



**The Gambia
Standards Bureau**

**Photovoltaic (PV) Stand-alone Systems –
Design Verification**

ICS No.: 27.160

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INTRODUCTION

IEC 62124 is intended as a fundamental reference standard for IEC Technical Committees and National Committees in drafting standards for PV Stand-Alone Systems – Design Verifications, and to the National Committees in drafting specifications for use in their own countries. These committees should select from the tables of this general standard the Design Verifications appropriate to the particular applications with which they are concerned and either include the applicable details in their PV Stand-Alone specifications or make appropriate references to this standard.

In preparing this edition the main objects have been to incorporate IEC 62124 into it and maintain a simplified yet informative standard so far as is compatible with technical and economic considerations.

This Gambian Standard was Gazetted under the authority of the Bureau on 17 November 2017.

THE GAMBIA STANDARDS BUREAU

The Gambia Standards Bureau is a statutory Government specialized Agency established by The Gambia Standards Bureau Act 2010 to standardize products, methods, systems and for connected matters. Hence, the Bureau is the sole National Standardization Body. As such, it has been a member of International Standardization Bodies such as the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) since 2011, International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) and the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) from 2012.

The objectives of the Bureau, as specified in its Act, are to: establish and promulgate standards for imported and locally-produced goods; facilitate domestic and international trade; foster and promote standards both for industrial efficiency and advancing economic development; promote the health and safety of consumers; enhance international cooperation in relation to standards and standardization. Thus, the National Quality Policy details the responsibilities of the Bureau in Standardization, Metrology and Conformity Assessment services in Testing, Inspection and Certification.

Therefore, the functions, of the Bureau are to define, prepare, publish, modify or amend Standards Specifications as well information-dissemination of standards. In addition to providing Testing, Inspection and Certification services for goods, systems and processes independently or in relation to conformity with its Standards Mark, the Bureau also conducts training and research. In Metrology, the Bureau serves as the custodian of primary national reference measurement standards through its National Metrology Laboratories and conducts calibration of measurement devices and physical standards.

The development of Gambian Standards (GAMS) is carried out by the Bureau through Technical Committees composed of a balanced representation of stakeholders, as may be appropriate to the subject in question. The Bureau ensures that Standards are developed in accordance with the *ISO/IEC Guide 21-1:2005: Regional or National adoption of International Standards and other International deliverables* and the *World Trade Organization Code of good practice for the preparation, adoption and application of standards*. To the greatest extent possible, Gambian Standards are aligned to or are adoptions of relevant international standards.

For further information on and copies of Gambian Standards, please contact The Gambia Standards Bureau.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE: NATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The National Electrotechnical Committee (NEC) developed this National Wiring Standard. The NEC was initially set up by PURA in 2008 when they became a member of IEC. Upon establishment of the Bureau and replacement of PURA at IEC, the Bureau took over the NEC in 2012 and began the work of development of standards in the electrotechnical field.

The NEC consists of representatives from the following Institutions/Organizations:

- Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
- National Water and Electricity Company
- Gambia Telecommunications Company
- Ministry of Energy
- Ministry of Information and Communication Infrastructure
- University of The Gambia
- Gambia Technical Training Institute
- New Gambia Industrialists
- ComAfrique Intelizon Initiative
- Renewable Energy Association of The Gambia
- Consumer Protection Association of The Gambia
- The Gambia Chamber of Commerce and Industry

The Gambia Standards Bureau is the Secretariat and Secretary to the NEC.

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 62124 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
82/355/FDIS	82/364/RVD

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

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

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the maintenance result date indicated on the IEC web site under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

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- reconfirmed;
- withdrawn;
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended

1 Scope and Object

The specifications, test methods and procedures included in this document cover stand-alone photovoltaic (PV) systems. It covers systems containing one or more PV modules, a support structure, storage batterie(s), a charge controller and typical DC loads such as lights, radio, television and refrigerators. AC loads with dedicated inverters are considered as DC loads. The load as specified by the manufacturer is an integral part of the PV system with regards to the design verification.

The focus of the test methods and procedures in this document is limited to system performance evaluation. Individual sub-systems and components may be monitored, but only to evaluate the performance of the overall system.

The results of this test are applicable to the exact components that are tested. Any changes in components or components' specifications require design verification.

NOTE: An exception to this rule is the load. Retesting is not necessary, if the nominal power of the load and its characteristics are not altered, always provided that the new loads are also type tested (provided a type test is available) and the operation frequency of the load's electronics controller (if any) do not vary more than 50 % from the new one to the one tested and being replaced. Hence, the replacement of a pure ohmic load by lights using high frequency electronic ballasts would require retesting, but not the change from one electronic lighting product to another one.

The standard is valid for system testing both for outdoors in prevailing conditions and indoors under simulated conditions. The testing conditions are intended to represent the majority of climatic zones for which these systems are designed.

The object of this standard is to verify system design and performance of stand-alone photovoltaic systems. While individual components may be qualified to environmental and safety standards, the assembled system needs further verification, to ensure that the components operate properly together as specified by the system manufacturer. The performance test consists of a check of the functionality, the autonomy and ability to recover after periods of low state-of-charge of the battery, and hence gives reasonable assurance that the system will not fail prematurely.

2 Normative References

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60364-7-712, *Electrical installations of buildings – Part 7-712: Requirements for special installations or locations – Solar photovoltaic (PV) power supply systems*

IEC 60904-1, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 1: Measurement of photovoltaic current-voltage characteristics*

IEC 60904-2, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 2: Requirements for reference solar cells*

IEC 60904-5:1993, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 5: Determination of the equivalent cell temperature (ECT) of photovoltaic (PV) devices by the open-circuit voltage method*

IEC 61215, *crystalline silicon terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) modules – Design qualification and type approval*

IEC 61646, *Thin-film silicon terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) modules – Design qualification and type approval*

IEC 61730-1, *Photovoltaic (PV) module safety qualification – Part 1: Requirements for construction*

IEC 61730-2, *Photovoltaic (PV) module safety qualification – Part 2: Requirements for testing*

IEC 62093, *Balance-of-system components for photovoltaic systems – Design qualification*¹