

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

**Multicore and symmetrical pair/quad cables for digital communications –
Part 14: Symmetrical single pair cables with transmission characteristics up to
20 MHz – Work area wiring – Sectional specification**



THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED
Copyright © 2025 IEC, Geneva, Switzerland

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from either IEC or IEC's member National Committee in the country of the requester. If you have any questions about IEC copyright or have an enquiry about obtaining additional rights to this publication, please contact the address below or your local IEC member National Committee for further information.

IEC Secretariat
3, rue de Varembe
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11
info@iec.ch
www.iec.ch

About the IEC

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is the leading global organization that prepares and publishes International Standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies.

About IEC publications

The technical content of IEC publications is kept under constant review by the IEC. Please make sure that you have the latest edition, a corrigendum or an amendment might have been published.

IEC publications search -
webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform

The advanced search enables to find IEC publications by a variety of criteria (reference number, text, technical committee, ...). It also gives information on projects, replaced and withdrawn publications.

IEC Just Published - webstore.iec.ch/justpublished

Stay up to date on all new IEC publications. Just Published details all new publications released. Available online and once a month by email.

IEC Customer Service Centre - webstore.iec.ch/csc

If you wish to give us your feedback on this publication or need further assistance, please contact the Customer Service Centre: sales@iec.ch.

IEC Products & Services Portal - products.iec.ch

Discover our powerful search engine and read freely all the publications previews, graphical symbols and the glossary. With a subscription you will always have access to up to date content tailored to your needs.

Electropedia - www.electropedia.org

The world's leading online dictionary on electrotechnology, containing more than 22 500 terminological entries in English and French, with equivalent terms in 25 additional languages. Also known as the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) online.

Warning! Make sure that you obtained this publication from an authorized distributor.

CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	5
1 Scope.....	7
2 Normative references.....	7
3 Terms and definitions.....	8
4 Installation considerations.....	8
4.1 General remarks.....	8
4.2 Bending radius of installed cable.....	8
4.3 Climatic conditions.....	8
5 Materials and cable construction.....	8
5.1 General remarks.....	8
5.2 Cable construction.....	8
5.3 Conductor.....	8
5.4 Insulation.....	9
5.5 Cable element.....	9
5.6 Screening of the cable element.....	9
5.7 Cable make-up.....	9
5.8 Screening of the cable core.....	9
5.9 Sheath.....	9
5.10 Identification.....	9
5.11 Finished cable.....	10
6 Characteristics and requirements.....	10
6.1 General remarks.....	10
6.2 Electrical characteristics and tests.....	10
6.2.1 Conductor resistance.....	10
6.2.2 Resistance unbalance within a pair.....	10
6.2.3 Dielectric strength.....	10
6.2.4 Insulation resistance.....	10
6.2.5 Mutual capacitance.....	10
6.2.6 Capacitance unbalance.....	10
6.2.7 Transfer impedance.....	11
6.2.8 Low frequency coupling attenuation.....	11
6.2.9 Current-carrying capacity.....	11
6.3 Transmission characteristics.....	11
6.3.1 Velocity of propagation (phase velocity).....	11
6.3.2 Phase delay.....	11
6.3.3 Attenuation (α).....	12
6.3.4 Unbalance attenuation (TCL and EL TCTL).....	13
6.3.5 Alien (exogenous) near-end crosstalk (PS ANEXT).....	14
6.3.6 Alien (exogenous) far-end crosstalk (PS AACR-F).....	14
6.3.7 Impedance.....	14
6.3.8 Return loss (RL).....	15
6.4 Mechanical and dimensional characteristics and requirements.....	15
6.4.1 Dimensional requirements.....	15
6.4.2 Elongation at break of the conductors.....	15
6.4.3 Tensile strength of the insulation.....	15
6.4.4 Elongation at break of the insulation.....	15

- 6.4.5 Adhesion of the insulation to the conductor..... 15
- 6.4.6 Elongation at break of the sheath 15
- 6.4.7 Tensile strength of the sheath 16
- 6.4.8 Crush test of the cable 16
- 6.4.9 Impact test of the cable 16
- 6.4.10 Bending under tension..... 16
- 6.4.11 Repeated bending of the cable 16
- 6.4.12 Tensile performance of the cable 16
- 6.4.13 Shock test requirements of the cable 16
- 6.4.14 Bump test requirements of the cable 16
- 6.4.15 Vibration test requirements of a cable 16
- 6.5 Environmental characteristics 16
 - 6.5.1 Shrinkage of insulation 16
 - 6.5.2 Wrapping test of insulation after thermal ageing 16
 - 6.5.3 Bending test of insulation at low temperature 16
 - 6.5.4 Elongation at break of the sheath after ageing 17
 - 6.5.5 Tensile strength of the sheath after ageing 17
 - 6.5.6 Sheath pressure test at high temperature 17
 - 6.5.7 Cold bend test of the cable 17
 - 6.5.8 Heat shock test..... 17
 - 6.5.9 Damp heat steady state 17
 - 6.5.10 Solar radiation (UV test) 17
 - 6.5.11 Solvents and contaminating fluids..... 17
 - 6.5.12 Salt mist and sulphur dioxide 17
 - 6.5.13 Water immersion..... 17
 - 6.5.14 Hygroscopicity 17
 - 6.5.15 Wicking..... 17
 - 6.5.16 Flame propagation characteristics of a single cable 18
 - 6.5.17 Flame propagation characteristics of bunched cables 18
 - 6.5.18 Halogen gas evolution 18
 - 6.5.19 Smoke generation 18
 - 6.5.20 Toxic gas emission..... 18
 - 6.5.21 Integrated fire test..... 18
- 7 Bundled cables requirements 18
- 8 Introduction to the blank detail specification (BDS)..... 18

- Annex A (informative) Blank detail specification..... 19
- Annex B (informative) Background information for coupling attenuation and low frequency coupling attenuation requirements..... 24
- Bibliography..... 25

- Table 1 – Transfer impedance 11
- Table 2 – Low frequency coupling attenuation 11
- Table 3 – Attenuation equation constants..... 12
- Table 4 – Attenuation temperature coefficients 12

Table 5 – TCL requirements	13
Table 6 – EL TCTL requirements.....	14
Table 7 – PS ANEXT requirements.....	14
Table 8 – PS AACR-F requirements	14
Table 9 – RL requirements	15

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**MULTICORE AND SYMMETRICAL PAIR/QUAD CABLES
FOR DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS –**
**Part 14: Symmetrical single pair cables with transmission characteristics
up to 20 MHz – Work area wiring – Sectional specification**

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.
- 2) The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) IEC draws attention to the possibility that the implementation of this document may involve the use of (a) patent(s). IEC takes no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of any claimed patent rights in respect thereof. As of the date of publication of this document, IEC had not received notice of (a) patent(s), which may be required to implement this document. However, implementers are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information, which may be obtained from the patent database available at <https://patents.iec.ch>. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

IEC 61156-14 has been prepared by subcommittee 46C: Wires and symmetric cables, of IEC technical committee 46: Cables, wires, waveguides, RF connectors, RF and microwave passive components and accessories. It is an International Standard.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

Draft	Report on voting
46C/1296/CDV	46C/1313/RVC

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

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/publications.

A list of all parts in the IEC 61156 series, published under the general title *Multicore and symmetrical pair/quad cables for digital communications*, 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 webstore.iec.ch in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn, or
- revised.

MULTICORE AND SYMMETRICAL PAIR/QUAD CABLES FOR DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS –

Part 14: Symmetrical single pair cables with transmission characteristics up to 20 MHz – Work area wiring – Sectional specification

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61156 specifies cables for work area wiring intended to be used for transmission of 10 Mb/s over a single twisted pair in channels for distances of up to 1 km. The transmission characteristics of these cables are specified up to a frequency of 20 MHz and at a temperature of 20 °C. Depending on the MICE environment and the installation conditions, either unscreened or screened cables can be used. Furthermore, to consider different maximum transmission lengths, two sets of requirements are specified. The cable type A-1000W does not have attenuation de-rating compared to the A-1000 type according to IEC 61156-13 and is a design supporting up to 1 km channel length. The cable type A-400W has attenuation de-rating compared to the A-400 type according to IEC 61156-13. A blank detail specification can be found in Annex A.

The cables covered by this document are intended to operate with voltages and currents normally encountered in communication systems. While these cables are not intended to be used in conjunction with low impedance sources, for example the electric power supplies of public utility mains, they are intended to be used to support the delivery of DC low voltage remote powering applications.

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.

IEC 60708, *Low-frequency cables with polyolefin insulation and moisture barrier polyolefin sheath*

IEC 61156-1, *Multicore and symmetrical pair/quad cables for digital communications – Part 1: Generic specification*

IEC TS 61156-1-2, *Multicore and symmetrical pair/quad cables for digital communications – Part 1-2: Electrical transmission characteristics and test methods of symmetrical pair/quad cables*

IEC 61156-6, *Multicore and symmetrical pair/quad cables for digital communications – Part 6: Symmetrical pair/quad cables with transmission characteristics up to 1 000 MHz – Work area wiring – Sectional specification*

IEC 62153-4-3, *Metallic communication cable test methods – Part 4-3: Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Surface transfer impedance – Triaxial method*

IEC 62153-4-9:2018, *Metallic communication cable test methods – Part 4-9: Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Coupling attenuation of screened balanced cables, triaxial method*
IEC 62153-4-9:2018/AMD1:2020/
IEC 62153-4-9:2018/AMD2:2024

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 61156-1 apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

4 Installation considerations

4.1 General remarks

Installation area considerations are defined in IEC 61156-1. Other areas may be considered.

4.2 Bending radius of installed cable

The maximum value of the minimum bending radius shall be four times the cable diameter unless otherwise specified.

4.3 Climatic conditions

Under static conditions, the cable shall operate at least in the temperature range of the environment from -20 °C to $+60\text{ °C}$.

The attenuation-increase due to the elevated operating temperature (temperature of the environment) is described in 6.3.3.2.

When applications demand remote powering, the maximum temperature of the conductor shall not exceed the maximum operating temperature of the cable. Dielectric performance can be changed permanently due to over exposure of high temperatures.

Extended temperature ranges are permitted but can cause safety issues. It may be specified in the relevant detail specification.

5 Materials and cable construction

5.1 General remarks

For the purposes of this document, the respective requirements of IEC 61156-6 apply.

The choice of materials and cable construction shall be suitable for the intended application and installation of the cable, and in line with the requirements of IEC 61156-1. Any additional requirements for EMC and fire performance (such as burning properties, smoke generation, evolution of halogen gas) shall be met. Regional regulations can apply as well.

5.2 Cable construction

The cable construction shall be in accordance with the details and dimensions given in the relevant detail specification.

5.3 Conductor

The conductor shall be a stranded or solid annealed copper conductor in accordance with IEC 61156-1 and should have a nominal diameter between 0,4 mm and 1,3 mm.

5.4 Insulation

The conductor shall be insulated with a suitable material. Examples of suitable materials are:

- polyolefin,
- fluoropolymer, and
- low-smoke halogen-free thermoplastic material.

The colour code shall be in accordance with IEC 60708 if not specified differently in the respective detail specification.

5.5 Cable element

The cable element shall be a balanced pair and shall be twisted. A third insulated wire may be twisted together with the pair for earthing and grounding purpose.

5.6 Screening of the cable element

If screened, the screen of the cable element shall be in accordance with IEC 61156-1.

5.7 Cable make-up

Bedding material may be used in the cable element to separate the cable element from other design elements (e.g. braid, armouring). The cable element and its screen may be covered by an intermediate jacket. This jacket shall be in accordance with 5.9. The core of the cable may be wrapped with a protective layer of non-hygroscopic and non-wicking material.

5.8 Screening of the cable core

If screened, the screen of the cable core shall be in accordance with IEC 61156-1.

5.9 Sheath

The sheath material shall consist of a suitable material. Examples of suitable materials are

- polyolefin,
- PVC,
- fluoropolymer, and
- low-smoke halogen-free thermoplastic material.

The sheath shall be continuous, having a thickness as uniform as possible. A non-metallic ripcord may be provided. When provided, the ripcord shall be non-hygroscopic and non-wicking. The colour of the sheath is not specified but it should be specified in the relevant detail specification.

5.10 Identification

Each length of cable shall be identified as to the supplier and, when required, a traceability code, using one of the following methods:

- appropriately coloured threads or tapes;
- with a printed tape;
- printing on the cable core wrapping;
- marking on the sheath.

Additional markings, such as length marking, are permitted. If used, such markings shall refer to this document.

5.11 Finished cable

The finished cable shall be adequately protected for storage and shipment.

6 Characteristics and requirements

6.1 General remarks

Clause 6 lists the characteristics and minimum requirements of a cable complying with this document. Test methods shall be in accordance with IEC 61156-1, except for the length of the cable under test which shall be as specified in 6.1. If balunless testing is used, it should be in accordance with IEC TS 61156-1-2.

The computed requirements in dB, rounded to one decimal place, shall be used to determine compliance.

The tests for electrical characteristics in accordance with 6.2 shall be carried out on a cable length of not less than 100 m, unless otherwise specified.

The tests for transmission characteristics in accordance with 6.3 shall be carried out on a cable length of 100 m, unless otherwise specified.

6.2 Electrical characteristics and tests

6.2.1 Conductor resistance

The maximum conductor resistance at or corrected to 20 °C shall not exceed 23 Ω/km for cable type A-1000W or 108,75 Ω/km for cable type A-400W.

6.2.2 Resistance unbalance within a pair

The resistance unbalance shall not exceed 2,0 %.

6.2.3 Dielectric strength

There shall be no failures when a test is performed on conductor/conductor and, where screen(s) are present, a conductor/screen with 1,0 kV DC for 1 min or, alternatively, with 2,5 kV DC for 2 s. An AC voltage may be used. The AC voltage levels in these cases shall be 0,7 kV AC for 1 min or alternatively 1,7 kV AC for 2 s.

6.2.4 Insulation resistance

The test, immediately after the dielectric strength test, shall be performed on

- conductor/conductor, and
- conductor/screen if screen(s) are present.

The minimum insulation resistance at 20 °C shall be not less than 5 GΩ·km.

6.2.5 Mutual capacitance

The mutual capacitance is not specified but may be indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.2.6 Capacitance unbalance

The maximum capacitance unbalance pair to ground shall not exceed 1 600 pF/km at a frequency of 800 Hz or 1 000 Hz.

6.2.7 Transfer impedance

For screened cables, three grades of performance are recognised for transfer impedance. The transfer impedance measured in accordance with IEC 62153-4-3 shall not exceed the values of at least one grade shown in Table 1.

Table 1 – Transfer impedance

Frequency range f in MHz	Maximum surface transfer impedance in mΩ/m		
	Grade 1	Grade 1b	Grade 2
0,1 to 1	15	30	50
1 to 10	$Z_t \leq 15(f)^{-0,176}$	$Z_t \leq 30(f)^{-0,176}$	$Z_t \leq 50(f)^{0,301}$
10 to 20	$Z_t \leq 10 \frac{f}{10} = f$	$Z_t \leq 20 \frac{f}{10} = 2f$	$Z_t \leq 23,392(f)^{0,631}$

6.2.8 Low frequency coupling attenuation

Four performance types for low frequency coupling attenuation are recognised (see Table 2). Low frequency coupling attenuation shall be measured using the triaxial method in accordance with IEC 62153-4-9 in a tube of 3 m length. Background information for low frequency coupling attenuation is described in Annex B. The requirements from 0,1 MHz to 20 MHz are ffs.

Table 2 – Low frequency coupling attenuation

Low frequency coupling attenuation type	Frequency range MHz	Low frequency coupling attenuation dB
Type I	0,1 to 20	$\geq 85 - 10 \log_{10}(f/30)$, 100 dB max.; f in MHz
Type Ib	0,1 to 20	$\geq 70 - 10 \log_{10}(f/30)$, 85 dB max.; f in MHz
Type II	0,1 to 20	$\geq 55 - 10 \log_{10}(f/30)$, 70 dB max.; f in MHz
Type III	0,1 to 20	$\geq 40 - 10 \log_{10}(f/30)$, 55 dB max.; f in MHz

NOTE Coupling attenuation type II and type III are not applicable for MICE E3 environment.

6.2.9 Current-carrying capacity

The maximum current-carrying capacity is installation dependent and therefore not specified, but may be indicated in the relevant detail specification. Further guidance with respect to current carrying capacity is provided by ISO/IEC TS 29125, IEC 61156-1-4 and IEC TR 61156-1-6.

6.3 Transmission characteristics

6.3.1 Velocity of propagation (phase velocity)

The requirements are not specified but may be indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.3.2 Phase delay

The phase delay, τ , shall not exceed the value obtained from Formula (1) in the frequency range from 0,1 MHz to 20 MHz.

$$\tau = 534 + \frac{36}{\sqrt{f}} \tag{1}$$

where

τ is the phase delay in ns/100 m;

f is the frequency in MHz.

6.3.3 Attenuation (α)

6.3.3.1 Attenuation at 20 °C operating temperature

The maximum attenuation, α , in the frequency range from 0,1 MHz to 20 MHz shall not exceed the values obtained from Formula (2) using the constants indicated in Table 3.

$$\alpha = a\sqrt{f} + bf + c/\sqrt{f} \tag{2}$$

where

α is the attenuation expressed in dB/100 m;

a, b, c are constants indicated in Table 3;

f is the frequency expressed in MHz.

Table 3 – Attenuation equation constants

Cable type	Constants		
	a	b	c
A-1000W	1,23	0,01	0,2
A-400W	2,730	0,013 65	0,375

6.3.3.2 Attenuation at elevated temperature

The increase of the maximum attenuation from Formula (2) due to elevated temperature above 20 °C is obtained by calculation as per Table 4.

Table 4 – Attenuation temperature coefficients

Temperature range	Temperature coefficients (%/°C)			
	< 20 °C	from 20 °C to 40 °C	from 40 °C to 60 °C	> 60 °C
Unscreened cable	0,2	0,4	0,6	As per Formula (3)
Screened cable	0,2	0,2	0,2	

$$\delta_{\text{cable}} = \frac{\alpha_T - \alpha_{20}}{\alpha_{20} \times (T - 20)} \times 100 \quad (3)$$

where

α_{20} is the attenuation measured at 20 °C (dB/100 m);

α_T is the attenuation at ambient temperature (dB/100 m);

δ_{cable} is the attenuation temperature coefficient (%/°C);

T is the ambient temperature (°C).

In the case of application of remote powering, the actual conductor temperature should be considered to calculate the attenuation increase. If an extended environmental temperature range is specified (see 4.3), the temperature coefficients given in 6.3.3.2 might not be applicable and can be obtained from a measurement using Formula (3).

6.3.4 Unbalance attenuation (TCL and EL TCTL)

The minimum near-end unbalance attenuation (transverse conversion loss or TCL) shall not be less than the value obtained from Table 5 in the frequency range from 0,1 MHz to 20 MHz. The requirements from 0,1 MHz to 1 MHz are ffs.

Table 5 – TCL requirements

	Screened cables dB	Unscreened cables dB
Level 1	40 – 15 log ₁₀ (f); f in MHz; 40 dB maximum 7 dB minimum	68 – 15 log ₁₀ (f); f in MHz; 53 dB maximum 7 dB minimum
Level 2	68 – 15 log ₁₀ (f); f in MHz; 53 dB maximum 7 dB minimum	68 – 15 log ₁₀ (f); f in MHz; 53 dB maximum 7 dB minimum
Level 3	68 – 15 log ₁₀ (f); f in MHz; 53 dB maximum 7 dB minimum	76 – 15 log ₁₀ (f); f in MHz; 53 dB maximum 7 dB minimum
Level 4	68 – 15 log ₁₀ (f); f in MHz; 53 dB maximum 7 dB minimum	84 – 15 log ₁₀ (f); f in MHz; 53 dB maximum 7 dB minimum

The minimum equal-level far-end unbalance attenuation (equal-level transverse conversion transfer loss or EL TCTL) shall not be less than the value obtained from Table 6. The requirements from 0,1 MHz to 1 MHz are ffs.

Table 6 – EL TCTL requirements

	Screened cables dB	Unscreened cables dB
Level 1	$40 - 20 \log_{10}(f)$; f in MHz; 53 dB maximum 6 dB minimum	$40 - 20 \log_{10}(f)$; f in MHz; 53 dB maximum 6 dB minimum
Level 2	$50 - 20 \log_{10}(f)$; f in MHz; 53 dB maximum 6 dB minimum	$50 - 20 \log_{10}(f)$; f in MHz; 53 dB maximum 6 dB minimum
Level 3	$60 - 20 \log_{10}(f)$; f in MHz; 53 dB maximum 6 dB minimum	$60 - 20 \log_{10}(f)$; f in MHz; 53 dB maximum 6 dB minimum

6.3.5 Alien (exogenous) near-end crosstalk (PS ANEXT)

The PS ANEXT (power sum alien (exogenous) near-end crosstalk) of the cable when tested in accordance with IEC 61156-1 shall not be less than the values obtained from Table 7.

Table 7 – PS ANEXT requirements

Frequency range MHz	Minimum PS ANEXT dB
0,1 to 20	$40 - 17 \log_{10}(f/20)$; f in MHz
Calculated values greater than 67 dB revert to a value of 67 dB.	

For screened cables meeting the coupling attenuation requirements of type I or type Ib (see 6.2.8), alien crosstalk requirements are proven by design.

6.3.6 Alien (exogenous) far-end crosstalk (PS AACR-F)

The PS AACR-F (power-sum alien (exogenous) attenuation to crosstalk ratio far-end) of the cable when tested in accordance with IEC 61156-1 shall not be less than the values obtained from Table 8.

Table 8 – PS AACR-F requirements

Frequency range MHz	Minimum PS AACR-F dB
0,1 to 20	$40 - 18 \log_{10}(f/20)$; f in MHz
Calculated values greater than 67 dB revert to a value of 67 dB.	

For screened cables meeting the coupling attenuation requirements of type I or type Ib (see 6.2.8), alien crosstalk requirements are proven by design.

6.3.7 Impedance

The fitted or mean characteristic impedance measured in accordance with IEC 61156-1 shall be $100 \Omega \pm 5 \Omega$ at 20 MHz. In case the fitted characteristic impedance is calculated, a measurement with the open/short method in accordance with IEC TS 61156-1-2 shall be used for the least square fitting calculation. A measurement of the input impedance is not sufficient to ensure return loss limits.

In case the fitted characteristic impedance is calculated, it is recommended to use log-frequency spacing, a frequency range from 0,1 MHz to 100 MHz and at least 401 measurement points to calculate the fitted impedance at 20 MHz.

Recommendations of IEC TS 61156-1-2 and IEC TR 61156-1-5 for improvement of measurement uncertainty may be considered.

6.3.8 Return loss (RL)

The minimum return loss in the frequency range indicated in Table 9 shall not be less than the values obtained from Table 9. The requirements from 0,1 MHz to 1 MHz are ffs.

Table 9 – RL requirements

Frequency range MHz	RL requirement dB
0,1 to 1	$20 + 5 \log_{10}(f)$; f in MHz
1 to 10	$20 + 5 \log_{10}(f)$; f in MHz
10 to 20	25

When using balun-less measurement technique, the respective descriptions of IEC TS 61156-1-2 shall be considered.

Recommendations of IEC TR 61156-1-5 for improvement of measurement uncertainty by correction technique may be considered.

6.4 Mechanical and dimensional characteristics and requirements

6.4.1 Dimensional requirements

The overall diameter of insulation, the nominal thickness of the sheath and the maximum overall diameter of the sheath are not specified but shall be indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.4.2 Elongation at break of the conductors

The minimum elongation at break of the conductor shall not be less than 8 %.

6.4.3 Tensile strength of the insulation

The tensile strength of the insulation is not specified but may be indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.4.4 Elongation at break of the insulation

The minimum value of the elongation at break of the insulation shall not be less than 100 %.

6.4.5 Adhesion of the insulation to the conductor

The adhesion of the insulation to the conductor is not specified but may be indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.4.6 Elongation at break of the sheath

The minimum value of the elongation at break of any sheath shall not be less than 100 %.

6.4.7 Tensile strength of the sheath

The minimum tensile strength of any sheath shall not be less than 9 MPa.

6.4.8 Crush test of the cable

The crush force shall be applied for 1 min. The crush force and the further parameters of application should be in accordance with the MICE mechanical classification and indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.4.9 Impact test of the cable

The impact resistance of the cable is not specified but may be indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.4.10 Bending under tension

The bending performance of the cable is not specified but may be indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.4.11 Repeated bending of the cable

Not applicable.

6.4.12 Tensile performance of the cable

The tensile strength of the cable is not specified but may be indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.4.13 Shock test requirements of the cable

Not applicable.

6.4.14 Bump test requirements of the cable

Not applicable.

6.4.15 Vibration test requirements of a cable

Not applicable.

6.5 Environmental characteristics

6.5.1 Shrinkage of insulation

When tested at (100 ± 2) °C for 1 h, the shrinkage of the insulation shall not exceed 5 %. The length of the sample shall be 150 mm, and the shrink-back shall be measured as the sum from both ends.

6.5.2 Wrapping test of insulation after thermal ageing

Not applicable.

6.5.3 Bending test of insulation at low temperature

The bending test of the insulated conductor shall be carried out at (-20 ± 2) °C. The mandrel diameter shall be 6 mm. There shall be no cracks in the insulation.

6.5.4 Elongation at break of the sheath after ageing

The ageing regime shall be seven days at (100 ± 2) °C. The elongation at break after ageing shall not be less than 50 % of the unaged value.

6.5.5 Tensile strength of the sheath after ageing

The ageing regime shall be seven days at (100 ± 2) °C. The tensile strength after ageing shall not be less than 70 % of the unaged value.

6.5.6 Sheath pressure test at high temperature

Not applicable.

6.5.7 Cold bend test of the cable

The bending test shall be carried out at (-20 ± 2) °C. The mandrel diameter shall be eight times the overall diameter of the cable. There shall be no cracks in the sheath.

6.5.8 Heat shock test

Not applicable.

6.5.9 Damp heat steady state

Not applicable.

6.5.10 Solar radiation (UV test)

The resistance to solar radiation is not specified but may be specified in the relevant detail specification.

6.5.11 Solvents and contaminating fluids

The resistance to solvents and contaminating fluids is not specified but may be specified in the relevant detail specification.

6.5.12 Salt mist and sulphur dioxide

Not applicable.

6.5.13 Water immersion

Not applicable.

6.5.14 Hygroscopicity

The amount of moisture gained after 3 h shall not exceed 1 % in weight.

6.5.15 Wicking

The test solution shall not wet the filter paper at the end of 6 h.

The test shall be performed in accordance with IEC 61156-1, if indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.5.16 Flame propagation characteristics of a single cable

The test shall be performed in accordance with IEC 61156-1, if indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.5.17 Flame propagation characteristics of bunched cables

The test shall be performed in accordance with IEC 61156-1, if indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.5.18 Halogen gas evolution

The test shall be performed in accordance with IEC 61156-1, if indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.5.19 Smoke generation

The test shall be performed in accordance with IEC 61156-1, if indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.5.20 Toxic gas emission

The test shall be performed in accordance with IEC 61156-1, if indicated in the relevant detail specification.

6.5.21 Integrated fire test

The test shall be performed in accordance with IEC 61156-1, if indicated in the relevant detail specification.

7 Bundled cables requirements

In bundled cables, break-out cables or cable harnesses, several one-pair cables as described in this document may be bundled. Such arrangement shall be specified in a detail specification agreed on by the manufacturer and the customer. Relevant safety regulations in addition to this document shall be taken into account. The limits for power sum alien crosstalk shall apply for the crosstalk between the one-pair cables as described in this document.

The maximum number of bundled cables is installation dependent and therefore not specified but may be indicated in the relevant detail specification. Further guidance with respect to cable heating is provided by ISO/IEC TS 29125.

8 Introduction to the blank detail specification (BDS)

The blank detail specification for cables described in this document can be found in Annex A. It should be used to identify a specific product.

Annex A (informative)

Blank detail specification

The blank detail specification determines the layout and style for detail specifications describing symmetrical single pair cables with transmission characteristics up to 20 MHz. Detail specifications, based on the blank detail specification, may be prepared by a national organization, a manufacturer, or a user. The detail specification shall be written in accordance with the layout of the blank detail specification described here.

This blank detail specification includes additional recommended environmental characteristics and severities, which are derived from the environmental classifications that are specified for cabling for various environments. Environmental classifications are presented in ISO/IEC 11801-1 with three levels of severity in four areas: mechanical, ingress, climatic, and electromagnetic; thus, in tabular form, they are referred to as the "MICE table".

The numbers shown in square brackets in Annex A correspond to the following items of required information, which shall be entered in the spaces provided.

- [1] Name and address of the organization that has prepared the document.
- [2] IEC document number, issue number and date of issue.
- [3] Address of the organization from which the document is available.
- [4] Related documents.
- [5] Any other reference to the cable: national reference, trade name, etc.
- [6] A complete description of the cable which shall include the following:
 - a) type and number of elements;
 - b) nominal impedance;
 - c) screening;
 - d) application;
 - e) other distinguishing performance characteristics.
- [7] Details of the cable material and construction.
- [8] Special requirements for bending radius or operating temperatures.
- [9] List of cable characteristics. They are separated into electrical, transmission, mechanical and environmental characteristics.
- [10] Appropriate subclause references to sectional specification IEC 61156-14.
- [11] Requirements applicable to this cable. The values entered shall meet as a minimum the requirements of sectional specification IEC 61156-14.
- [12] Comments – Relevant remarks.

[1] Prepared by:	[2] Document: Issue: Date:																																		
[3] Available from:	[4] Generic specification: IEC 61156-1 Sectional specification: IEC 61156-14 Blank detail specification: IEC 61156-14:2025, Annex A																																		
[5] Additional references:																																			
[6] Cable description: a) Type and number of elements: b) Nominal impedance: c) Screening: d) Application: e) Other distinguishing performance characteristics:																																			
[7] Cable construction:	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="502 766 687 799">Subclause</th> <th data-bbox="687 766 1093 799"></th> <th data-bbox="1093 766 1401 799">[12] Comments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 799 687 833">5.2</td> <td data-bbox="687 799 1093 833">Cable construction:</td> <td data-bbox="1093 799 1401 833"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 833 687 866">5.3</td> <td data-bbox="687 833 1093 866">Conductor description:</td> <td data-bbox="1093 833 1401 866"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 866 687 990">5.4</td> <td data-bbox="687 866 1093 990">Insulation description: Maximum diameter: Colour code of elements:</td> <td data-bbox="1093 866 1401 990"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 990 687 1023">5.5</td> <td data-bbox="687 990 1093 1023">Cable element:</td> <td data-bbox="1093 990 1401 1023"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 1023 687 1281">5.6</td> <td data-bbox="687 1023 1093 1281">Screening of the cable element: Tape material Minimum overlap Drain wire Braid wire Braid material</td> <td data-bbox="1093 1023 1401 1281"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 1281 687 1314">5.7</td> <td data-bbox="687 1281 1093 1314">Cable make-up:</td> <td data-bbox="1093 1281 1401 1314"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 1314 687 1550">5.8</td> <td data-bbox="687 1314 1093 1550">Screening of the cable core: Tape material Minimum overlap Drain wire Braid wire Braid material</td> <td data-bbox="1093 1314 1401 1550"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 1550 687 1852">5.9</td> <td data-bbox="687 1550 1093 1852">Sheath Material Nominal thickness Colour Maximum overall diameter Marking Ripcord</td> <td data-bbox="1093 1550 1401 1852"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 1852 687 1886">5.10</td> <td data-bbox="687 1852 1093 1886">Identification</td> <td data-bbox="1093 1852 1401 1886"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="502 1886 687 1937">5.11</td> <td data-bbox="687 1886 1093 1937">Finished cable</td> <td data-bbox="1093 1886 1401 1937"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Subclause		[12] Comments	5.2	Cable construction:		5.3	Conductor description:		5.4	Insulation description: Maximum diameter: Colour code of elements:		5.5	Cable element:		5.6	Screening of the cable element: Tape material Minimum overlap Drain wire Braid wire Braid material		5.7	Cable make-up:		5.8	Screening of the cable core: Tape material Minimum overlap Drain wire Braid wire Braid material		5.9	Sheath Material Nominal thickness Colour Maximum overall diameter Marking Ripcord		5.10	Identification		5.11	Finished cable		
Subclause		[12] Comments																																	
5.2	Cable construction:																																		
5.3	Conductor description:																																		
5.4	Insulation description: Maximum diameter: Colour code of elements:																																		
5.5	Cable element:																																		
5.6	Screening of the cable element: Tape material Minimum overlap Drain wire Braid wire Braid material																																		
5.7	Cable make-up:																																		
5.8	Screening of the cable core: Tape material Minimum overlap Drain wire Braid wire Braid material																																		
5.9	Sheath Material Nominal thickness Colour Maximum overall diameter Marking Ripcord																																		
5.10	Identification																																		
5.11	Finished cable																																		

<p>[8]</p> <p>Minimum bending radius for static bending:</p> <p>Minimum bending radius for dynamic bending:</p> <p>Temperature range for installation:</p> <p>Operating temperature range under static conditions:</p> <p>C1: -10 °C to +60 °C</p> <p>C2: -25 °C to +70 °C</p> <p>C3: -40 °C to +70 °C</p>
--

[9] Characteristics	[10] Subclause	[11]	[12] Comments
Electrical characteristics	6.2		
Conductor resistance	6.2.1	$\leq \dots \Omega/\text{km}$	
Resistance unbalance	6.2.2		
Resistance unbalance within a pair	6.2.2	$\leq \dots \%$	
Dielectric strength			
Conductor/conductor	6.2.3	$\dots \text{ kV}$, time of voltage test	
Conductor/screen		$\dots \text{ kV}$, time of voltage test	
Insulation resistance			
Conductor/conductor	6.2.4	$\geq \dots \text{ G}\Omega \cdot \text{km}$	
Conductor/screen		$\geq \dots \text{ G}\Omega \cdot \text{km}$	
Mutual capacitance	6.2.5	$\leq \dots \text{ nF/km}$	
Capacitance unbalance pair to ground	6.2.6	$\leq \dots \text{ pF/km}$	
Transfer impedance	6.2.7		Transfer impedance grade shall be indicated.
Low frequency coupling attenuation	6.2.8	$\dots \text{ dB}$ Cable type.....	Low frequency coupling attenuation type shall be indicated.
Current-carrying capacity	6.2.9	$\dots \text{ mA}$	Respective installation conditions shall be specified.
Transmission characteristics	6.3		
Velocity of propagation	6.3.1		
Phase delay	6.3.2	$\leq \dots \text{ ns/100 m}$	
Attenuation			
General figures	6.3.3.1	$\leq \dots \text{ dB/100 m}$	
Environmental temperature effects	6.3.3.2	$\leq \dots \text{ } \%/^{\circ}\text{C}$	
Unbalance attenuation Near-end (TCL)	6.3.4	$\geq \dots \text{ Db}$	Unbalance attenuation level shall be indicated.
Unbalance attenuation far-end (EL TCTL)	6.3.4	$\geq \dots \text{ dB}$	
Power sum alien (exogenous) near-end crosstalk	6.3.5	$\geq \dots \text{ dB}$	

[9] Characteristics	[10] Subclause	[11]	[12] Comments
Power sum alien (exogenous) attenuation to crosstalk ratio far end crosstalk	6.3.6	≥ ... dB	
Impedance	6.3.7		
Return loss	6.3.8	≥ ... dB	
Mechanical and dimensional characteristics	6.4		
Dimensional requirements, insulation diameter, sheath thickness, cable diameter	6.4.1	... mm	
Elongation at break of the conductors	6.4.2	≥ ... %	
Tensile strength of the insulation	6.4.3	≥ ... MPa	
Elongation at break of the insulation	6.4.4	≥ ... %	
Adhesion of the insulation to the conductor	6.4.5		
Elongation at break of the sheath	6.4.6	≥ ... %	
Tensile strength of the sheath	6.4.7	≥ ... MPa	
Crush test of the cable	6.4.8	M1: ≥ 45 N over 25 mm (linear) min. M2: ≥ 1 100 N over 150 mm (linear) min. M3: ≥ 2 200 N over 150 mm (linear) min.	
Impact test of the cable	6.4.9	M1: ≥ 1 J M2: ≥ 10 J M3: ≥ 30 J	
Bending under tension	6.4.10		
Repeated bending	6.4.11		
Tensile performance of the cable	6.4.12		
Shock test	6.4.13	Not applicable	
Bump test	6.4.14	Not applicable	
Vibration test	6.4.15	Not applicable	
Environmental characteristics	6.5		
Shrinkage of insulation	6.5.1	≤... %	
Wrapping test of insulation after thermal ageing	6.5.2	Not applicable	
Bending test of insulation at low temperature	6.5.3		
Elongation at break of the sheath after ageing	6.5.4	≥ ... %	

[9] Characteristics	[10] Subclause	[11]	[12] Comments
Tensile strength of the sheath after ageing	6.5.5	≥ ... MPa	
Sheath pressure test at high temperature	6.5.6	Not applicable	
Cold bend test of cable	6.5.7		
Heat shock test	6.5.8	Not applicable	
Damp heat steady state	6.5.9	Not applicable	
Solar radiation	6.5.10	C1: Not applicable C2, C3: Under consideration	
Solvents and contaminating fluids	6.5.11		
Salt mist and sulphur dioxide tests	6.5.12	Not applicable	
Water immersion test	6.5.13	Not applicable	
Hygroscopicity	6.5.14		
Wicking	6.5.15		
Flame propagation characteristics of a single cable	6.5.17		
Flame propagation characteristics of bunched cable	6.5.17		
Halogen gas evolution	6.5.18		
Smoke generation	6.5.19		
Toxic gas emission	6.5.20		
Integrated fire test	6.5.21		
<p>When a characteristic applies but a specific value is not considered necessary, then NS for “not specified” should be entered in the appropriate place. When NS is used, the appropriate requirements in the specification should apply.</p> <p>When a characteristic is marked as not applicable, it is not required by Clause 4 to Clause 7, but can be required in the detail specification.</p> <p>Ingress requirements using particles are not applicable to a cable.</p> <p>Electromagnetic requirements coming from the MICE table, i.e. ISO/IEC 11801-1:2017, Table 2, have been dealt with by using the requirements that are given for transfer impedance, screening attenuation and coupling attenuation. ESD requirements are considered not applicable.</p> <p>The proposed severities are taken from the MICE table, i.e. ISO/IEC 11801-1:2017, Table 2. Depending on the actual need of end users, other severities may be agreed between the customer and suppliers.</p>			

Annex B (informative)

Background information for coupling attenuation and low frequency coupling attenuation requirements

The parameter coupling attenuation has been specified in IEC 62153-4-5:2006. Coupling attenuation is an integral measure of screening efficiency of balanced cables. It combines the effects of reduction of interference by balance and by screening attenuation in case the cable is screened. The background of the theory of coupling attenuation measurement is described in IEC 62153-4-5 and IEC TS 62153-4-1. An important detail of the theory is that an electrically long coupling length is needed where the inner system and the outer system can interact.

For the measurement based on absorbing clamps as described in IEC 62153-4-5, the following framework is typical.

- The inner system (the cable under test) is fed via a balun.
- The detection of the leakage signal in the outer system is achieved by absorbing clamps.
- Absorbing clamps with a frequency range of 30 MHz to 1 GHz are used. Either a pair of absorbing clamps are used or an absorbing clamp and a ferrite absorber block with similar absorbing characteristics to an absorbing clamp.
- The coupling length (the distance between the absorbing clamps) is 6 m which is assumed to be electrically long for frequencies of 30 MHz and higher.
- The measurement result is evaluated using an envelope trace having a plateau from 30 MHz to 100 MHz followed by a slope with $20 \log(f)$ increase, where f is the frequency in MHz.

Coupling attenuation measurement is also possible using the triaxial method as per IEC 62153-4-9. An important advantage of this approach is that the frequency range is not any longer limited by the absorbing clamps. In case the triaxial method is used to extend the frequency range towards lower frequencies, it needs to be taken into account that for the typical coupling length, the measurement set-up is not electrically long anymore. For example, if a coupling length of 6 m is assumed to be electrically long at 30 MHz, this would lead to a necessary coupling length of 60 m for 3 MHz and 600 m for 0,3 MHz.

The coupling length needed for an extension of a coupling attenuation measurement to 0,1 MHz is not practicable for almost every laboratory and furthermore longer than the maximum cable length specified by the respective application. Therefore, a new parameter has been introduced by IEC 62153-4-9:2018/AMD1:2020: low frequency coupling attenuation. In contrast to the usual absorbing clamp method, it is based on the following typical framework.

- The inner system (the cable under test) is fed without a balun but using modal decomposition technique. Nevertheless, a balun can still be used.
- The detection of the leakage signal in the outer system is achieved by the triaxial set-up.
- The frequency range is limited towards high frequencies by the requirement that the set-up needs to be electrically short. Towards low frequencies, only the capabilities of the used network analyzer are limiting.
- A 3 m long triaxial set-up is assumed to be electrically short up to 30 MHz.
- An envelope trace is defined having a plateau from 0,1 MHz up to 0,95 MHz followed by a slope with $10 \log(f)$ increase up to 30 MHz, where f is the frequency in MHz.

Both parameters, coupling attenuation and low frequency coupling attenuation, are usually described by the value of the plateau only.

Bibliography

IEC 61156-1-4, *Multicore and symmetrical pair/quad cables for digital communications – Part 1-4: Assessment of conductor heating in bundled cables due to the deployment of remote powering*

IEC TR 61156-1-5, *Multicore and symmetrical pair/quad cables for digital communications – Part 1-5: Correction procedures for the measurement results of return loss and input impedance*

IEC TR 61156-1-6, *Multicore and symmetrical pair/quad cables for digital communications – Part 1-6: Nominal DC-resistance values of floor-wiring and work-area cables for digital communications*

IEC 61156-13, *Multicore and symmetrical pair/quad cables for digital communications – Part 13: Symmetrical single pair cables with transmission characteristics up to 20 MHz – Horizontal floor wiring – Sectional specification*

IEC 61156-14, *Multicore and symmetrical pair/quad cables for digital communications – Part 14: Symmetrical single pair cables with transmission characteristics up to 20 MHz – Work area wiring – Sectional specification*

IEC TR 62153-4-0, *Metallic communication cable test methods – Part 4-0: Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Relationship between surface transfer impedance and screening attenuation, recommended limits*

IEC TS 62153-4-1, *Metallic communication cable test methods – Part 4-1: Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Introduction to electromagnetic screening measurements*

IEC 62153-4-5:2006, *Metallic communication cables test methods – Part 4-5: Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Coupling or screening attenuation – Absorbing clamp method¹*

IEC 62153-4-5, *Metallic communication cable test methods – Part 4-5: Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Screening or coupling attenuation – Absorbing clamp method*

ISO/IEC 11801-1:2017, *Information technology – Generic cabling for customer premises – Part 1: General requirements*

ISO/IEC TS 29125, *Information technology – Telecommunications cabling requirements for remote powering of terminal equipment*

HÄHNER, MUND, SCHMID, *History and recent trends of triaxial test procedure – Proceedings of the IWCS, 2018*

¹ This publication has been withdrawn.

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

3, rue de Varembé
PO Box 131
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Tel: + 41 22 919 02 11
info@iec.ch
www.iec.ch