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**Calibration of optical time-domain reflectometers (OTDR) –
Part 2: OTDR for multimode fibres**

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ELECTROTECHNICAL
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CONTENTS

FOREWORD	4
INTRODUCTION	6
1 Scope	7
2 Normative references	7
3 Terms, definitions and symbols	7
4 Preparation for calibration	13
4.1 Organization	13
4.2 Traceability	13
4.3 Preparation	13
4.4 Test conditions	13
4.5 Documentation	13
5 Distance calibration – General	14
5.1 General	14
5.2 Location deviation model	14
5.3 Using the calibration results	16
5.4 Measuring fibre length	17
6 Distance calibration methods	17
6.1 General	17
6.2 External source method	17
6.2.1 Short description and advantage	17
6.2.2 Equipment	17
6.2.3 Calibration of the equipment	19
6.2.4 Measurement procedure	20
6.2.5 Calculations and results	20
6.2.6 Uncertainties	21
6.3 Concatenated fibre method (using multimode fibres)	23
6.3.1 Short description and advantages	23
6.3.2 Equipment	23
6.3.3 Measurement procedures	24
6.3.4 Calculations and results	24
6.3.5 Uncertainties	25
6.4 Recirculating delay line method	26
6.4.1 Short description and advantages	26
6.4.2 Equipment	27
6.4.3 Measurement procedure	28
6.4.4 Calculations and results	28
6.4.5 Uncertainties	29
7 Vertical scale calibration – General	30
7.1 General	30
7.2 Loss difference calibration	31
7.2.1 Determination of the displayed power level F	31
7.2.2 Development of a test plan	31
7.3 Characterization of the OTDR source near field	33
7.3.1 Objectives and references	33
7.3.2 Procedure	33
8 Loss difference calibration method	34

8.1	General	34
8.2	Long fibre method.....	34
8.2.1	Short description.....	34
8.2.2	Equipment	34
8.2.3	Measurement procedure	36
8.2.4	Calculation and results.....	36
Annex A (normative)	Multimode recirculating delay line for distance calibration.....	37
Annex B (normative)	Mathematical basis	41
Bibliography	44	
Figure 1 – Definition of attenuation dead zone	8	
Figure 2 – Representation of the location deviation $\Delta L(L)$	15	
Figure 3 – Equipment for calibration of the distance scale – External source method	18	
Figure 4 – Set-up for calibrating the system insertion delay.....	19	
Figure 5 – Concatenated fibres used for calibration of the distance scale.....	23	
Figure 6 – Distance calibration with a recirculating delay line	27	
Figure 7 – OTDR trace produced by recirculating delay line	28	
Figure 8 – Determining the reference level and the displayed power level	31	
Figure 9 – Region A, the recommended region for loss measurement samples	32	
Figure 10 – Possible placement of sample points within region A.....	33	
Figure 11 – Linearity measurement with a long fibre	35	
Figure 12 – Placing the beginning of section D_1 outside the attenuation dead zone	35	
Figure A.1 – Recirculating delay line.....	37	
Figure A.2 – Measurement set-up for loop transit time T_b	38	
Figure A.3 – Calibration set-up for lead-in transit time T_a	39	
Table 1 – Additional distance uncertainty.....	16	
Table 2 – Attenuation coefficients defining region A.....	32	

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**CALIBRATION OF OPTICAL TIME-DOMAIN
REFLECTOMETERS (OTDR) –****Part 2: OTDR for multimode fibres****FOREWORD**

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International Standard IEC 61746-2 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 86: Fibre optics.

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

CDV	Report on voting
86/336/CDV	86/359/RVC

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 IEC 61746 series, under the general title *Calibration of optical time-domain reflectometers (OTDR)*, 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.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

INTRODUCTION

In order for an optical time-domain reflectometer (OTDR) to qualify as a candidate for complete calibration using this standard, it must be equipped with the following minimum feature set:

- a) the ability to measure type A1a or A1b IEC 60793-2-10 fibres;
- b) a programmable index of refraction, or equivalent parameter;
- c) the ability to present a display of a trace representation, with a logarithmic power scale and a linear distance scale;
- d) two markers/cursors, which display the loss and distance between any two points on a trace display;
- e) the ability to measure absolute distance (location) from the OTDR's zero-distance reference;
- f) the ability to measure the displayed power level relative to a reference level (for example, the clipping level).

Calibration methods described in this standard may look similar to those provided in Part 1 of this series. However, there are differences: mix of different fibre types, use of mode conditioner or different arrangement of the fibres. This leads to different calibration processes as well as different uncertainties analysis.

CALIBRATION OF OPTICAL TIME-DOMAIN REFLECTOMETERS (OTDR) –

Part 2: OTDR for multimode fibres

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61746 provides procedures for calibrating multimode optical time domain reflectometers (OTDR). It covers OTDR measurement errors and uncertainties. The test of the laser(s) source modal condition is included as an optional measurement.

This standard does not cover correction of the OTDR response.

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 60793-2-10, *Optical fibres – Part 2-10: Product specifications – Sectional specification for category A1 multimode fibres*

IEC 60793-2-50, *Optical fibres – Part 2-50: Product specifications – Sectional specification for class B single-mode fibres*

IEC 61280-1-4, *Fibre optic communication subsystem test procedures – Part 1-4: General communication subsystems – Light source encircled flux measurement method*

IEC 61280-4-1, *Fibre optic communication subsystem test procedures – Part 4-1: Installed cable plant – Multimode attenuation measurement*

IEC 61745, *End-face image analysis procedure for the calibration of optical fibre geometry test sets*

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