IEC 62321-6

Edition 1.0 2015-06

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

colour inside

Determination of certain substances in electrotechnical products – Part 6: Polybrominated biphenyls and polybrominated diphenyl ethers in polymers by gas chromatography–mass spectrometry (GC-MS)

Détermination de certaines substances dans les produits électrotechniques – Partie 6: Diphényles polybromés et diphényléthers polybromés dans des polymères par chromatographie en phase gazeuse–spectrométrie de masse (GC-MS)

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 62321-6 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 111: Environmental standardization for electrical and electronic products and systems.

The first edition of IEC 62321:2008 was a 'stand-alone' standard that included an introduction, an overview of test methods, a mechanical sample preparation as well as various test method clauses.

This first edition of IEC 62321-6 is a partial replacement of IEC 62321:2008, forming a structural revision and generally replacing Annex A.

Future parts in the IEC 62321 series will gradually replace the corresponding clauses in IEC 62321:2008. Until such time as all parts are published, however, IEC 62321:2008 remains valid for those clauses not yet re-published as a separate part.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
111/368/FDIS	111/379/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 62321 series, published under the general title: *Determination of certain substances in electrotechnical products,* 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 web site 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- withdrawn,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.

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INTRODUCTION

The widespread use of electrotechnical products has drawn increased attention to their impact on the environment. In many countries this has resulted in the adoption of regulations affecting wastes, substances and energy use of electrotechnical products.

The use of certain substances (e.g. lead (Pb), cadmium (Cd) and polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE's)) in electrotechnical products is a source of concern in current and proposed regional legislation.

The purpose of the IEC 62321 series is therefore to provide test methods that will allow the electrotechnical industry to determine the levels of certain substances of concern in electrotechnical products on a consistent global basis.

WARNING – Persons using this International Standard should be familiar with normal laboratory practice. This standard does not purport to address all of the safety problems, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user to establish appropriate safety and health practices and to ensure compliance with any national regulatory conditions.

DETERMINATION OF CERTAIN SUBSTANCES IN ELECTROTECHNICAL PRODUCTS –

Part 6: Polybrominated biphenyls and polybrominated diphenyl ethers in polymers by gas chromatography–mass spectrometry (GC-MS)

1 Scope

This Part of IEC 62321 specifies one normative and two informative techniques for the determination of polybrominated biphenyls (PBB) and diphenyl ethers (PBDE) in polymers of electrotechnical products.

The gas chromatography–mass spectrometry (GC-MS) test method is suitable for the determination of monobrominated to decabrominated biphenyls (PBB) and monobrominated to decabrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE).

Annexes A and C contain methods using ion attachment mass spectrometry (IAMS) coupled with direct injection probe (DIP) and high-pressure liquid chromatography coupled to photo diode array ultra violet detector (HPLC-PDA/UV). These techniques have utility as fast, qualitative or semi-quantitative type methods but are subject to limitations including interferences or the number or type of PBB and PBDE compounds within their scope.

The ion attachment mass spectrometry (IAMS) technique is limited to the determination of decabromo biphenyl and technical mixtures of decabromodiphenyl ether, octabromodiphenyl ether, and pentabromo diphenyl ether flame retardant compounds. The determination of other PBBs or PBDEs by this method has not been evaluated.

The high-pressure liquid chromatography technique is limited to the determination of technical mixtures of decabromodiphenyl ether, octabromo diphenyl ether, decabromo biphenyl and octabromo biphenyl technical flame retardants. The determination of other PBBs or PBDEs by this method has not been evaluated.

These test methods have been evaluated for use with PS-HI (polystyrene, high-impact) and PC/ABS (a blend of polycarbonate and acrylonitrile butadiene styrene) containing individual PBDEs between 20 mg/kg to 2 000 mg/kg and total PBDEs between 1 300 mg/kg to 5 000 mg/kg as depicted in this standard including in Annex F. The use of these methods for other polymer types, PBBs or other PBDE compounds or concentration ranges other than those specified above has not been specifically evaluated.

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 62321:2008, *Electrotechnical products – Determination of levels of six regulated substances (lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyls, polybrominated diphenyl ethers)*

IEC 62321-1:2013, *Determination of certain substances in electrotechnical products – Part 1: Introduction and overview*