



**NSAI**  
Standards

Irish Standard  
I.S. EN IEC 60079-10-1:2021

# Explosive atmospheres - Part 10-1: Classification of areas - Explosive gas atmospheres

**I.S. EN IEC 60079-10-1:2021**

*Incorporating amendments/corrigenda/National Annexes issued since publication:*

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*This document is based on:*

EN IEC 60079-10-1:2021

*Published:*

2021-02-05

*This document was published under the authority of the NSAI and comes into effect on:*

2021-02-22

ICS number:

29.260.20

NOTE: If blank see CEN/CENELEC cover page

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## National Foreword

I.S. EN IEC 60079-10-1:2021 is the adopted Irish version of the European Document EN IEC 60079-10-1:2021, Explosive atmospheres - Part 10-1: Classification of areas - Explosive gas atmospheres

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

**EN IEC 60079-10-1**

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

February 2021

ICS 29.260.20

Supersedes EN 60079-10-1:2015 and all of its  
amendments and corrigenda (if any)

English Version

**Explosive atmospheres - Part 10-1: Classification of areas -  
Explosive gas atmospheres  
(IEC 60079-10-1:2020)**

Atmosphères explosives - Partie 10-1: Classification des  
emplacements - Atmosphères explosives gazeuses  
(IEC 60079-10-1:2020)

Explosionsgefährdete Bereiche - Teil 10-1: Einteilung der  
Bereiche - Gasexplosionsgefährdete Bereiche  
(IEC 60079-10-1:2020)

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Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique  
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**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

## **EN IEC 60079-10-1:2021 (E)**

### **European foreword**

The text of document 31J/307/FDIS, future edition 3 of IEC 60079-10-1, prepared by SC 31J "Classification of hazardous areas and installation requirements" of IEC/TC 31 "Equipment for explosive atmospheres" was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN IEC 60079-10-1:2021.

The following dates are fixed:

- latest date by which the document has to be implemented at national (dop) 2021-10-22 level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement
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IEC 60079-0	NOTE	Harmonized as EN IEC 60079-0
IEC 60079-14	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60079-14
IEC 60079-13	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60079-13
IEC 60079-10-2	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 60079-10-2
IEC 61285	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 61285
IEC 61511-1:2016	NOTE	Harmonized as EN 61511-1:2017 (not modified)
ISO/IEC 80079-20-1	NOTE	Harmonized as EN ISO/IEC 80079-20-1



**IEC 60079-10-1**

Edition 3.0 2020-12

# **INTERNATIONAL STANDARD**

# **NORME INTERNATIONALE**



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**Explosive atmospheres –  
Part 10-1: Classification of areas – Explosive gas atmospheres**

**Atmosphères explosives –  
Partie 10-1: Classification des emplacements – Atmosphères explosives  
gazeuses**





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**IEC 60079-10-1**

Edition 3.0 2020-12

# **INTERNATIONAL STANDARD**

# **NORME INTERNATIONALE**



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**Explosive atmospheres –  
Part 10-1: Classification of areas – Explosive gas atmospheres**

**Atmosphères explosives –  
Partie 10-1: Classification des emplacements – Atmosphères explosives  
gazeuses**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
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ICS 29.260.20

ISBN 978-2-8322-8890-0

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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### **EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –**

### **Part 10-1: Classification of areas – Explosive gas atmospheres**

#### FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as “IEC Publication(s)”). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
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International Standard IEC 60079-10-1 has been prepared by subcommittee 31J: Classification of hazardous areas and installation requirements, of IEC technical committee 31: Equipment for explosive atmospheres.

This third edition of IEC 60079-10-1 cancels and replaces the second edition, published in 2015, and constitutes a technical revision. The significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition are as follows:

Changes	Clause	Type		
		Minor and editorial changes	Extension	Major technical changes
Deleting commercial and industrial applications for fuel gas from the Scope exemptions	1			C1
Updating editorial details and notes to the definitions	3		X	
Deletion of the previous edition clause 3.7.3 definition for catastrophic failure (dealt with in clause 4.5)			X	
Introduction of new Subclause <b>4.4.2 Zone of negligible extent</b>	4.4.2		X	
Introduction of new clause <b>5.3.2 Fuel gas installations</b>	5.3.2		X	
Renumbering of headings	7	X		
Introduction of <b>Figure 1 – Dilution volume</b>	7		X	
Upgrading <b>Table A.1</b> with UFL and its column 15 heading with the 'source of data'	A.1	X		
Updating the flow-chart in <b>Figure B.1</b>	B.6		X	
Updating equations for evaporation rate to align with the recent source modifications	B.7.3		X	
Updating the chart in <b>Figure B.2</b> according to the updated equations for evaporation rate and the ventilation velocity of 0,25 m/s	B.7.3		X	
Restructuring <b>Table C.1</b>	C.3.4		X	
Removal of safety factor <b>k</b> and deleting it from the horizontal axis of the chart in <b>Figure C.1</b>	C.3.5			C2
Revising equations (C.2) and (C.3)	C.5.2			C3
Revising equations (C.4) and (C.5)	C.5.3			C4
Revising the chart in <b>Figure C.6</b> by changing the label on the horizontal axis	C.5.3			C5
Revising equation (C.6) and deleting equation (C.7)	C.5.4			C6
Removal of safety factor <b>k</b> and deleting it from the horizontal axis of the charts in <b>Figure D.1</b>	D.3			C7
Imposing limitations to the use of the chart in <b>Figure D.1</b>	D.3		X	
Updating and corrections in <b>Annex E</b>	Annex E		X	
Upgrading <b>Annex G</b> on Flammable mists	Annex G		X	
Introducing new items in <b>Table K.1</b>	Annex K		X	
Introducing new items in the Bibliography	Bibliography		X	
NOTE The technical changes referred to include the significance of technical changes in the revised IEC Standard, but they do not form an exhaustive list of all modifications from the previous version.				

**Explanations:****A) Definitions****Minor and editorial changes**

clarification  
 decrease of technical requirements  
 minor technical change  
 editorial corrections

These are changes which modify requirements in an editorial or a minor technical way. They include changes of the wording to clarify technical requirements without any technical change.

**Extension**

addition of technical options

These are changes which add new or modify existing technical requirements, in a way that new options are given, but without increasing requirements.

**Major technical changes**

addition of technical requirements  
 increase of technical requirements

**B) Information about the background of changes**

- C1 The previous edition item e) was: “commercial and industrial applications where only low pressure fuel gas is used for appliances e.g. for cooking, water heating and similar uses, where the installation is compliant with relevant gas codes”. Industrial applications of any kind should not be exempted from the scope of this standard. See also new clause 5.3.2.
- C2 The factor  $k$  was initially intended to provide for additional safety for uncertainties in determining LFL for flammable substances, particularly gas mixtures. However, this was considered as unnecessary and confusing considering the derivation of the chart.
- C3 The equations are updated to align with BS 5925
- C4 The equations are updated to align with BS 5925
- C5 The chart is revised to match the new equation (C.4)
- C6 The equation is updated to align with BS 5925
- C7 See the explanation under C2

These are changes to technical requirements (addition, increase of the level or removal).

NOTE These changes represent current technological knowledge. However, these changes should not normally have an influence on equipment already placed on the market.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
31J/307/FDIS	31J/310/RVD

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.

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

A list of all parts of the IEC 60079 series, under the general title *Explosive atmospheres*, 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 "<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.

**IMPORTANT – The 'colour inside' logo on the cover page of this publication indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this document using a colour printer.**

## INTRODUCTION

In areas where dangerous quantities and concentrations of flammable gas or vapour may arise, measures need to be applied in order to reduce the risk of explosions. This part of IEC 60079 sets out the essential criteria against which the ignition hazards can be assessed and gives guidance on the design and control parameters which can be used in order to reduce such hazards.

## **EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –**

### **Part 10-1: Classification of areas – Explosive gas atmospheres**

#### **1 Scope**

This part of IEC 60079 is concerned with the classification of areas where flammable gas or vapour hazards may arise and may then be used as a basis to support the proper design, construction, operation and maintenance of equipment for use in hazardous areas.

It is intended to be applied where there may be an ignition hazard due to the presence of flammable gas or vapour, mixed with air, but it does not apply to:

- a) mines susceptible to firedamp;
- b) the processing and manufacture of explosives;
- c) catastrophic failures or rare malfunctions which are beyond the concept of normality dealt with in this standard (see 3.7.3 and 4.5);
- d) rooms used for medical purposes;
- e) domestic premises;
- f) where a hazard may arise due to the presence of combustible dusts or combustible flyings but the principles may be used in assessment of a hybrid mixture (refer also to IEC 60079-10-2).

NOTE Additional guidance on hybrid mixtures is provided in Annex I.

Flammable mists may form or be present at the same time as flammable vapour. In such case the strict application of the details in this document may not be appropriate. Flammable mists may also form when liquids not considered to be a hazard due to the high flash point are released under pressure. In these cases the classifications and details given in this document do not apply. Information on flammable mists is provided in Annex G.

For the purpose of this document, an area is a three-dimensional region or space.

Atmospheric conditions include variations above and below reference levels of 101,3 kPa (1 013 mbar) and 20 °C (293 K), provided that the variations have a negligible effect on the explosion properties of the flammable substances.

In any site, irrespective of size, there may be numerous sources of ignition apart from those associated with equipment. Appropriate precautions will be necessary to ensure safety in this context. This standard is applicable with judgement for other ignition sources but in some applications other safeguards may also need to be considered. E.g. larger distances may apply for naked flames when considering hot work permits.

This document does not take into account the consequences of ignition of an explosive atmosphere except where a zone is so small that if ignition did occur it would have negligible consequences (see 3.3.8 and 4.4.2).

#### **2 Normative references**

This document contains no normative references.

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