

# Degrees of protection provided by enclosures for electrical equipment against external mechanical impacts (IK code)

The European Standard EN 50102:1995 with the incorporation of amendment A1:1998 has the status of a British Standard

ICS 29.020

## Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted to Technical Committee GEL/70, upon which the following bodies were represented:

Association of Manufacturers of Domestic Electrical Appliances  
Consumer Policy Committee of BSI  
Department of Trade and Industry (Consumer Safety Unit, CA Division)  
Electrical Installation Equipment Manufacturers' Association (BEAMA Ltd.)  
Electricity Association  
GAMBICA (BEAMA Ltd.)  
Health and Safety Executive

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Electrotechnical Sector Board, was published under the authority of the Standards Board and comes into effect on 15 October 1995

© BSI 20 December 2002

### Amendments issued since publication

Amd. No.	Date	Comments
10407	May 1999	Indicated by a sideline

The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:  
Committee reference GEL/70  
Draft for comment 92/30103 DC

## Contents

	Page
Committees responsible	Inside front cover
National foreword	ii
Foreword	2
Text of EN 50102	3
List of references	Inside back cover

---

## National foreword

This British Standard has been prepared by Technical Committee GEL/70 and is the English language version of EN 50102, *Degrees of protection provided by enclosures for electrical equipment against external mechanical impacts (IK code)*, including amendment A1:1998 published by the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC).

The foreword of EN 50102 makes reference to the “date of withdrawal” (dow) of the relevant national standard. In this case there is no relevant national standard.

### Cross-references

Publication referred to	Corresponding British Standard
IEC 68-1:1988	BS 2011 <i>Environmental testing</i> Part 1.1:1989 <i>General and guidance</i>

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

**Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.**

### Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, the EN title page, pages 2 to 6, an inside back cover and a back cover.

The BSI copyright notice displayed in this document indicates when the document was last issued.

Sidelining in this document indicates the most recent changes by amendment.

---

ICS 29.020

Descriptors: Electrical equipment, enclosure for electrical equipment, degree of protection, mechanical impact, classification, tests, test conditions, control

English version

## Degrees of protection provided by enclosures for electrical equipment against external mechanical impacts (IK code)

(includes amendment A1:1998)

Degrés de protection procurés par les enveloppes de matériels électriques contre les impacts mécaniques externes (code IK) (inclut l'amendement A1:1998)

Schutzarten durch Gehäuse für elektrische Betriebsmittel (Ausrüstung) gegen äußere mechanische Beanspruchungen (IK-Code) (enthält Änderung A1:1998)

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 1994-12-06. CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Central Secretariat or to any CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the Central Secretariat has the same status as the official versions.

CENELEC members are the national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

## CENELEC

European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization  
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique  
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

Central Secretariat: rue de Stassart 35, B-1050 Brussels

## Foreword

This European Standard was prepared by CENELEC BTTF 68-3, Degrees of protection provided by enclosures for electrical equipment against external mechanical impacts (IK code).

The text of the draft, based on document BT(FR/NOT)141, was submitted to the formal vote in June 1994 and was approved by CENELEC as EN 50102 on 1994-12-06.

The following dates were fixed:

- latest date by which the EN has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement (dop) 1997-04-15
- latest date by which national standards conflicting with the EN have to be withdrawn (dow) 1997-04-15

## Foreword to amendment A1

This amendment was prepared by CENELEC BTTF 68-3, IK code.

This text of the draft was submitted to the formal vote and was approved by CENELEC as amendment A1 to EN 50102:1995 on 1998-10-01.

The following dates were fixed:

- latest date by which the amendment has to be implemented at national level by publication of an identical national standard or by endorsement (dop) 1999-10-01
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting with the amendment have to be withdrawn (dow) 1999-10-01

## Contents

	Page
Foreword	2
Introduction	3
1 Scope	3
2 Normative references	3
3 Definitions	4
3.1 Enclosure	4
3.2 Degree of protection against mechanical impacts	4
3.3 IK code	4
4 Designations	4
4.1 Arrangement of the IK code	4
4.2 Characteristic group numerals of the IK code and their meanings	4
4.3 Application of the IK code	4
4.4 Marking	5
5 General requirements for tests	5
5.1 Atmospheric conditions for tests	5
5.2 Enclosures under test	5
5.3 Specifications to be given in the relevant product standard	5
6 Test to verify the protection against mechanical impacts	5
7 Test apparatus	6

## Introduction

This standard describes a system for classifying the degrees of protection provided by enclosures for electrical equipment against external mechanical impacts. Whilst this system is suitable for use with most types of electrical equipment, it should not be assumed that all the listed degrees of protection are applicable to a particular type of equipment. The manufacturer of the equipment should be consulted to determine the degrees of protection available and the parts of equipment to which the stated degree of protection applies.

The adoption of this classification system, wherever possible, should promote uniformity in methods of describing the protection provided by the enclosure and in the tests to prove the various degrees of protection. It should also reduce the number of types of test devices necessary to test a wide range of products.

## 1 Scope

This standard refers to the classification of the degrees of protection provided by enclosures against external mechanical impacts when the rated voltage of the protected equipment is not greater than 72,5 kV.

This standard is only applicable to enclosures of equipment where the specific standard establishes degrees of protection of the enclosure against mechanical impacts (expressed in this standard as impacts).

The object of this standard is to give:

- a) the *definitions* for degrees of protection provided by enclosures of electrical equipment as regards protection of the equipment inside the enclosure against harmful effects of mechanical impacts;
- b) the *designations* for the degrees of protection;
- c) the *requirements* for each designation;
- d) the *tests* to be performed to verify that enclosure meets the requirements of this standard.

It will remain the responsibility of individual Technical Committees to decide on the extent and manner in which the classification is used in their standards and to define “enclosure” as it applies to their equipment. However, it is recommended that for a given classification the tests do not differ from those specified in this standard. If necessary, complementary requirements may be included in the relevant product standard.

For a particular type of equipment a Product Committee may specify different requirements provided that at least the same level of safety is ensured.

This standard deals only with enclosures that are in all other respects suitable for their intended use as specified in the relevant product standard and which from the point of view of materials and workmanship ensure that the claimed degrees of protection are maintained under the normal conditions of use.

This standard is also applicable to empty enclosures provided that the general test requirements are met and that the selected degree of protection is suitable for the type of equipment.

## 2 Normative references

This European Standard incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this European Standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies (including amendments).

Publication	Year	Title	EN/HD	Year
IEC 50 (826)	1982	<i>International Electrotechnical Vocabulary</i> Chapter 826: <i>Electrical installations of buildings</i>	—	—
IEC 68-1	1988	<i>Environmental testing</i> Part 1: <i>General and guidance</i>	HD 323.1 S2 EN 60068-1	1988 1994
IEC 60068-2-75	1997	<i>Environmental testing</i> Part 2: <i>Tests — test Eh: Hammer tests</i>	EN 60068-2-75	1997

### 3 Definitions

For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions apply.

#### 3.1

##### enclosure<sup>1)</sup>

a part providing protection of equipment against certain external influences and, in any direction, protection against contact (IEV 826-03-12)

NOTE This definition from the existing International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) needs the following explanations under the scope of this standard:

- 1) Enclosures provide protection of equipment against harmful effects of mechanical impacts.
- 2) Barriers, shapes of openings or any other means — whether attached to the enclosure or formed by the enclosed equipment — suitable to prevent or limit the penetration of the specified test probes are considered as a part of the enclosure, except when they can be removed without the use of a key or tool.

#### 3.2

##### degree of protection against mechanical impacts

the extent (level) of protection of the equipment provided by an enclosure against harmful mechanical impacts and verified by standardized test methods

#### 3.3

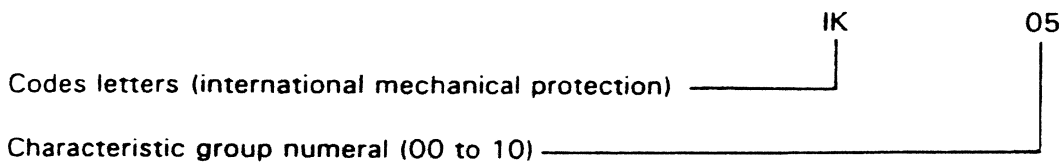
##### IK code

a coding system to indicate the degree of protection provided by an enclosure against harmful mechanical impacts

### 4 Designations

The degree of protection provided by an enclosure against impacts is indicated by the IK code in the following way.

#### 4.1 Arrangement of the IK code



#### 4.2 Characteristic group numerals of the IK code and their meanings

Each characteristic group numeral, represents an impact energy value as shown in Table 1.

Table 1 — Relation between IK code and impact energy

IK code	IK00	IK01	IK02	IK03	IK04	IK05	IK06	IK07	IK08	IK09	IK10
Impact energy Joule	<sup>a</sup>	0,14	0,2	0,35	0,5	0,7	1	2	5	10	20
<sup>a</sup> not protected according to this standard											

NOTE 1 When higher impact energy is required the value of 50 Joules is recommended.

NOTE 2 A characteristic group numeral of two figures has been chosen to avoid confusion with some former national standards which used a single numeral for a specific impact energy.

#### 4.3 Application of the IK code

In general the degree of protection applies to the complete enclosure. If parts of the enclosure have differing degrees of protection, the latter shall be separately indicated.

<sup>1)</sup> This definition is identical to 3.1 of EN 60529.



#### 4.4 Marking

In case where the relevant product committee decides that marking of the IK-code shall be required, the marking requirements shall be detailed in the relevant product standard.

Where appropriate, such a standard should also specify the method of marking which is to be used when:

- one part of an enclosure has different degree of protection to that of another part of the same enclosure;
- the mounting position has an influence on the degree of protection.

### 5 General requirements for tests

#### 5.1 Atmospheric conditions for tests

Unless otherwise specified in the relevant product standard, the test shall be carried out under the standard atmospheric conditions for tests described in IEC 68-1 as:

Temperature range	15 °C to 35 °C
Air pressure	86 kPa to 106 kPa (860 mbar to 1 060 mbar)

When the altitude at which the test is performed is higher than 2 000 m the height of fall shall be adjusted where necessary to result in the specified impact energy.

#### 5.2 Enclosures under test

Each enclosure under test shall be in a clean and new condition, complete with all their parts in place unless otherwise specified in the relevant product standard.

#### 5.3 Specifications to be given in the relevant product standard

The relevant product standard shall specify:

- the definition of “enclosure” as it applies to the particular type of equipment;
- the test equipment (e.g. pendulum hammer, spring hammer or vertical hammer, see Clause 7);
- the number of samples to be tested;
- the conditions for mounting, assembling and positioning the samples, e.g. by the use of an artificial surface (ceiling, floor or wall), in order to stimulate intended service conditions as far as possible;
- the pre-conditioning, if any, which is to be used;
- whether to be tested energized;
- whether to be tested with any moving parts in motion;
- the number of impacts and their points of application (see 6.3).

In the absence of such specifications in the relevant product standard, conditions of this standard shall apply.

### 6 Test to verify the protection against mechanical impacts

**6.1** The tests specified in this standard are type tests.

**6.2** In order to verify the protection against mechanical impacts blows shall be applied to the enclosure to be tested. The device to be used for this test are described in Clause 7.

**6.3** During the test the enclosure shall be mounted, according to the manufacturer instructions for use, on a rigid support. A support is considered to be sufficiently rigid if its displacement is less than or equal to 0,1 mm under the effect of an impact directly applied and whose energy corresponds to the degree of protection. Alternative mounting and support, suitable for the product, may be specified in the relevant product standard.

**6.4** The number of impacts shall be five on each exposed face unless otherwise specified in the relevant product standard. The impacts shall be evenly distributed on the faces of the enclosure(s) under test. In no case shall more than three impacts be applied in the surroundings of the same point of the enclosure. The relevant product standard shall specify the points of application of impacts.

### **6.5 Test evaluation**

The relevant product standard shall specify the criteria upon which the acceptance or rejection of the enclosure is to be based on particularly:

- admissible damages;
- verification criteria relative to the continuity of the safety and reliability of the equipment.

### **7 Test apparatus**

The test shall be done by using one of the test apparatus as described in EN 60068-2-75.

## List of references

See national foreword.

---

---

## BSI — British Standards Institution

BSI is the independent national body responsible for preparing British Standards. It presents the UK view on standards in Europe and at the international level. It is incorporated by Royal Charter.

### Revisions

British Standards are updated by amendment or revision. Users of British Standards should make sure that they possess the latest amendments or editions.

It is the constant aim of BSI to improve the quality of our products and services. We would be grateful if anyone finding an inaccuracy or ambiguity while using this British Standard would inform the Secretary of the technical committee responsible, the identity of which can be found on the inside front cover.  
Tel: +44 (0)20 8996 9000. Fax: +44 (0)20 8996 7400.

BSI offers members an individual updating service called PLUS which ensures that subscribers automatically receive the latest editions of standards.

### Buying standards

Orders for all BSI, international and foreign standards publications should be addressed to Customer Services. Tel: +44 (0)20 8996 9001.  
Fax: +44 (0)20 8996 7001. Email: [orders@bsi-global.com](mailto:orders@bsi-global.com). Standards are also available from the BSI website at <http://www.bsi-global.com>.

In response to orders for international standards, it is BSI policy to supply the BSI implementation of those that have been published as British Standards, unless otherwise requested.

### Information on standards

BSI provides a wide range of information on national, European and international standards through its Library and its Technical Help to Exporters Service. Various BSI electronic information services are also available which give details on all its products and services. Contact the Information Centre.  
Tel: +44 (0)20 8996 7111. Fax: +44 (0)20 8996 7048. Email: [info@bsi-global.com](mailto:info@bsi-global.com).

Subscribing members of BSI are kept up to date with standards developments and receive substantial discounts on the purchase price of standards. For details of these and other benefits contact Membership Administration.  
Tel: +44 (0)20 8996 7002. Fax: +44 (0)20 8996 7001.  
Email: [membership@bsi-global.com](mailto:membership@bsi-global.com).

Information regarding online access to British Standards via British Standards Online can be found at <http://www.bsi-global.com/bsonline>.

Further information about BSI is available on the BSI website at <http://www.bsi-global.com>.

### Copyright

Copyright subsists in all BSI publications. BSI also holds the copyright, in the UK, of the publications of the international standardization bodies. Except as permitted under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 no extract may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means – electronic, photocopying, recording or otherwise – without prior written permission from BSI.

This does not preclude the free use, in the course of implementing the standard, of necessary details such as symbols, and size, type or grade designations. If these details are to be used for any other purpose than implementation then the prior written permission of BSI must be obtained.

Details and advice can be obtained from the Copyright & Licensing Manager.  
Tel: +44 (0)20 8996 7070. Fax: +44 (0)20 8996 7553.  
Email: [copyright@bsi-global.com](mailto:copyright@bsi-global.com).