

# TECHNICAL REPORT



---

**High-voltage direct current (HVDC) systems – Guidance to the specification and design evaluation of AC filters –**

**Part 1: Overview**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

---

ICS 29.200

ISBN 978-2-8322-3401-3

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

## CONTENTS

FOREWORD .....	8
INTRODUCTION .....	10
1 Scope .....	11
2 Terms and definitions .....	11
3 Outline of specifications of AC filters for HVDC systems .....	12
3.1 General .....	12
3.2 Boundaries of responsibility .....	13
3.3 Scope of studies .....	14
3.4 Scope of supply .....	15
3.5 Technical data to be supplied by contractor .....	16
3.6 Alternative proposals by bidders.....	16
4 Permissible distortion limits .....	17
4.1 General .....	17
4.2 Voltage distortion.....	18
4.2.1 General .....	18
4.2.2 Voltage distortion – Definitions of performance criteria .....	18
4.2.3 Voltage distortion – Discussion and recommendations.....	18
4.2.4 Voltage distortion – Determination of limits.....	19
4.2.5 Voltage distortion – Pre-existing harmonic levels.....	22
4.2.6 Voltage distortion – Relaxed limits for short term and infrequent conditions .....	23
4.2.7 Treatment of interharmonic frequencies .....	23
4.3 Distortion limits pertaining to the HV and EHV network equipment .....	24
4.3.1 HVAC transmission system equipment .....	24
4.3.2 Harmonic currents in synchronous machines .....	24
4.3.3 Nearby HVDC installations .....	25
4.4 Telephone interference .....	25
4.4.1 General .....	25
4.4.2 Causes of telephone interference.....	25
4.4.3 Telephone interference – Definitions of performance criteria.....	25
4.4.4 Telephone interference – Discussion.....	25
4.4.5 Telephone interference – Determination of limits .....	26
4.4.6 Telephone interference – Pre-existing harmonic levels .....	28
4.4.7 Telephone interference – Limits for temporary conditions .....	28
4.5 Special criteria.....	29
5 Harmonic generation .....	29
5.1 General .....	29
5.2 Converter harmonic generation .....	29
5.2.1 Idealized conditions .....	29
5.2.2 Realistic conditions.....	31
5.3 Calculation methodology .....	33
5.3.1 General .....	33
5.3.2 Harmonic currents for performance, rating and other calculations .....	33
5.3.3 Combining harmonics from different converter bridges .....	34
5.3.4 Consistent sets .....	34
5.3.5 Harmonic generation for different DC power ranges.....	35

5.4	Sensitivity of harmonic generation to various factors .....	36
5.4.1	Direct current, control angle and commutation overlap.....	36
5.4.2	Effect of asymmetries on characteristic harmonics .....	37
5.4.3	Converter equipment parameter tolerances .....	37
5.4.4	Tap steps .....	37
5.4.5	Theoretically cancelled harmonics.....	37
5.4.6	Negative and zero phase sequence voltages .....	38
5.4.7	Converter transformer saturation.....	38
5.4.8	Harmonic interaction across the converter.....	39
5.4.9	Back-to-back systems .....	39
5.5	Externally generated harmonics .....	39
6	Filter arrangements .....	40
6.1	Overview .....	40
6.2	Advantages and disadvantages of typical filters.....	41
6.3	Classification of filter types .....	41
6.4	Tuned filters.....	42
6.4.1	Single tuned filters .....	42
6.4.2	Double tuned filters.....	43
6.4.3	Triple tuned filters .....	45
6.5	Damped filters .....	46
6.5.1	Single tuned damped filters.....	46
6.5.2	Double tuned damped filters.....	49
6.6	Choice of filters.....	49
7	Filter performance calculation.....	50
7.1	Calculation procedure .....	50
7.1.1	General .....	50
7.1.2	Input data .....	51
7.1.3	Methodology .....	51
7.1.4	Calculation of converter harmonic currents.....	52
7.1.5	Selection of filter types and calculation of their impedances .....	52
7.1.6	Calculation of performance .....	53
7.2	Detuning and tolerances .....	54
7.2.1	General .....	54
7.2.2	Detuning factors .....	54
7.2.3	Resistance variations.....	55
7.2.4	Modelling.....	55
7.3	Network impedance for performance calculations .....	56
7.3.1	General .....	56
7.3.2	Network modelling using impedance envelopes .....	57
7.3.3	Sector diagram .....	58
7.3.4	Circle diagram .....	59
7.3.5	Discrete polygons .....	59
7.3.6	Zero-sequence impedance modelling .....	61
7.3.7	Detailed modelling of AC network for performance calculation .....	61
7.4	Outages of filter banks and sub-banks.....	62
7.5	Considerations of probability .....	63
7.6	Flexibility regarding compliance .....	65
7.7	Ratings of the harmonic filter equipment.....	65
8	Filter switching and reactive power management .....	65

8.1	General .....	65
8.2	Reactive power interchange with AC network .....	66
8.2.1	General .....	66
8.2.2	Impact on reactive compensation and filter equipment .....	66
8.2.3	Evaluation of reactive power interchange .....	67
8.3	HVDC converter reactive power capability .....	67
8.4	Bank/sub-bank definitions and sizing .....	67
8.4.1	General .....	67
8.4.2	Sizing .....	68
8.5	Hysteresis in switching points .....	70
8.6	Converter Q-V control near switching points .....	71
8.7	Operation at increased converter control angles .....	71
8.8	Filter switching sequence and harmonic performance .....	71
8.9	Demarcation of responsibilities .....	72
8.9.1	General .....	72
8.9.2	Customer .....	72
8.9.3	Contractor .....	73
9	Customer specified parameters and requirements .....	73
9.1	General .....	73
9.2	AC system parameters .....	73
9.2.1	Voltage .....	73
9.2.2	Voltage unbalance .....	74
9.2.3	Frequency .....	74
9.2.4	Short circuit level .....	74
9.2.5	Filter switching .....	75
9.2.6	Reactive power interchange .....	75
9.2.7	System harmonic impedance .....	75
9.2.8	Zero sequence data .....	75
9.2.9	System earthing .....	75
9.2.10	Insulation level .....	75
9.2.11	Creepage distances .....	75
9.2.12	Pre-existing voltage distortion .....	75
9.3	Harmonic distortion requirements .....	76
9.3.1	General .....	76
9.3.2	Redundancy requirements .....	76
9.4	Environmental conditions .....	76
9.4.1	Temperature .....	76
9.4.2	Pollution .....	76
9.4.3	Wind .....	77
9.4.4	Ice and snow loading (if applicable) .....	77
9.4.5	Solar radiation .....	77
9.4.6	Isokeraunic levels .....	77
9.4.7	Seismic requirements .....	77
9.4.8	Audible noise .....	77
9.5	Electrical environment .....	77
9.6	Requirements for filter arrangements and components .....	78
9.6.1	Filter arrangements .....	78
9.6.2	Filter capacitors .....	78
9.6.3	Test requirements .....	78

9.7	Protection of filters .....	78
9.8	Loss evaluation .....	78
9.9	Field measurements and verifications .....	78
9.10	General requirements .....	79
10	Future developments .....	79
10.1	General .....	79
10.2	New filter technology .....	79
10.2.1	General .....	79
10.2.2	Automatically tuned reactors .....	80
10.2.3	Single-phase redundancy .....	82
10.2.4	Fuseless capacitors .....	83
10.2.5	Active filters .....	84
10.2.6	Compact design .....	85
10.2.7	Other filter circuit components .....	86
10.3	New converter technology .....	87
10.3.1	General .....	87
10.3.2	Series commutated converters .....	87
10.3.3	PWM voltage-sourced converters .....	88
10.3.4	Transformerless converters .....	90
10.3.5	Unit connection .....	91
10.4	Changing external environment .....	91
10.4.1	Increased pre-existing levels of harmonic distortion .....	91
10.4.2	Developments in communication technology .....	92
10.4.3	Changes in structure of the power supply industry .....	92
10.4.4	Focus on power quality .....	93
Annex A (informative)	Alternative type of procurement procedure .....	94
Annex B (informative)	Formulae for calculating the characteristic harmonics of a bridge converter .....	95
Annex C (informative)	Definition of telephone interference parameters .....	97
C.1	General .....	97
C.2	Criteria according to European practice .....	97
C.3	Criteria according to North American practice .....	98
C.4	Discussion .....	99
Annex D (informative)	Equivalent frequency deviation .....	101
Annex E (informative)	Reactive power management .....	102
E.1	HVDC converter reactive power capability .....	102
E.1.1	Steady-state capability .....	102
E.1.2	Temporary capability .....	104
E.2	Converter Q-V control near switching points .....	105
E.3	Step-change in voltage on switching a filter .....	106
Annex F (informative)	Voltage sourced converters .....	108
F.1	General .....	108
F.2	Two-level converter with PWM .....	108
F.3	Three-level converter with PWM .....	110
F.4	Multi-level converters .....	111
F.5	Modelling of VSCs for harmonic filtering purposes .....	112
Bibliography	.....	114

Figure 1 – Idealized current waveforms on the AC side of converter transformer .....	30
Figure 2 – Realistic current waveforms on the AC side of converter transformer including effect of non-idealities .....	31
Figure 3 – Comparison of harmonic content of current waveform under idealized and realistic conditions .....	32
Figure 4 – Typical variation of characteristic harmonic magnitude with direct current .....	36
Figure 5 – Single tuned filter and frequency response .....	42
Figure 6 – Double tuned filter and frequency response .....	44
Figure 7 – Triple tuned filter and frequency response .....	45
Figure 8 – 2nd order damped filter and frequency response .....	47
Figure 9 – 3rd order damped filter and frequency response .....	47
Figure 10 – C-type filter and frequency response .....	48
Figure 11 – Double tuned damped filter and frequency response .....	49
Figure 12 – Circuit model for filter calculations .....	51
Figure 13 – AC system impedance general sector diagram, with minimum impedance .....	58
Figure 14 – AC system impedance general sector diagram, with minimum resistance .....	58
Figure 15 – AC system impedance general circle diagram, with minimum resistance .....	59
Figure 16 – Example of harmonic impedances for harmonics of order 2 to 4 .....	60
Figure 17 – Example of harmonic impedances for harmonics of order 5 to 8 .....	60
Figure 18 – Example of harmonic impedances for harmonics of order 9 to 13 .....	60
Figure 19 – Example of harmonic impedances for harmonics of order 14 to 49 .....	60
Figure 20 – Illustration of basic voltage quality concepts with time/location statistics covering the whole system (adapted from IEC TR 61000-3-6:2008) .....	64
Figure 21 – Example of range of operation where specifications on harmonic levels are not met for a filter scheme solution .....	64
Figure 22 – Branch, sub-bank and bank definition .....	68
Figure 23 – Typical switching sequence .....	72
Figure 24 – Reactive power components .....	73
Figure 25 – Design principle of a self-tuned reactor using DC control current in an orthogonal winding .....	81
Figure 26 – Control principle for self-tuned filter .....	81
Figure 27 – One method of switching a redundant single phase filter .....	83
Figure 28 – Fuseless capacitor design compared to internal and external fused units .....	84
Figure 29 – Various possible configurations of series compensated HVDC converters .....	89
Figure 30 – Circuit and waveforms of a DC link using voltage-sourced converters .....	90
Figure E.1 – Capability diagram of a converter under different control strategies .....	102
Figure E.2 – Converter capability with $\gamma_{\min} = 17^\circ$ , $\gamma_{\max} = 40^\circ$ , $\alpha_{\min} = 5^\circ$ , $\alpha_{\max} = 35^\circ$ and $U_{\text{dio max}} = 1,2U_{\text{dio N}}$ .....	103
Figure E.3 – Reactive power absorption of a rectifier as a function of $\alpha$ with $U_{\text{dio}} = U_{\text{dio N}}$ , $d_x = 9,4\%$ and $d_r = 0,2\%$ .....	105
Figure E.4 – Reactive power absorption of a inverter as a function of $\gamma$ with $U_{\text{dio}} = U_{\text{dio N}}$ , $d_x = 9,4\%$ and $d_r = 0,2\%$ .....	105
Figure F.1 – Simplified representation of a 2-level voltage sourced converter .....	109
Figure F.2 – Single-phase AC output for 2-level converter with PWM switching at 21 times fundamental frequency .....	109
Figure F.3 – Simplified representation of a 3-level voltage sourced converter .....	110

Figure F.4 – Single-phase AC output for 3-level converter with PWM switching at 21 times fundamental frequency ..... 110

Figure F.5 – Basic operation of the MMC converters ..... 111

Figure F.6 – Phase unit of the modular multi-level converter (MMC) in basic half-bridge, without series-connected IGBTs (left) and the cascaded two level (CTL) converter with series-connected IGBTs (right)..... 113

Figure F.7 – Representation of a voltage sourced converter as a harmonic voltage source behind an inductance ..... 113

# INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

---

## HIGH-VOLTAGE DIRECT CURRENT (HVDC) SYSTEMS – GUIDANCE TO THE SPECIFICATION AND DESIGN EVALUATION OF AC FILTERS –

### Part 1: Overview

#### 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.

The main task of IEC technical committees is to prepare International Standards. However, a technical committee may propose the publication of a Technical Report when it has collected data of a different kind from that which is normally published as an International Standard, for example "state of the art".

IEC TR 62001-1, which is a Technical Report, has been prepared by subcommittee 22F: Power electronics for electrical transmission and distribution systems, of IEC technical committee 22: Power electronic systems and equipment.

This first edition of IEC TR 62001-1, together with IEC TR 62001-2<sup>1</sup>, IEC TR 62001-3<sup>1</sup> and IEC TR 62001-4, cancels and replaces IEC TR 62001 published in 2009. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

---

<sup>1</sup> To be published.



IEC TR 62001-1 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to IEC TR 62001:

- a) Clauses 3 to 5, 7 to 9, 17, 20, Annexes A and C to E have been expanded and supplemented;
- b) Annexes C and F on the definition of telephone interference parameters and voltage sourced converters have been added.

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

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
22F/378/DTR	22F/384A/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this document 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 TR 62001 series, published under the general title *High-voltage direct current (HVDC) systems – Guidance to the specification and design evaluation of AC filters*, 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.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

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

## INTRODUCTION

IEC TR 62001 is structured in four parts:

### Part 1 – Overview

This part concerns specifications of AC filters for high-voltage direct current (HVDC) systems with line-commutated converters, permissible distortion limits, harmonic generation, filter arrangements, filter performance calculation, filter switching and reactive power management and customer specified parameters and requirements.

### Part 2 – Performance

This part deals with current-based interference criteria, design issues and special applications, field measurements and verification.

### Part 3 – Modelling

This part addresses the harmonic interaction across converters, pre-existing harmonics, AC network impedance modelling, simulation of AC filter performance.

### Part 4 – Equipment

This part concerns steady-state and transient ratings of AC filters and their components, power losses, audible noise, design issues and special applications, filter protection, seismic requirements, equipment design and test parameters.

# **HIGH-VOLTAGE DIRECT CURRENT (HVDC) SYSTEMS – GUIDANCE TO THE SPECIFICATION AND DESIGN EVALUATION OF AC FILTERS –**

## **Part 1: Overview**

### **1 Scope**

This part of IEC TR 62001, which is a Technical Report, provides guidance on the specifications of AC filters for high-voltage direct current (HVDC) systems with line-commutated converters and filter performance calculation.

This document deals with the specification and design evaluation of AC side harmonic performance and AC side filters for HVDC schemes. It is intended to be primarily for the use of the utilities and consultants who are responsible for issuing the specifications for new HVDC projects and evaluating designs proposed by prospective suppliers.

The scope of this document covers AC side filtering for the frequency range of interest in terms of harmonic distortion and audible frequency disturbances. It excludes filters designed to be effective in the Power Line Carrier (PLC) and radio interference spectra.

The bulk of this document concentrates on the "conventional" AC filter technology and line-commutated HVDC converters. The changes entailed by new technologies are also discussed.