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Standards

Irish Standard Recommendation
S.R. CLC/TS 51643-32:2020

Low-voltage surge protective devices -
Part 32: Surge protective devices
connected to the DC side of photovoltaic
installations - Selection and application
principles

S.R. CLC/TS 51643-32:2020

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National Foreword

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Parafoudres basse tension - Partie 32 : Parafoudres connectés au côté courant continu des installations photovoltaïques - Principes de choix et d'application

Überspannungsschutzgeräte für Niederspannung - Teil 32: Überspannungsschutzgeräte für den Einsatz auf der Gleichstromseite von Photovoltaik-Installationen - Auswahl und Anwendungsgrundsätze

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CLC/TS 51643-32:2020 (E)

Contents	Page
European foreword	5
Introduction	6
1 Scope	7
2 Normative references	7
3 Terms and definitions	8
4 Systems and equipment to be protected	11
5 Overvoltages in a PV installation	12
6 Selection and erection of SPDs	12
6.1 General	12
Table 1 — Selection of SPD type and cross section of bonding conductor	13
6.2 Requirements for different PV installations	13
6.2.1 General	13
6.2.2 PV installation without an external LPS	14
Figure 1 — Installation of SPDs in the case of a building without an external LPS	14
6.2.3 PV installation with an external LPS when the separation distance (s) is maintained (excluding multi-earthed solar systems, such as PV power plants)	14
Figure 2 — Installation of SPDs in the case of a PV installation with an external LPS where the separation distance (s) is maintained	15
6.2.4 PV installation with an external LPS where the separation distance (s) cannot be maintained (including multi-earthed systems, such as PV power plants)	16
Figure 3 — Installation of SPDs in the case of a PV-installation with an external LPS where the separation distance (s) cannot be maintained	16
6.2.5 PV installation including communication and signalling circuits	16
6.3 Selection and erection of SPDs installed on the AC side	17
6.3.1 General	17
6.3.2 Selection of SPDs with regard to nominal discharge current I_n and impulse current I_{imp}	17
6.3.3 Selection of SPDs with regard to voltage protection level U_p	17
6.3.4 Installation of SPDs on the AC side	17
Figure 4 — Installation of SPDs on the AC side with a short distance between the origin of the installation and the PV inverter ($E < 10$ m)	18
Figure 5 — Installation of SPDs on the AC side with a long distance between the origin of the installation and the PV inverter ($E \geq 10$ m)	18
6.4 Selection and erection of SPDs installed on the DC side	19
6.4.1 General	19
6.4.2 Selection of SPDs with regard to nominal discharge current I_n and impulse current I_{imp}	19
6.4.3 Selection of U_{CPV} of SPDs on the DC side	19
6.4.4 Selection of SPDs with regard to its leakage current I_{PE}	19
6.4.5 Selection of SPDs with regard to voltage protection level U_p	19
Table 2 — Rated impulse voltage U_W for equipment between PV array and inverter (where no other information is available)	20
6.4.6 Installation of SPDs on the DC side	20

Figure 6 — Example of overvoltage protection on the DC side of a PV installation	21
6.4.7 Cross-sections of connecting conductors for SPDs on the DC side	21
6.4.8 Connection schemes of assemblies of SPDs on the DC side.	22
Figure 7 — Example of connections (Y, D and U) on the DC side of a PV source.....	23
Figure 8 — Example of connections (L and I) on the DC side of a reliable earthed PV source when distance between SPDs and the reliable earthing is less than 1 m.	23
6.4.9 Selection of I_{SCPV} of SPDs on the DC side.....	23
6.5 Coordination of SPDs	24
7 Earthing Arrangement	24
8 Requirements for the installation of surge protective devices (SPDs) in a PV system.....	25
9 Maintenance	25
Annex A (normative) Determination of the value of I_{imp} or I_n for SPDs according to the simplified approach for different structures protected by an LPS	26
A.1 Introduction.....	26
A.2 Building with a PV installation on the roof according to 6.2.4	27
Figure A.1 — Example of a structure with two external down conductors to determine the value of the discharge current for the selection of SPDs.....	29
Table A.1 — Values of I_{imp} ($I_{10/350}$) and I_n ($I_{8/20}$) for voltage limiting SPDs on the DC side of a PV installation mounted on the roof of a building with an external LPS if the separation distance is not maintained.....	29
Table A.2 — Values of I_{imp} ($I_{10/350}$) for voltage switching SPDs on the DC side of a PV installation mounted on the roof of a building with an external LPS, if the separation distance is not maintained.....	30
A.3 Free- field PV power plant.....	30
Figure A.2 — Example of the structure of an extended PV installation — A PV power plant with multiple earthing and a meshed earthing system.....	32
Table A.3 — Values of I_{imp} ($I_{10/350}$) and I_n ($I_{8/20}$) for SPDs used on the DC side in PV power plants with a central inverter, multiple earthing and a meshed earthing system.....	33
A.4 Selection of Type 1 SPDs impulse current I_{imp} when A.2 or A.3 cannot be applied.	34
Annex B (informative) Characteristics of a PV source	35
B.1 PV source characteristics.....	35
Figure B.1 — Equivalent circuit diagram of a PV current source	35
Figure B.2 — I/U characteristics of a PV source at different conditions	36
Figure B.3 — Comparison of I/U characteristics of a PV source at different radiation conditions and linear DC sources for SPD testing.	37
B.2 Calculation of $U_{OC\ MAX}$	38
B.3 Calculation of $I_{SC\ MAX}$	38
Annex C (informative) Additional information to Clause 6: Selection and erection of SPDs and to Clause 7: Earthing Arrangement.....	39
C.1 PV installation including communication and signalling circuits.....	39
Figure C.1 — Example of SPDs installed on a PV system protected by an external LPS where the separation distance (s) is maintained – Installation includes data acquisition and control system	40
C.2 PV installation and dimensions of equipotential bonding conductors	41

CLC/TS 51643-32:2020 (E)

Figure C.2 — Example of a building with an external LPS – Dimensions of equipotential bonding conductors when the separation distance (s) is maintained, or an isolated LPS is used.....	41
Figure C.3 — Example of a building with an external LPS – Dimensions of equipotential bonding conductors when the separation distance (s) is not maintained.	42
Bibliography	43

European foreword

This document (CLC/TS 51643-32:2020) has been prepared by CLC/TC 37A "Low-voltage surge protective devices".

This document supersedes CLC/TS 50539-12:2013 and all of its amendments and corrigenda (if any).

CLC/TS 51643-32:2020 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to CLC/TS 50539-12:2013:

- slight restructuring without impact on the content (such as changing the title of a clause by changing the text of one clause to another),
- deletion of the current branch concept of an SPD,
- referring to EN 61634-11:2019 instead of EN 50539-11:2013,
- referring to OCFM, SCFM instead of acronyms and concepts SCM and OCM,
- deletion of Annex C relating to the simplified risk assessment A,
- addition of a new annex dealing with telecommunication circuits.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CENELEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

CLC/TS 51643-32:2020 (E)

Introduction

This document provides useful information for the selection of SPDs connected to photovoltaic installations.

This document does not address the fundamentals of SPDs that are addressed in CLC/TS 61643-12 which are necessary for its correct understanding and application.

This document provides information to evaluate, with reference to the documents listed in Clause 2, the additional needs for surge protective devices (SPDs) to be installed on the DC side and on the AC side of a photovoltaic (PV) system, to protect against induced and direct lightning effects. It gives guidance for selection, operation and installation of SPDs, including the selection of SPD type, surge current values and cross sections of bonding conductors.

The specific electrical parameters of a PV array or a PV source require specific SPDs on the DC side.

This document considers SPDs used in different locations and in different kinds of PV systems. It gives examples and provides a simplified and common approach to determine impulse discharge current values for the DC side of different PV installations.

1 Scope

This document describes the principles for selection, installation and coordination of SPDs intended for use in Photovoltaic (PV) systems up to 1500 V DC and for the AC side of the PV system rated up to 1000 V RMS 50/60 Hz.

The photovoltaic installation extends from a PV array or a set of interconnected PV-modules to include the associated cabling and protective devices and the converter up to the connection point in the distribution board or the utility supply point.

This document considers SPDs used in different locations and in different kinds of PV systems:

- PV systems located on the top of a building;
- PV systems located on the ground like free field power plants characterized by multiple earthing and a meshed earthing system.

The term PV installation is used to refer to both kinds of PV systems. The term PV power plant is only used for extended free-field multi-earthed power systems located on the ground.

For PV installations including batteries additional requirements could be necessary.

NOTE 1 The HD 60364 series, EN 62305 series and CLC/TS 61643-12 also apply.

NOTE 2 This document deals only with SPDs and not with surge protective components integrated inside equipment (e.g. inverters, (PCE) power conversion equipment).

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.

HD 60364-5-534:2016, *Low-voltage electrical installations - Part 5-53: Selection and erection of electrical equipment - Isolation, switching and control - Clause 534: Devices for protection against transient overvoltages (IEC 60364-5-53:2001/A2:2015, modified)*

EN 60664-1:2007, *Insulation coordination for equipment within low-voltage systems - Part 1: Principles, requirements and tests (IEC 60664-1:2007)*

EN 61000-4-5, *Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) - Part 4-5: Testing and measurement techniques - Surge immunity test (IEC 61000-4-5)*

CLC/TS 61643-12, *Low-voltage surge protective devices - Part 12: Surge protective devices connected to low-voltage power distribution systems - Selection and application principles (IEC 61643-12)*

EN 61643-31:2019, *Low-voltage surge protective devices - Part 31: Requirements and test methods for SPDs for photovoltaic installations (IEC 61643-31:2018)*

ITU-T K.20, *Resistibility of telecommunication equipment installed in a telecommunications centre to overvoltages and overcurrents*

ITU-T K.21, *Resistibility of telecommunication equipment installed in customer premises to overvoltages and overcurrents*

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