



IEC 61196-5

Edition 4.0 2022-12  
COMMENTED VERSION

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



---

## Coaxial communication cables – Part 5: Sectional specification for CATV trunk and distribution cables

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

ICS 33.120.10

ISBN 978-2-8322-6309-9

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

## CONTENTS

FOREWORD .....	4
1 Scope .....	6
2 Normative references .....	6
3 Terms and definitions .....	8
4 Materials and cable construction .....	8
4.1 Cable construction .....	8
4.2 Inner conductor .....	8
4.2.1 Conductor material .....	8
4.2.2 Conductor construction .....	8
4.3 Dielectric .....	9
4.4 Outer conductor or screen .....	9
4.5 Filling compounds .....	9
4.6 Moisture barriers .....	9
4.7 Wrapping layers .....	9
4.8 Sheath .....	9
4.9 Metallic protection .....	10
4.10 Cable integral suspension strand (messenger wire) .....	10
4.11 Oversheath .....	10
4.12 Fauna proofing .....	10
4.13 Chemical and/or environmental proofing .....	10
4.14 Cable identification .....	10
4.14.1 General .....	10
4.14.2 Sheath marking .....	10
4.14.3 Labelling .....	11
4.15 Completed cable .....	11
4.16 Standard ratings and characteristics .....	11
<del>6 Identification and marking .....</del>	<del>11</del>
<del>    6.1 Cable identification .....</del>	<del>11</del>
<del>    6.2 Cable marking .....</del>	<del>11</del>
<del>    6.3 Labelling .....</del>	<del>11</del>
5 Tests for completed cables .....	11
5.1 General .....	11
5.2 Electrical testing of the finished cable .....	12
5.2.1 Low-frequency and DC electrical measurements .....	12
5.2.2 High-frequency electrical and transmission test procedures and requirements .....	12
5.3 Environmental test procedures and requirements of the finished cable .....	14
5.4 Test procedures and requirements of mechanical characteristics of the finished cable .....	14
5.5 Fire performance .....	15
6 Quality assessment .....	16
7 Delivery and storage .....	16

Annex A (normative) Cable identification and marking .....	17
A.1 Cable identification .....	17
A.1.1 Type name .....	17
A.1.2 Variants .....	17
A.1.3 Screening classes .....	18
A.2 Cable marking .....	18
Annex B (informative) Cable types .....	19
List of comments .....	20
Table 1 – Low-frequency and DC test procedures and requirements .....	12
Table 2 – High-frequency electrical and transmission test procedures and requirements .....	13
Table 3 – Environmental test procedures and requirements of the finished cable .....	14
Table 4 – Test procedures and requirements of mechanical characteristics of the finished cable .....	15
Table 5 – Fire performance requirements .....	16
Table B.1 – Distribution and trunk cables – Preferred nominal dimensions and ratings .....	19

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

## COAXIAL COMMUNICATION CABLES –

**Part 5: Sectional specification for CATV trunk  
and distribution cables**

## 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 commented version (CMV) of the official standard IEC 61196-5:2022 edition 4.0 allows the user to identify the changes made to the previous IEC 61196-5:2018 edition 3.0. Furthermore, comments from IEC SC 46A experts are provided to explain the reasons of the most relevant changes, or to clarify any part of the content.**

**A vertical bar appears in the margin wherever a change has been made. Additions are in green text, deletions are in strikethrough red text. Experts' comments are identified by a blue-background number. Mouse over a number to display a pop-up note with the comment.**

**This publication contains the CMV and the official standard. The full list of comments is available at the end of the CMV.**

IEC 61196-5 has been prepared by subcommittee 46A: Coaxial cables, of IEC technical committee 46: Cables, wires, waveguides, RF connectors, RF and microwave passive components and accessories. It is an International Standard.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2018. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) Clause 4: complete revision;
- b) Annex A: cable identification and marking has been added;
- c) Annex B: Table B.1, cable types have been added.

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

Draft	Report on voting
46A/1605/FDIS	46A/1610/RVD

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.

A list of all parts in the IEC 61196 series, published under the general title *Coaxial communication cables*, can be found on the IEC website.

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](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/publications](http://www.iec.ch/publications).

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](http://webstore.iec.ch) in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

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

**IMPORTANT – The "colour inside" logo on the cover page of this document 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.**

## COAXIAL COMMUNICATION CABLES –

### Part 5: Sectional specification for CATV trunk and distribution cables

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 61196, which is a sectional specification, applies to coaxial cables for analogue and digital one- and two-way signal transmission, for example for cable networks for television signals, sound signals and interactive services in accordance with IEC 60728-1, IEC 60728-1-1, IEC 60728-101, IEC 60728-10, ISO/IEC 11801-1 and ISO/IEC 11801-4. This includes also the transmission of BCT signals provided by a CATV, MATV or SMATV cable networks.

This document specifies the test procedures and requirements for trunk and distribution cables for temperatures between –40 °C and +65 °C and in the frequency range of 5 MHz to 2 000 MHz.

#### 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 60068-1:2013, *Environmental testing – Part 1: General and guidance*

IEC 60068-2-78, *Environmental testing – Part 2-78: Tests – Test Cab: Damp heat, steady state*

IEC 60096-0-1, *Radio Frequency cables – Part 0-1: Guide to the design of detail specifications – Coaxial cables*

IEC 60728-1, *Cable networks for television signals, sound signals and interactive services – Part 1: System performance of forward paths*

IEC 60811-410, *Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials – Part 410: Miscellaneous tests – Test method for copper-catalyzed oxidative degradation of polyolefin insulated conductors*

IEC 60811-605, *Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials – Part 605: Physical tests – Measurement of carbon black and/or mineral filler in polyethylene compounds*

IEC 61196-1:2005, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1: Generic specification – General, definitions and requirements*

IEC 61196-1-1, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-1: Capability approval for coaxial cables*

IEC 61196-1-101, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-101: Electrical test methods – Test for conductor d.c. resistance of cable*

IEC 61196-1-102, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-102: Electrical test methods – Test for insulation resistance of cable dielectric*

IEC 61196-1-105, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-105: Electrical test methods – Test for withstand voltage of cable dielectric*

IEC 61196-1-106, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-106: Electrical test methods – Test for withstand voltage of cable sheath*

IEC 61196-1-108, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-108: Electrical test methods – Test for characteristic impedance, phase and group delay, electrical length and propagation velocity*

IEC 61196-1-112, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-112: Electrical test methods – Test for return loss (uniformity of impedance)*

IEC 61196-1-113, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-113: Electrical test methods – Test for attenuation constant*

IEC 61196-1-115, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-115: Electrical test methods – Test for regularity of impedance (pulse/step function return loss)*

IEC 61196-1-201, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-201: Environmental test methods – Test for cold bend performance of cable*

IEC 61196-1-203, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-203: Environmental test methods – Test for water penetration of cable*

IEC 61196-1-206, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-206: Environmental test methods – Climatic sequence*

IEC 61196-1-209, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-209: Environmental test methods – Thermal-~~ageing~~ cycling*

IEC 61196-1-212, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-212: Environmental test methods – UV stability*

IEC 61196-1-301, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-301: Mechanical test methods – Test for ovality*

IEC 61196-1-302, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-302: Mechanical test methods – Test for eccentricity*

IEC 61196-1-308, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-308: Mechanical test methods – Test for tensile strength and elongation for copper-clad metals*

IEC 61196-1-310, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-310: Mechanical test methods – Test for torsion characteristics of copper-clad metals*

IEC 61196-1-313, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-313: Mechanical test methods – Adhesion of dielectric and sheath*

IEC 61196-1-314, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-314: Mechanical test methods – Test for bending*

IEC 61196-1-316, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-316: Mechanical test methods – Test of maximum pulling force of cable*

IEC 61196-1-317, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-317: Mechanical test methods – Test for crush resistance of cable*

IEC 61196-1-324, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-324: Mechanical test methods – Test for abrasion resistance of cable*

IEC 62153-1-1, *Metallic communication cables test methods – Part 1-1: Electrical – Measurement of the pulse/step return loss in the frequency domain using the Inverse Discrete Fourier Transformation (IDFT)*

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

IEC 62153-4-4, *Metallic communication cable test methods – Part 4-4: Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Test method for measuring of the screening attenuation as up to and above 3 GHz, triaxial method*

~~EN 50289-4-17, Communication cables – Specifications for test methods – Part 4-17: Test methods for UV resistance evaluation of the sheath of electrical and optical fibre cable<sup>4</sup>~~ **1**

---

<sup>4</sup>~~An IEC test procedure for UV stability is under consideration.~~



# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

---

**Coaxial communication cables –  
Part 5: Sectional specification for CATV trunk and distribution cables**

## CONTENTS

FOREWORD .....	4
1 Scope .....	6
2 Normative references .....	6
3 Terms and definitions .....	8
4 Materials and cable construction .....	8
4.1 Cable construction .....	8
4.2 Inner conductor .....	8
4.2.1 Conductor material .....	8
4.2.2 Conductor construction .....	8
4.3 Dielectric .....	9
4.4 Outer conductor or screen .....	9
4.5 Filling compounds .....	9
4.6 Moisture barriers .....	9
4.7 Wrapping layers .....	9
4.8 Sheath .....	9
4.9 Metallic protection .....	10
4.10 Cable integral suspension strand (messenger wire) .....	10
4.11 Oversheath .....	10
4.12 Fauna proofing .....	10
4.13 Chemical and/or environmental proofing .....	10
4.14 Cable identification .....	10
4.14.1 General .....	10
4.14.2 Sheath marking .....	10
4.14.3 Labelling .....	11
4.15 Completed cable .....	11
4.16 Standard ratings and characteristics .....	11
5 Tests for completed cables .....	11
5.1 General .....	11
5.2 Electrical testing of the finished cable .....	11
5.2.1 Low-frequency and DC electrical measurements .....	11
5.2.2 High-frequency electrical and transmission test procedures and requirements .....	12
5.3 Environmental test procedures and requirements of the finished cable .....	14
5.4 Test procedures and requirements of mechanical characteristics of the finished cable .....	14
5.5 Fire performance .....	15
6 Quality assessment .....	16
7 Delivery and storage .....	16
Annex A (normative) Cable identification and marking .....	17
A.1 Cable identification .....	17
A.1.1 Type name .....	17
A.1.2 Variants .....	17
A.1.3 Screening classes .....	18
A.2 Cable marking .....	18
Annex B (informative) Cable types .....	19

Table 1 – Low-frequency and DC test procedures and requirements .....	12
Table 2 – High-frequency electrical and transmission test procedures and requirements .....	13
Table 3 – Environmental test procedures and requirements of the finished cable .....	14
Table 4 – Test procedures and requirements of mechanical characteristics of the finished cable .....	15
Table 5 – Fire performance requirements.....	16
Table B.1 – Distribution and trunk cables – Preferred nominal dimensions and ratings .....	19

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

---

COAXIAL COMMUNICATION CABLES –**Part 5: Sectional specification for CATV trunk  
and distribution cables**

## 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.

IEC 61196-5 has been prepared by subcommittee 46A: Coaxial cables, of IEC technical committee 46: Cables, wires, waveguides, RF connectors, RF and microwave passive components and accessories. It is an International Standard.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2018. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) Clause 4: complete revision;
- b) Annex A: cable identification and marking has been added;
- c) Annex B: Table B.1, cable types have been added.

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

Draft	Report on voting
46A/1605/FDIS	46A/1610/RVD

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.

A list of all parts in the IEC 61196 series, published under the general title *Coaxial communication cables*, can be found on the IEC website.

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](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/publications](http://www.iec.ch/publications).

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](http://webstore.iec.ch) in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

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

## COAXIAL COMMUNICATION CABLES –

### Part 5: Sectional specification for CATV trunk and distribution cables

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 61196, which is a sectional specification, applies to coaxial cables for analogue and digital one- and two-way signal transmission, for example for cable networks for television signals, sound signals and interactive services in accordance with IEC 60728-1, IEC 60728-1-1, IEC 60728-101, IEC 60728-10, ISO/IEC 11801-1 and ISO/IEC 11801-4. This includes also the transmission of BCT signals provided by a CATV, MATV or SMATV cable networks.

This document specifies the test procedures and requirements for trunk and distribution cables for temperatures between –40 °C and +65 °C and in the frequency range of 5 MHz to 2 000 MHz.

#### 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 60068-1:2012, *Environmental testing – Part 1: General and guidance*

IEC 60068-2-78, *Environmental testing – Part 2-78: Tests – Test Cab: Damp heat, steady state*

IEC 60096-0-1, *Radio Frequency cables – Part 0-1: Guide to the design of detail specifications – Coaxial cables*

IEC 60728-1, *Cable networks for television signals, sound signals and interactive services – Part 1: System performance of forward paths*

IEC 60811-410, *Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials – Part 410: Miscellaneous tests – Test method for copper-catalyzed oxidative degradation of polyolefin insulated conductors*

IEC 60811-605, *Electric and optical fibre cables – Test methods for non-metallic materials – Part 605: Physical tests – Measurement of carbon black and/or mineral filler in polyethylene compounds*

IEC 61196-1:2005, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1: Generic specification – General, definitions and requirements*

IEC 61196-1-1, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-1: Capability approval for coaxial cables*

IEC 61196-1-101, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-101: Electrical test methods – Test for conductor d.c. resistance of cable*

IEC 61196-1-102, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-102: Electrical test methods – Test for insulation resistance of cable dielectric*

IEC 61196-1-105, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-105: Electrical test methods – Test for withstand voltage of cable dielectric*

IEC 61196-1-106, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-106: Electrical test methods – Test for withstand voltage of cable sheath*

IEC 61196-1-108, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-108: Electrical test methods – Test for characteristic impedance, phase and group delay, electrical length and propagation velocity*

IEC 61196-1-112, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-112: Electrical test methods – Test for return loss (uniformity of impedance)*

IEC 61196-1-113, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-113: Electrical test methods – Test for attenuation constant*

IEC 61196-1-115, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-115: Electrical test methods – Test for regularity of impedance (pulse/step function return loss)*

IEC 61196-1-201, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-201: Environmental test methods – Test for cold bend performance of cable*

IEC 61196-1-203, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-203: Environmental test methods – Test for water penetration of cable*

IEC 61196-1-206, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-206: Environmental test methods – Climatic sequence*

IEC 61196-1-209, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-209: Environmental test methods – Thermal cycling*

IEC 61196-1-212, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-212: Environmental test methods – UV stability*

IEC 61196-1-301, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-301: Mechanical test methods – Test for ovality*

IEC 61196-1-302, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-302: Mechanical test methods – Test for eccentricity*

IEC 61196-1-308, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-308: Mechanical test methods – Test for tensile strength and elongation for copper-clad metals*

IEC 61196-1-310, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-310: Mechanical test methods – Test for torsion characteristics of copper-clad metals*

IEC 61196-1-313, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-313: Mechanical test methods – Adhesion of dielectric and sheath*

IEC 61196-1-314, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-314: Mechanical test methods – Test for bending*

IEC 61196-1-316, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-316: Mechanical test methods – Test of maximum pulling force of cable*

IEC 61196-1-317, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-317: Mechanical test methods – Test for crush resistance of cable*

IEC 61196-1-324, *Coaxial communication cables – Part 1-324: Mechanical test methods – Test for abrasion resistance of cable*

IEC 62153-1-1, *Metallic communication cables test methods – Part 1-1: Electrical – Measurement of the pulse/step return loss in the frequency domain using the Inverse Discrete Fourier Transformation (IDFT)*

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

IEC 62153-4-4, *Metallic communication cable test methods – Part 4-4: Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) – Test method for measuring of the screening attenuation as up to and above 3 GHz, triaxial method*