

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

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**ROTATING  
ELECTRICAL MACHINES—  
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

**Part 46— BRUSHES,  
BRUSH-HOLDERS,  
COMMUTATORS, AND  
SLIP-RINGS—  
GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

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This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee EL/9, Rotating Electrical Machinery. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 30 March 1988 and published on 15 August 1988.

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The following interests are represented on Committee EL/9:

Australian British Chamber of Commerce  
Australian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association  
Bureau of Steel Manufacturers of Australia  
Confederation of Australian Industry  
Department of Defence  
Electricity Supply Association of Australia  
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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Rotating Electrical Machinery.

In the preparation of this Standard, reference was made to IEC 276 (1968), *Definitions and nomenclature for carbon brushes, brush-holders, commutators and slip-rings*, and to Amendment No. 1, January 1987, thereto; also to IEC 560 (1977), *Definitions and terminology of brush-holders for electrical machines*. Acknowledgement is made of the assistance received from these publications.

This Standard follows the IEC publications very closely, however the terminology in other languages, and USA terminology have been omitted. In addition the material has been rearranged, expanded and edited for clarity.

Each term included has a reference number. Except for terms in the 700 and 800 series, the reference numbers are identical to those in IEC 276.

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Australian Standard

ROTATING ELECTRICAL MACHINES—GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

PART 46: BRUSHES, BRUSH-HOLDERS, COMMUTATORS, AND SLIP-RINGS—GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**1 SCOPE.** This Standard provides definitions and terminology applicable to carbon brushes and brush-holders for cylindrical commutators and slip-rings.

**2 DEFINITIONS.** For the purpose of this Standard, the following definitions apply.

**2.1 Hard carbon**—one of various forms of amorphous carbon.

**2.2 Carbon-graphite**—a mixture of amorphous carbon and graphite.

**2.3 Natural graphite**—principally natural graphite.

**2.4 Electrographite**—one of various forms of amorphous carbon converted during manufacture to artificial graphite.

**2.5 Metal-graphite**—a mixture of metals and graphite.

**2.6 Metal-impregnated graphite**—carbon or graphite which has been impregnated with molten metal under pressure.

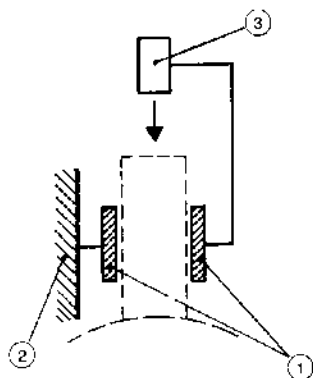
**2.7 Resin-bonded (material)**—carbon or graphite bonded with synthetic resin.

**2.8 Brush-holder**—a component of a rotating electrical machine intended to maintain a brush or several brushes in a definite position relative to the current collector and to apply a given force to the brush or brushes.

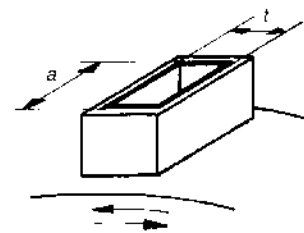
A brush-holder normally comprises:

1. A box to receive the brush or brushes (see Clause 3.8.1).
2. A method of fixing (see Clause 3.8.2).
3. A pressure system (see Clause 3.8.3).

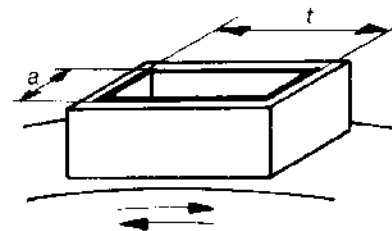
See schematic diagram:



Brush-holders are grouped according to the orientation of the boxes as follows (see also Table 1, page 16):



Axial orientation:  
Symbol A:  $t > a$



Tangential orientation:  
Symbol T:  $t > a$

Where  $a$  = brush dimension in the axial direction (see Term 103)

$t$  = brush dimension in the tangential direction (see Term 102)

NOTE 1: Square section brushes are not recommended by IEC.

Similarly, brush holders intended for face-fixing are grouped according to the orientation of the fixing face as follows (see also Table 2, page 17):

- (a) Fixing face parallel to the axial direction . . . . . second symbol A.
- (b) Fixing face parallel to the tangential direction . . . . . second symbol T.

NOTE 2: Brush-holders for face-fixing are therefore grouped as AA, AT, TA, or TT.