

Degrees of protection against the penetration of solid bodies, water and personnel access to live parts

The European standard EN 60529 dated October 1991, IEC publication 529 (2nd edition - November 1989), defines a coding system (IP code) for indicating the degree of protection provided by electrical equipment enclosures against accidental direct contact with live parts and against the ingress of solid foreign objects or water. This standard does not apply to protection against the risk of explosion or conditions such as humidity, corrosive gasses, fungi or vermin.

Certain equipment is designed to be mounted on an enclosure which will contribute towards achieving the required degree of protection (example : control devices mounted on an enclosure).

Different parts of an equipment can have different degrees of protection (example : enclosure with an opening in the base).

Standard NF C 15-100 (May 1991 edition), section 512, table 51 A, provides a cross-reference between the various degrees of protection and the environmental conditions classification, relating to the selection of equipment according to external factors.

Practical guide UTE C 15-103 shows, in the form of tables, the characteristics required for electrical equipment (including minimum degrees of protection), according to the locations in which they are installed.

IP ●●● code

The IP code comprises **2 characteristic numerals** (e.g. **IP 55**) and may include **an additional letter** when the actual protection of personnel against direct contact with live parts is better than that indicated by the first numeral (e.g. IP 20C).

Any characteristic numeral which is unspecified is replaced by an X (e.g. IP XXB).

1st characteristic numeral:

corresponds to protection of the equipment against penetration of solid objects and protection of personnel against direct contact with live parts.

2nd characteristic numeral:

corresponds to protection of the equipment against penetration of water with harmful effects.

Additional letter:

corresponds to protection of personnel against direct contact with live parts.

Protection of the equipment		Protection of personnel				
0	Non-protected	Non-protected	0	Non-protected	A	With the back of the hand.
1	 Protected against the penetration of solid objects having a diameter greater than or equal to 50 mm.	Protected against direct contact with the back of the hand (accidental contacts).	1	 Protected against vertical dripping water, (condensation).	B	With the finger.
2	 Protected against the penetration of solid objects having a diameter greater than or equal to 12.5 mm.	Protected against direct finger contact.	2	 Protected against dripping water at an angle of up to 15°.	C	With a Ø 2.5 mm tool.
3	 Protected against the penetration of solid objects having a diameter greater than or equal to 2.5 mm.	Protected against direct contact with a Ø 2.5 mm tool.	3	 Protected against rain at an angle of up to 60°.	D	With a Ø 1 mm wire.
4	 Protected against the penetration of solid objects having a diameter > 1 mm.	Protected against direct contact with a Ø 1 mm wire.	4	 Protected against splashing water in all directions.		
5	 Dust protected (no harmful deposits).	Protected against direct contact with a Ø 1 mm wire.	5	 Protected against water jets in all directions.		
6	 Dust tight.	Protected against direct contact with a Ø 1 mm wire.	6	 Protected against powerful jets of water and waves.		
			7	 Protected against the effects of temporary immersion.		
			8	 Protected against the effects of prolonged immersion under specified conditions.		

Technical information

Degrees of protection provided by enclosures

IK code

Degrees of protection against mechanical impact

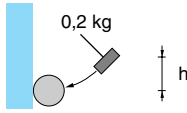
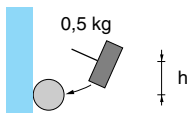
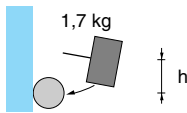
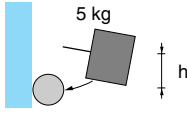
The European standard EN 50102 dated March 1995 defines a coding system (IK code) for indicating the degree of protection provided by electrical equipment enclosures against external mechanical impact. Standard NF C 15-100 (May 1991 edition), section 512, table 51 A, provides a cross-reference between the various degrees of protection and the environmental conditions classification, relating to the selection of equipment according to external factors. Practical guide UTE C 15-103 shows, in the form of tables, the characteristics required for electrical equipment (including minimum degrees of protection), according to the locations in which they are installed.

IK ●● code

The IK code comprises 2 characteristic numerals (e.g. IK 05).

2 characteristic numerals:

corresponding to a value of impact energy.

		h (cm)	Energy (J)
00	Non-protected		
01		7.5	0.15
02		10	0.2
03		17.5	0.35
04		25	0.5
05		35	0.7
06		20	1
07		40	2
08		30	5
09		20	10
10		40	20