants. A serious and common problem with the measurement of optical waveguide systems has been lack of proper definition of the measurement conditions for a given test regime, and consequently strong inconsistencies ensue in the results of measurements by different parties on the same test sample. To date, no methodology has been established to ensure that test and measurement conditions for such optical waveguide systems are properly identified.

This document specifies a method of capturing sufficient information about the measurement conditions for a given optical circuit board to ensure consistency of measurement results within an acceptable margin.

Given the substantial variety in properties and requirements for different optical circuit board types, some test environments and conditions are more appropriate than others for a given optical circuit board. It is, therefore, crucial that this measurement identification standard encompass a comprehensive range of test and measurement scenarios for all known types of optical circuit boards and their waveguide systems, while also being sufficiently adaptable and extendable to accommodate future waveguide technologies. In addition, a degree of customisation is possible to account for arbitrary test parameters.

OPTICAL CIRCUIT BOARDS – BASIC TEST AND MEASUREMENT PROCEDURES –

Part 2: General guidance for definition of measurement conditions for optical characteristics of optical circuit boards

1 Scope

This part of IEC 62496 specifies a method of defining the conditions for measurements of optical characteristics of optical circuit boards. The method comprises the use of code reference look-up tables to identify different critical aspects of the measurement environment. The values extracted from the tables are used to construct a measurement identification code, which, in itself, captures sufficient information about the measurement conditions, so as to ensure consistency of independently measured results within an acceptable margin. Recommended measurement conditions are specified to minimise further variation in independently measured results.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements 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 61300-1, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 1: General and guidance*

IEC 61300-3-53, *Fibre optic interconnecting devices and passive components – Basic test and measurement procedures – Part 3-53: Examinations and measurements – Encircled angular flux (EAF) measurement method based on two-dimensional far field data from step index multimode waveguide (including fibre)*

IEC 62614, *Fibre optics – Launch condition requirements for measuring multimode attenuation*

IEC 62496-2-1:2011, *Optical circuit boards – Part 2-1: Measurements – Optical attenuation and isolation*