



**BSI Standards Publication**

## **Audio/video, information and communication technology equipment**

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Part 2: Explanatory information related to IEC 62368-1:2018

## National foreword

This Published Document is the UK implementation of IEC TR 62368-2:2019. It supersedes PD IEC/TR 62368-2:2015, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee EPL/108, Safety of electronic equipment within the field of audio/video, information technology and communication technology.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

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Published by BSI Standards Limited 2019

ISBN 978 0 539 01402 0

ICS 33.160.01; 35.020

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This Published Document was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 31 May 2019.

### Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
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# TECHNICAL REPORT

# RAPPORT TECHNIQUE



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**Audio/video, information and communication technology equipment –  
Part 2: Explanatory information related to IEC 62368-1:2018**

**Équipements des technologies de l'audio/vidéo, de l'information  
et de la communication –  
Partie 2: Précisions relatives à l'IEC 62368-1:2018**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

COMMISSION  
ELECTROTECHNIQUE  
INTERNATIONALE

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ICS 33.160.01; 35.020

ISBN 978-2-8322-6716-5

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## CONTENTS

FOREWORD .....	6
INTRODUCTION .....	9
0 Principles of this product safety standard .....	10
1 Scope .....	12
2 Normative references .....	13
3 Terms, definitions and abbreviations .....	13
4 General requirements .....	16
5 Electrically-caused injury .....	23
6 Electrically-caused fire .....	70
7 Injury caused by hazardous substances .....	105
8 Mechanically-caused injury .....	109
9 Thermal burn injury .....	117
10 Radiation .....	126
Annex A Examples of equipment within the scope of this standard .....	133
Annex B Normal operating condition tests, abnormal operating condition tests and single fault condition tests .....	133
Annex C UV Radiation .....	136
Annex D Test generators .....	136
Annex E Test conditions for equipment containing audio amplifiers .....	137
Annex F Equipment markings, instructions, and instructional safeguards .....	137
Annex G Components .....	138
Annex H Criteria for telephone ringing signals .....	146
Annex J Insulated winding wires for use without interleaved insulation .....	148
Annex K Safety interlocks .....	148
Annex L Disconnect devices .....	148
Annex M Equipment containing batteries and their protection circuits .....	149
Annex O Measurement of creepage distances and clearances .....	158
Annex P Safeguards against conductive objects .....	158
Annex Q Circuits intended for interconnection with building wiring .....	159
Annex R Limited short-circuit test .....	160
Annex S Tests for resistance to heat and fire .....	160
Annex T Mechanical strength tests .....	162
Annex U Mechanical strength of CRTs and protection against the effects of implosion .....	163
Annex V Determination of accessible parts .....	163
Annex X Alternative method for determining clearances for insulation in circuits connected to an AC mains not exceeding 420 V peak (300 V RMS) .....	163
Annex Y Construction requirements for outdoor enclosures .....	164
Annex A (informative) Background information related to the use of SPDs .....	167
Annex B (informative) Background information related to measurement of discharges – Determining the R-C discharge time constant for X- and Y-capacitors .....	180
Annex C (informative) Background information related to resistance to candle flame ignition .....	192

Bibliography.....	193
Figure 1 – Risk reduction as given in ISO/IEC Guide 51.....	11
Figure 2 – HBSE Process Chart.....	12
Figure 3 – Protective bonding conductor as part of a safeguard.....	15
Figure 4 – Safeguards for protecting an ordinary person.....	19
Figure 5 – Safeguards for protecting an instructed person.....	19
Figure 6 – Safeguards for protecting a skilled person.....	20
Figure 7 – Flow chart showing the intent of the glass requirements.....	22
Figure 8 – Conventional time/current zones of effects of AC currents (15 Hz to 100 Hz) on persons for a current path corresponding to left hand to feet (see IEC/TS 60479-1:2005, Figure 20).....	25
Figure 9 – Conventional time/current zones of effects of DC currents on persons for a longitudinal upward current path (see IEC/TS 60479-1:2005, Figure 22).....	26
Figure 10 – Illustration that limits depend on both voltage and current.....	27
Figure 11 – Illustration of working voltage.....	39
Figure 12 – Illustration of transient voltages on paired conductor external circuits.....	41
Figure 13 – Illustration of transient voltages on coaxial-cable external circuits.....	42
Figure 14 – Basic and reinforced insulation in Table 14 of IEC 62368-1:2018; ratio reinforced to basic.....	43
Figure 15 – Reinforced clearances according to Rule 1, Rule 2, and Table 14.....	45
Figure 16 – Example illustrating accessible internal wiring.....	53
Figure 17 – Waveform on insulation without surge suppressors and no breakdown.....	56
Figure 18 – Waveforms on insulation during breakdown without surge suppressors.....	57
Figure 19 – Waveforms on insulation with surge suppressors in operation.....	57
Figure 20 – Waveform on short-circuited surge suppressor and insulation.....	57
Figure 21 – Example for an ES2 source.....	59
Figure 22 – Example for an ES3 source.....	59
Figure 23 – Overview of protective conductors.....	61
Figure 24 – Example of a typical touch current measuring network.....	64
Figure 25 – Touch current from a floating circuit.....	66
Figure 26 – Touch current from an earthed circuit.....	67
Figure 27 – Summation of touch currents in a PABX.....	67
Figure 28 – Possible safeguards against electrically-caused fire.....	75
Figure 29 – Fire clause flow chart.....	78
Figure 30 – Prevent ignition flow chart.....	83
Figure 31 – Control fire spread summary.....	85
Figure 32 – Control fire spread PS2.....	86
Figure 33 – Control fire spread PS3.....	87
Figure 34 – Fire cone application to a large component.....	96
Figure 35 – Flowchart demonstrating the hierarchy of hazard management.....	108
Figure 36 – Model for chemical injury.....	109
Figure 37 – Direction of forces to be applied.....	114
Figure 38 – Model for a burn injury.....	117

Figure 39 – Model for safeguards against thermal burn injury .....	119
Figure 40 – Model for absence of a thermal hazard.....	120
Figure 41 – Model for presence of a thermal hazard with a physical safeguard in place .....	120
Figure 42 – Model for presence of a thermal hazard with behavioural safeguard in place.....	120
Figure 43 – Flowchart for evaluation of Image projectors (beamers) .....	128
Figure 44 – Graphical representation of $L_{Aeq,T}$ .....	130
Figure 45 – Overview of operating modes .....	135
Figure 46 – Voltage-current characteristics (Typical data).....	140
Figure 47 – Example of IC current limiter circuit.....	144
Figure 48 – Current limit curves .....	147
Figure 49 – Example of a dummy battery circuit.....	157
Figure 50 – Example of a circuit with two power sources.....	160
Figure A.1 – Installation has poor earthing and bonding; equipment damaged (from ITU-T K.66).....	168
Figure A.2 – Installation has poor earthing and bonding; using main earth bar for protection against lightning strike (from ITU-T K.66) .....	168
Figure A.3 – Installation with poor earthing and bonding, using a varistor and a GDT for protection against a lightning strike.....	169
Figure A.4 – Installation with poor earthing and bonding; equipment damaged (TV set) .....	169
Figure A.5 – Safeguards .....	170
Figure A.6 – Discharge stages .....	174
Figure A.7 – Holdover .....	175
Figure A.8 – Discharge .....	176
Figure A.9 – Characteristics.....	177
Figure A.10 – Follow on current pictures .....	178
Figure B.1 – Typical EMC filter schematic.....	180
Figure B.2 – 100 M $\Omega$ oscilloscope probes .....	182
Figure B.3 – Combinations of EUT resistance and capacitance for 1-s time constant.....	184
Figure B.4 – 240 V mains followed by capacitor discharge.....	186
Figure B.5 – Time constant measurement schematic .....	187
Figure B.6 – Worst-case measured time constant values for 100 M $\Omega$ and 10 M $\Omega$ probes ....	191
Table 1 – General summary of required safeguards .....	20
Table 2 – Time/current zones for AC 15 Hz to 100 Hz for hand to feet pathway (see IEC/TS 60479-1:2005, Table 11).....	26
Table 3 – Time/current zones for DC for hand to feet pathway (see IEC/TS 60479- 1:2005, Table 13).....	27
Table 4 – Limit values of accessible capacitance (threshold of pain).....	30
Table 5 – Total body resistances $R_T$ for a current path hand to hand, DC, for large surface areas of contact in dry condition .....	32
Table 6 – Insulation requirements for external circuits .....	42
Table 7 – Voltage drop across clearance and solid insulation in series .....	47
Table 8 – Examples of application of various safeguards .....	77

Table 9 – Basic safeguards against fire under normal operating conditions and abnormal operating conditions .....	79
Table 10 – Supplementary safeguards against fire under single fault conditions .....	80
Table 11 – Method 1: Reduce the likelihood of ignition .....	82
Table 12 – Method 2: Control fire spread .....	91
Table 13 – Fire barrier and fire enclosure flammability requirements.....	98
Table 14 – Summary – Fire enclosure and fire barrier material requirements .....	102
Table 15 – Control of chemical hazards .....	107
Table 16 – Overview of requirements for dose-based systems .....	132
Table 17 – Safety of batteries and their cells – requirements (expanded information on documents and scope).....	151
Table B.1 – 100- MΩ oscilloscope probes .....	182
Table B.2 – Capacitor discharge .....	183
Table B.3 – Maximum $T_{measured}$ values for combinations of $R_{EUT}$ and $C_{EUT}$ for $T_{EUT}$ of 1 s .....	190

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**AUDIO/VIDEO, INFORMATION AND  
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT –****Part 2: Explanatory information related to IEC 62368-1:2018****FOREWORD**

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IEC 62368-2, which is a Technical Report, has been prepared by IEC technical committee TC 108: Safety of electronic equipment within the field of audio/video, information technology and communication technology.

This third edition updates the second edition of IEC 62368-2 published in 2014 to take into account changes made to IEC 62368-1:2014 as identified in the Foreword of IEC 62368-1:2018.

This Technical Report is informative only. In case of a conflict between IEC 62368-1 and IEC TR 62368-2, the requirements in IEC 62368-1 prevail over this Technical Report.



The text of this technical report is based on the following documents:

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
108/708/DTR	108/711/RVDTR

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

In this document, the following print types are used:

- notes/explanatory matter: in smaller roman type;
- tables and figures that are included in the rationale have linked fields (shaded in grey if “field shading” is active);
- terms that are defined in IEC 62368-1: in **bold type**.

In this document, where the term (HBSDT) is used, it stands for Hazard Based Standard Development Team, which is the Working Group of IEC TC 108 responsible for the development and maintenance of IEC 62368-1.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts of the IEC 62368 series can be found, under the general title *Audio/video, information and communication technology equipment*, on the IEC website.

In this document, only those subclauses from IEC 62368-1 considered to need further background reference information or explanation to benefit the reader in applying the relevant requirements are included. Therefore, not all numbered subclauses are cited. Unless otherwise noted, all references are to clauses, subclauses, annexes, figures or tables located in IEC 62368-1:2018.

The entries in the document may have one or two of the following subheadings in addition to the Rationale statement:

Source – where the source is known and is a document that is accessible to the general public, a reference is provided.

Purpose – where there is a need and when it may prove helpful to the understanding of the Rationale, we have added a Purpose statement.

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.

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## INTRODUCTION

IEC 62368-1 is based on the principles of hazard-based safety engineering, which is a different way of developing and specifying safety considerations than that of the current practice. While this document is different from traditional IEC safety documents in its approach and while it is believed that IEC 62368-1 provides a number of advantages, its introduction and evolution are not intended to result in significant changes to the existing safety philosophy that led to the development of the safety requirements contained in IEC 60065 and IEC 60950-1. The predominant reason behind the creation of IEC 62368-1 is to simplify the problems created by the merging of the technologies of ITE and CE. The techniques used are novel, so a learning process is required and experience is needed in its application. Consequently, the committee recommends that this edition of the document be considered as an alternative to IEC 60065 or IEC 60950-1 at least over the recommended transition period.

## AUDIO/VIDEO, INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT –

### Part 2: Explanatory information related to IEC 62368-1:2018

#### 0 Principles of this product safety standard

Clause 0 is informational and provides a rationale for the normative clauses of the document.

##### 0.5.1 General

ISO/IEC Guide 51:2014, 6.3.5 states:

*“When reducing risks the order of priority shall be as follows:*

- a) inherently safe design;*
- b) guards and protective devices;*
- c) information for end users.*

*Inherently safe design measures are the first and most important step in the risk reduction process. This is because protective measures inherent to the characteristics of the product or system are likely to remain effective, whereas experience has shown that even well-designed guards and protective devices can fail or be violated and information for use might not be followed.*

*Guards and protective devices shall be used whenever an inherently safe design measure does not reasonably make it possible either to remove hazards or to sufficiently reduce risks. Complementary protective measures involving additional equipment (for example, emergency stop equipment) might have to be implemented.*

*The end user has a role to play in the risk reduction procedure by complying with the information provided by the designer/supplier. However, information for use shall not be a substitute for the correct application of inherently safe design measures, guards or complementary protective measures.”*

In general, this principle is used in IEC 62368-1. The table below shows a comparison between the hierarchy required in ISO/IEC Guide 51 and the hierarchy used in IEC 62368-1:2018:

ISO/IEC Guide 51	IEC 62368-1
a) inherently safe design	1. inherently safe design by limiting all energy hazards to class 1
b) guards and protective devices	2. <b>equipment safeguards</b>
	3. <b>installation safeguards</b>
	4. <b>personal safeguards</b>
c) information for end users	5. <b>behavioral safeguards</b>
	6. <b>instructional safeguards</b>

Risk assessment has been considered as part of the development of IEC 62368-1 as indicated in the following from ISO/IEC Guide 51 (Figure 1) in this document. See also the Hazard Based Safety Engineering (HBSE) Process Flow (Figure 2) in this document that also provides additional details for the above comparison.

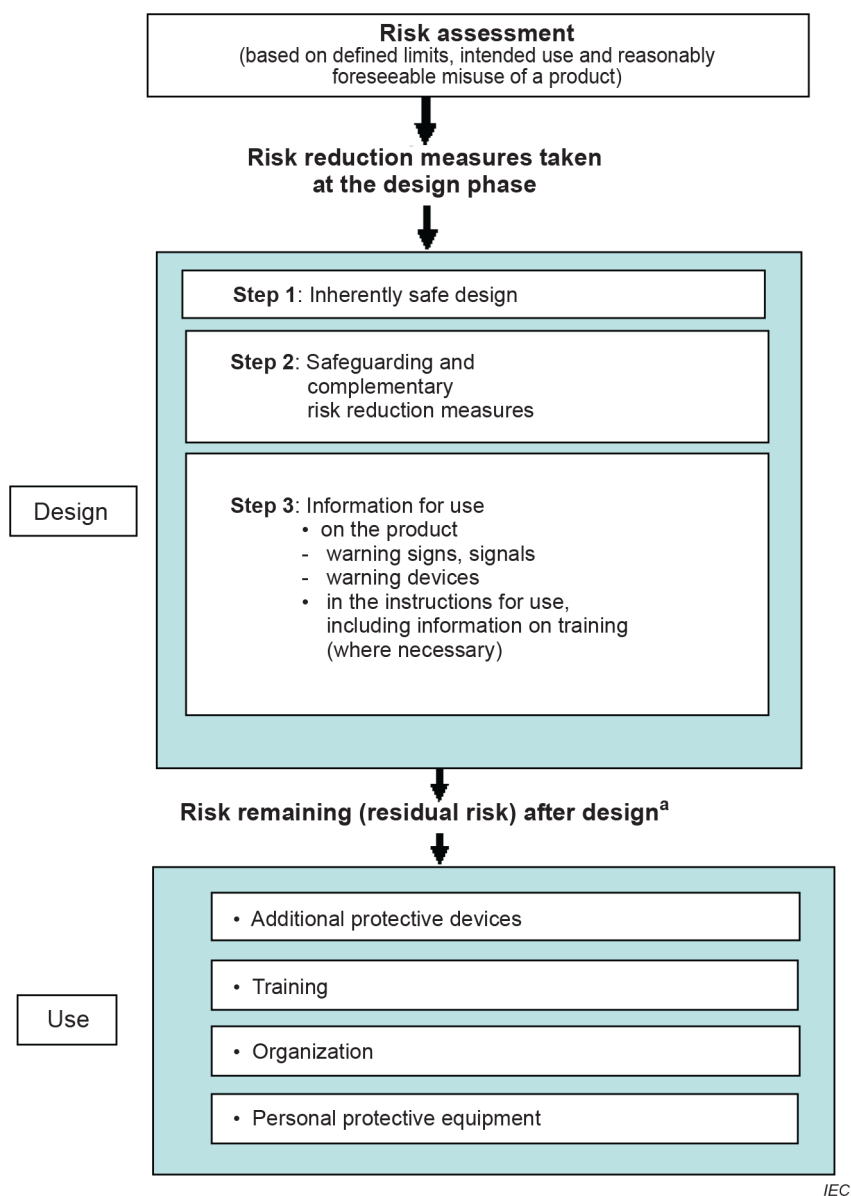


Figure 1 – Risk reduction as given in ISO/IEC Guide 51

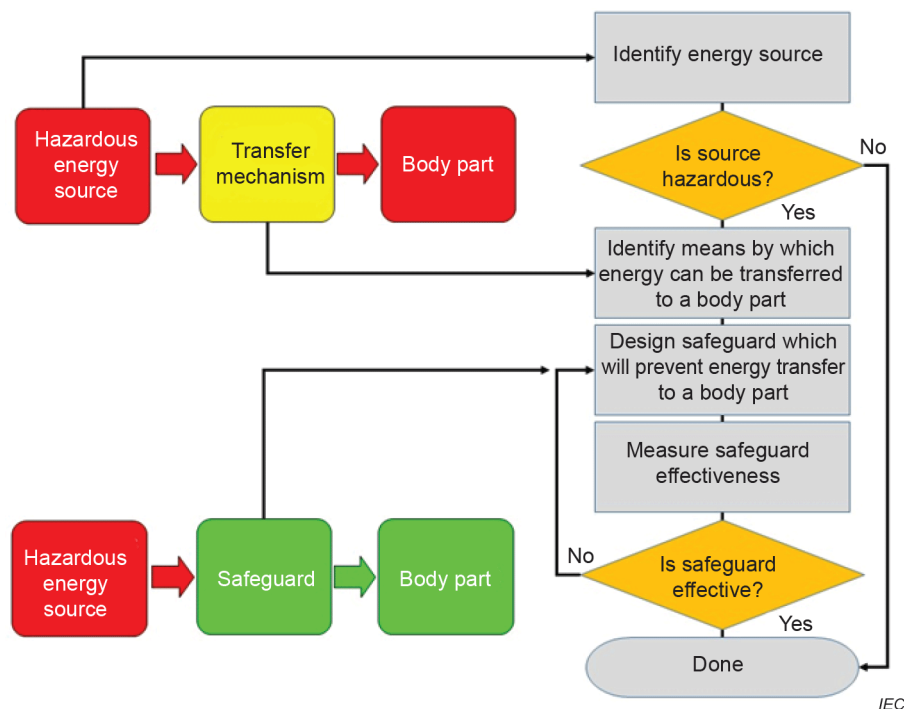


Figure 2 – HBSE Process Chart

### 0.5.7 Equipment safeguards during skilled person service conditions

**Purpose:** To explain the intent of requirements for providing **safeguards** against involuntary reaction.

**Rationale:** By definition, a **skilled person** has the education and experience to identify all class 3 energy sources to which he may be exposed. However, while servicing one class 3 energy source in one location, a **skilled person** may be exposed to another class 3 energy source in a different location.

In such a situation, either of two events is possible. First, something may cause an involuntary reaction of the **skilled person** with the consequences of contact with the class 3 energy source in the different location. Second, the space in which the **skilled person** is located may be small and cramped, and inadvertent contact with a class 3 energy source in the different location may be likely.

In such situations, this document may require an **equipment safeguard** solely for the protection of a **skilled person** while performing servicing activity.

## 1 Scope

**Purpose:** To identify the purpose and applicability of this document and the exclusions from the scope.

**Rationale:** The scope excludes requirements for functional safety. Functional safety is addressed in IEC 61508-1. Because the scope includes computers that may control safety systems, functional safety requirements would necessarily include requirements for computer processes and software.

The requirements provided in IEC 60950-23 could be modified and added to IEC 62368 as another –X document. However, because of the hazard-based nature of IEC 62368-1, the requirements from IEC 60950-23 have been incorporated into the body of IEC 62368-1 and made more generic.

The intent of the addition of the IEC 60950-23 requirements is to maintain the overall intent of the technical requirements from IEC 60950-23, incorporate them into IEC 62368-1 following the overall format of IEC 62368-1 and simplify and facilitate the application of these requirements.

Robots traditionally are covered under the scopes of ISO documents, typically maintained by ISO TC 299. ISO TC 299 has working groups for personal care robots and service robots, and produces for example, ISO 13482, *Robots and robotic devices – Safety requirements for personal care robots*.

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## 2 Normative references

The list of normative references is a list of all documents that have a normative reference to it in the body of the document. As such, 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.

Recently, there were some issues with test houses that wanted to use the latest edition as soon as it was published. As this creates serious problems for manufacturers, since they have no chance to prepare, it was felt that a reasonable transition period should be taken into account. This is in line with earlier decisions taken by the SMB that allow transition periods to be mentioned in the foreword of the documents. Therefore IEC TC 108 decided to indicate this in the introduction of the normative references clause, to instruct test houses to take into account any transition period, effective date or date of withdrawal established for the document.

These documents are referenced, in whole, in part, or as alternative requirements to the requirements contained in this document. Their use is specified, where necessary, for the application of the requirements of this document. The fact that a standard is mentioned in the list does not mean that compliance with the document or parts of it are required.

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## 3 Terms, definitions and abbreviations

Rationale is provided for definitions that deviate from IEC definitions or from Basic or Group Safety publication definitions.

### 3.3.2.1 electrical enclosure

Source: IEC 60050-195:1998, 195-06-13

Purpose: To support the concept of **safeguards** as used in this document.

Rationale: The IEC definition is modified to use the term “**safeguard**” in place of the word “protection”. The word “**safeguard**” identifies a physical “thing” whereas the word “protection” identifies the act of protecting. This document sets forth requirements for use of physical **safeguards** and requirements for those **safeguards**. The **safeguards** provide “protection” against injury from the equipment.