



IEC 60904-2

Edition 3.0 2015-01
REDLINE VERSION

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



Photovoltaic devices – Part 2: Requirements for photovoltaic reference devices

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

ICS 27.160

ISBN 978-2-8322-2231-7

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

CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	3
1 Scope and object	5
2 Normative references	5
3 Terms and definitions	6
4 Selection of reference device	8
4.1 General requirements	8
4.2 Additional requirements for single reference cell in a multi-cell package	9
4.3 Additional requirements for reference modules	9
4.4 Requirements for built-in shunt resistors	9
5 Temperature measurement.....	10
6 Electrical connections.....	10
7 Calibration.....	10
8 Data sheet Report	11
9 Marking	12
10 Packaging	12
10.1 Recommended packaging for use in natural sunlight.....	12
10.2 Recommended packaging for use under solar simulators.....	12
10.3 Single cell package.....	12
11 Care of reference devices.....	12
12 Calibration of secondary reference devices against a primary reference cell.....	13
12.1 General.....	13
12.2 Natural sunlight.....	13
12.3 Simulated sunlight	14
12.4 Test procedure.....	14
13 Calibration of working solar reference device against a secondary reference solar device.....	15
Bibliography.....	16
Figure 1 – Single-cell package.....	7
Figure 2 — Single Reference cell in a multi-cell package	9

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVICES –

Part 2: Requirements for photovoltaic reference devices

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

This redline version of the official IEC Standard allows the user to identify the changes made to the previous edition. A vertical bar appears in the margin wherever a change has been made. Additions are in green text, deletions are in strikethrough red text.

International Standard IEC 60904-2 has been prepared by IEC Technical Committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition, published in 2007. It constitutes a technical revision.

The main technical changes with regard to the previous edition are as follows:

- addition of a test procedure in simulated sunlight of subsequent measurement of primary and secondary reference device;
- definition of standard test conditions;
- reduction of allowed diffuse component for secondary reference cell calibration to 20 %.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
82/893/FDIS	82/918/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.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60904 series, published under the general title *Photovoltaic devices*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication 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 publication using a colour printer.

PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVICES –

Part 2: Requirements for **photovoltaic** reference ~~solar~~ devices

1 **Scope and object**

This part of IEC 60904 gives requirements for the classification, selection, packaging, marking, calibration and care of **photovoltaic** reference ~~solar~~ devices.

This standard covers ~~solar photovoltaic~~ reference devices used to determine the electrical performance of ~~solar photovoltaic~~ cells, modules and arrays under natural and simulated sunlight. It does not cover ~~solar photovoltaic~~ reference devices for use under concentrated sunlight.

2 Normative references

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

IEC 60891, *Photovoltaic devices – Procedures for temperature and irradiance corrections to measured I-V characteristics*

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

~~IEC 60904-3, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 3: Measurement principles for terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) solar devices with reference spectral irradiance data*~~

~~IEC 60904-4, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 4: Reference solar devices – Procedures for establishing calibration traceability*~~

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

IEC 60904-7, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 7: Computation of the spectral mismatch correction for measurements of photovoltaic devices*

IEC 60904-8, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 8: Measurement of spectral responsivity of a photovoltaic (PV) device*

IEC 60904-9, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 9: Solar simulator performance requirements*

IEC 60904-10, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 10: Methods of linearity measurement*

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

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

IEC TS 61836, *Solar photovoltaic energy systems – Terms, definitions and symbols*

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Photovoltaic devices –
Part 2: Requirements for photovoltaic reference devices**

**Dispositifs photovoltaïques –
Partie 2: Exigences applicables aux dispositifs photovoltaïques de référence**

CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	3
1 Scope.....	5
2 Normative references.....	5
3 Terms and definitions	5
4 Selection of reference device	7
4.1 General requirements.....	7
4.2 Additional requirements for single reference cell in a multi-cell package	8
4.3 Additional requirements for reference modules	8
4.4 Requirements for built-in shunt resistors	8
5 Temperature measurement	9
6 Electrical connections	9
7 Calibration.....	9
8 Report.....	10
9 Marking	11
10 Packaging	11
10.1 Recommended packaging for use in natural sunlight.....	11
10.2 Recommended packaging for use under solar simulators	11
10.3 Single cell package	11
11 Care of reference devices	12
12 Calibration of secondary reference devices against a primary reference cell	12
12.1 General.....	12
12.2 Natural sunlight.....	12
12.3 Simulated sunlight.....	13
12.4 Test procedure.....	13
13 Calibration of working reference device against a secondary reference device	14
Bibliography	15
Figure 1 – Single-cell package	6
Figure 2 – Single reference cell in a multi-cell package.....	8

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVICES –**Part 2: Requirements for photovoltaic reference devices**

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

International Standard IEC 60904-2 has been prepared by IEC Technical Committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition, published in 2007. It constitutes a technical revision.

The main technical changes with regard to the previous edition are as follows:

- addition of a test procedure in simulated sunlight of subsequent measurement of primary and secondary reference device;
- definition of standard test conditions;
- reduction of allowed diffuse component for secondary reference cell calibration to 20 %.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
82/893/FDIS	82/918/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.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60904 series, published under the general title *Photovoltaic devices*, can be found on the IEC website.

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

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

PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVICES –

Part 2: Requirements for photovoltaic reference devices

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60904 gives requirements for the classification, selection, packaging, marking, calibration and care of photovoltaic reference devices.

This standard covers photovoltaic reference devices used to determine the electrical performance of photovoltaic cells, modules and arrays under natural and simulated sunlight. It does not cover photovoltaic reference devices for use under concentrated sunlight.

2 Normative references

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

IEC 60891, *Photovoltaic devices – Procedures for temperature and irradiance corrections to measured I-V characteristics*

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

IEC 60904-3, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 3: Measurement principles for terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) solar devices with reference spectral irradiance data*

IEC 60904-4, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 4: Reference solar devices – Procedures for establishing calibration traceability*

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

IEC 60904-7, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 7: Computation of the spectral mismatch correction for measurements of photovoltaic devices*

IEC 60904-8, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 8: Measurement of spectral responsivity of a photovoltaic (PV) device*

IEC 60904-9, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 9: Solar simulator performance requirements*

IEC 60904-10, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 10: Methods of linearity measurement*

IEC TS 61836, *Solar photovoltaic energy systems – Terms, definitions and symbols*

SOMMAIRE

AVANT-PROPOS.....	17
1 Domaine d'application.....	19
2 Références normatives	19
3 Termes et définitions	20
4 Sélection des dispositifs de référence	22
4.1 Exigences générales	22
4.2 Exigences supplémentaires pour une cellule de référence unique dans un boîtier multicellule	22
4.3 Exigences supplémentaires pour les modules de référence	23
4.4 Exigences pour les résistances de shunt intégrées	23
5 Mesure de la température	24
6 Connexions électriques.....	24
7 Etalonnage.....	24
8 Rapport.....	25
9 Marquage.....	26
10 Conditionnement	26
10.1 Conditionnement recommandé pour l'utilisation en rayonnement lumineux solaire naturel	26
10.2 Conditionnement recommandé pour l'utilisation avec simulateurs solaires	26
10.3 Boîtier pour cellule individuelle	26
11 Précautions relatives aux dispositifs de référence	27
12 Étalonnage des dispositifs secondaires de référence par rapport à une cellule primaire de référence.....	27
12.1 Généralités	27
12.2 Rayonnement lumineux solaire naturel	27
12.3 Rayonnement lumineux solaire simulé	28
12.4 Procédure d'essai	28
13 Etalonnage du dispositif de travail de référence par rapport à un dispositif secondaire de référence	29
Bibliographie	30
Figure 1 – Boîtier d'une cellule individuelle.....	21
Figure 2 – Cellule de référence unique dans un boîtier multicellule	22

COMMISSION ÉLECTROTECHNIQUE INTERNATIONALE

DISPOSITIFS PHOTOVOLTAÏQUES –**Partie 2: Exigences applicables aux dispositifs photovoltaïques de référence****AVANT-PROPOS**

- 1) La Commission Electrotechnique Internationale (IEC) est une organisation mondiale de normalisation composée de l'ensemble des comités électrotechniques nationaux (Comités nationaux de l'IEC). L'IEC a pour objet de favoriser la coopération internationale pour toutes les questions de normalisation dans les domaines de l'électricité et de l'électronique. A cet effet, l'IEC – entre autres activités – publie des Normes internationales, des Spécifications techniques, des Rapports techniques, des Spécifications accessibles au public (PAS) et des Guides (ci-après dénommés "Publication(s) de l'IEC"). Leur élaboration est confiée à des comités d'études, aux travaux desquels tout Comité national intéressé par le sujet traité peut participer. Les organisations internationales, gouvernementales et non gouvernementales, en liaison avec l'IEC, participent également aux travaux. L'IEC collabore étroitement avec l'Organisation Internationale de Normalisation (ISO), selon des conditions fixées par accord entre les deux organisations.
- 2) Les décisions ou accords officiels de l'IEC concernant les questions techniques représentent, dans la mesure du possible, un accord international sur les sujets étudiés, étant donné que les Comités nationaux de l'IEC intéressés sont représentés dans chaque comité d'études.
- 3) Les Publications de l'IEC se présentent sous la forme de recommandations internationales et sont agréées comme telles par les Comités nationaux de l'IEC. Tous les efforts raisonnables sont entrepris afin que l'IEC s'assure de l'exactitude du contenu technique de ses publications; l'IEC ne peut pas être tenue responsable de l'éventuelle mauvaise utilisation ou interprétation qui en est faite par un quelconque utilisateur final.
- 4) Dans le but d'encourager l'uniformité internationale, les Comités nationaux de l'IEC s'engagent, dans toute la mesure possible, à appliquer de façon transparente les Publications de l'IEC dans leurs publications nationales et régionales. Toutes divergences entre toutes Publications de l'IEC et toutes publications nationales ou régionales correspondantes doivent être indiquées en termes clairs dans ces dernières.
- 5) L'IEC elle-même ne fournit aucune attestation de conformité. Des organismes de certification indépendants fournissent des services d'évaluation de conformité et, dans certains secteurs, accèdent aux marques de conformité de l'IEC. L'IEC n'est responsable d'aucun des services effectués par les organismes de certification indépendants.
- 6) Tous les utilisateurs doivent s'assurer qu'ils sont en possession de la dernière édition de cette publication.
- 7) Aucune responsabilité ne doit être imputée à l'IEC, à ses administrateurs, employés, auxiliaires ou mandataires, y compris ses experts particuliers et les membres de ses comités d'études et des Comités nationaux de l'IEC, pour tout préjudice causé en cas de dommages corporels et matériels, ou de tout autre dommage de quelque nature que ce soit, directe ou indirecte, ou pour supporter les coûts (y compris les frais de justice) et les dépenses découlant de la publication ou de l'utilisation de cette Publication de l'IEC ou de toute autre Publication de l'IEC, ou au crédit qui lui est accordé.
- 8) L'attention est attirée sur les références normatives citées dans cette publication. L'utilisation de publications référencées est obligatoire pour une application correcte de la présente publication.
- 9) L'attention est attirée sur le fait que certains des éléments de la présente Publication de l'IEC peuvent faire l'objet de droits de brevet. L'IEC ne saurait être tenue pour responsable de ne pas avoir identifié de tels droits de brevets et de ne pas avoir signalé leur existence.

La Norme internationale IEC 60904-2 a été établie par le comité d'études 82 de l'IEC: Systèmes de conversion photovoltaïque de l'énergie solaire.

Cette troisième édition annule et remplace la seconde édition, publiée en 2007, dont elle constitue une révision technique.

Par rapport à l'édition précédente, les modifications techniques majeures sont les suivantes:

- ajout d'une procédure d'essai en rayonnement lumineux solaire simulé d'une mesure suivante de dispositifs primaires et secondaires de référence;
- définition des conditions normalisées d'essai;

- diminution de la composante diffuse autorisée pour l'étalonnage à 20 % de la cellule secondaire de référence.

Le texte de cette norme est issu des documents suivants:

FDIS	Rapport de vote
82/893/FDIS	82/918/RVD

Le rapport de vote indiqué dans le tableau ci-dessus donne toute information sur le vote ayant abouti à l'approbation de la présente norme.

Cette publication a été rédigée selon les Directives ISO/IEC, Partie 2.

Une liste de toutes les parties de la série IEC 60904, publiées sous le titre général *Dispositifs photovoltaïques*, peut être consultée sur le site web de l'IEC.

Le comité a décidé que le contenu de cette publication ne sera pas modifié avant la date de stabilité indiquée sur le site web de l'IEC sous "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" dans les données relatives à la publication recherchée. A cette date, la publication sera

- reconduite,
- supprimée,
- remplacée par une édition révisée, ou
- amendée.

DISPOSITIFS PHOTOVOLTAÏQUES –

Partie 2: Exigences applicables aux dispositifs photovoltaïques de référence

1 Domaine d'application

La présente partie de l'IEC 60904 donne les exigences relatives à la classification, à la sélection, au conditionnement, au marquage, à l'étalonnage et aux précautions d'utilisation des dispositifs photovoltaïques de référence.

La présente norme couvre les dispositifs photovoltaïques de référence utilisés pour déterminer les performances électriques des cellules, modules et panneaux photovoltaïques sous rayonnement lumineux solaire naturel et simulé. Elle ne couvre pas les dispositifs photovoltaïques de référence pour une utilisation sous rayonnement lumineux solaire concentré.

2 Références normatives

Les documents suivants sont cités en référence de manière normative, en intégralité ou en partie, dans le présent document et sont indispensables pour son application. Pour les références datées, seule l'édition citée s'applique. Pour les références non datées, la dernière édition du document de référence s'applique (y compris les éventuels amendements).

IEC 60891, *Dispositifs photovoltaïques – Procédures pour les corrections en fonction de la température et de l'éclairement à appliquer aux caractéristiques I-V mesurées*

IEC 60904-1, *Dispositifs photovoltaïques – Partie 1: Mesure des caractéristiques courant-tension des dispositifs photovoltaïques*

IEC 60904-3, *Dispositifs photovoltaïques – Partie 3: Principes de mesure des dispositifs solaires photovoltaïques (PV) à usage terrestre incluant les données de l'éclairement spectral de référence*

IEC 60904-4, *Dispositifs photovoltaïques – Partie 4: Dispositifs solaires de référence – Procédures pour établir la traçabilité de l'étalonnage*

IEC 60904-5, *Dispositifs photovoltaïques – Partie 5: Détermination de la température de cellule équivalente (ECT) des dispositifs photovoltaïques (PV) par la méthode de la tension en circuit ouvert*

IEC 60904-7, *Dispositifs photovoltaïques – Partie 7: Calcul de la correction de désadaptation des réponses spectrales dans les mesures de dispositifs photovoltaïques*

IEC 60904-8, *Dispositifs photovoltaïques – Partie 8: Mesure de la sensibilité spectrale d'un dispositif photovoltaïque (PV)*

IEC 60904-9, *Dispositifs photovoltaïques – Partie 9: Exigences pour le fonctionnement des simulateurs solaires*

IEC 60904-10, *Dispositifs photovoltaïques – Partie 10: Méthodes de mesure de la linéarité*

IEC TS 61836, *Solar photovoltaic energy systems – Terms, definitions and symbols*
(disponible en anglais uniquement)