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Low-voltage auxiliary power systems -
Part 2-1: Design criteria - General requirements

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FOREWORD

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IEC TS 63346-2-1 has been prepared by IEC project committee 127: Low-voltage auxiliary power systems for electric power stations and substations. It is a Technical Specification.

The text of this Technical Specification is based on the following documents:

Draft	Report on voting
127/87/DTS	127/88/RVDTS

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this Technical Specification is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/publications.

A list of all parts in the IEC 63346 series, published under the general title *Low-voltage auxiliary power systems*, can be found on the IEC website.

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

– reconfirmed,

– withdrawn, or

– revised.

1 Scope

This part of IEC 63346 establishes the general principles for the design of low-voltage auxiliary power systems (APS) with nominal voltages below or equal to 1 kV AC and 1,5 kV DC, and nominal frequency up to and including 60 Hz, so as to provide safe and correct operation for the intended use.

This document applies to the design of low-voltage auxiliary systems for

– substations, which are part of an electrical system, confined to a given area, mainly including ends of transmission or distribution lines, electrical switchgear and controlgear, buildings and transformers,
– converter stations,
– hydropower stations, where the gravitational energy of water is converted into electricity, and
– thermal power stations, where the thermal energy is obtained by burning fossil fuels.

This document does not apply to the design of low-voltage auxiliary power systems of the following:

– nuclear power stations, which have extremely high safety requirements and special loads, such as nuclear measurement systems and protection systems;
– substations connecting a nuclear power station to the grid and its associated LV APS integrated with the nuclear power station;
– traction substation, which have different power supply requirements, such as unbalanced load power supply;
– offshore substations, for which it is important to take into account factors such as waves, typhoons and salt spray, which have different requirements for power supply and equipment selection.

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 60038:2009, *IEC standard voltages*

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

IEC 60364 (all parts), *Low-voltage electrical installations*

IEC 60364-1:2025, *Low-voltage electrical installations - Part 1: Fundamental principles, assessment of general characteristics and definitions*

IEC 60364-4-42*, Low-voltage electrical installations - Part 4-42: Protection for safety - Protection against thermal effects*

IEC 60364-4-43*, Low-voltage electrical installations - Part 4-43: Protection for safety - Protection against overcurrent*

IEC 60364-4-44*, Low-voltage electrical installations - Part 4-44: Protection for safety - Protection against voltage disturbances and electromagnetic disturbances*

Bibliography

IEC 60076 (all parts), *Power transformers*

IEC 60664-1, *Insulation coordination for equipment within low-voltage supply systems - Part 1: Principles, requirements and tests*

IEC 60947-9-2, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear - Part 9-2: Active arc-fault mitigation systems - Optical-based internal arc-detection and mitigation devices*

IEC TR 61912-1, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear - Overcurrent protective devices - Part 1: Application of short-circuit ratings*

IEC TR 61912-2, *Low-voltage switchgear and controlgear - Over-current protective devices - Part 2: Selectivity under over-current conditions*

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