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OIML TC 9 : Instruments for Measuring Mass and Density Title: Metrological Regulation for Load Cells Part 1: Metrological and Technical Requirements Part 2: Metrological controls and performance tests Secretariat: John Barton National Institute of Standards and Technology, USA	Circulated to P- and O-members and liaison international bodies and external organizations for: vote (P-members only) and comments X by: ~~30 November, 2014~~28 February, 2016

TITLE OF THE CD (English):
OIML R 60- Parts 1 and 2
Metrological Regulation for Load Cells
Part 1: Metrological and Technical Requirements
Part 2: Metrological controls and performance tests

TITRLE DU CD (French):
OIML R 60-1 et -2
Réglementation métrologique des celleules de pesée
Partie 1: Exigences métrologiques et techniques,
Partie 2: Contrôles métrologiques et essais de performance

Original version in: English

Part 1 Metrological and technical requirements

1. Introduction

The ~~2nd~~4th Committee Draft copy of OIML R60 Parts 1&2 represents changes to the previous 3rd~~1st~~ CD based on the Project Group's (TC9 p1) comments and the input from a sub-group formed to deliberate on the meanings and definitions for "load cells equipped with electronics" and "digital load cells." This sub-group consisted of Project Group members from Germany, Netherlands, and the U.K. The sub-group provided general recommendations for appropriately addressing the concepts of different load cell designs under the scope of OIML R60.

~~A characteristic that sets this Recommendation apart from others is that, while other Recommendations apply to complete measuring instruments, t~~The subject of this Recommendation, load cells comprise a distinct element or module within other complex instruments. Load cells do not produce distinct quantitative values that are inherently identified or associated with denominations or units. The data that can be extracted from a load cell is simply a measurement of change in the output of the load cell in relation to the input. This relative change must be converted by other elements or modules within an instrument into values that are meaningful measurements which can then be used to identify a quantity.

Although strain gauge technology was a primary focus in the initial development of R60, it is to be understood that load cells that operate using other principles may also be evaluated under this Recommendation.

A change made in the 4CD in response to several comments received regarding confusion created by the use of the abbreviated symbols for the "load cell measuring range" (D_R) and the "minimum dead load output return (DR) in previous drafts. To address those concerns, and considering that the symbol "D_R" is only found in the terminology section of R60, the abbreviated symbol utilized in the 3CD for the load cell measuring range will not be used in the 4CD. Instead, the complete phrase "load cell measuring range" will be used in its place. To maintain consistency with the use of terminology and symbols, the abbreviated symbol used in previous drafts for maximum measuring range "E_R" will no longer be used in this 4CD. Instead the full wording "maximum measuring range" will be used wherever necessary. The abbreviated symbol used "minimum dead load output return" will remain "DR."

In the 4CD, the tabular format used in previous drafts is no longer used. The identification of the numbering of clauses according to previous drafts became cumbersome and was seen to add confusion when identifying specific clauses in the latest draft version.

~~To assist the reader in the review of the formatting of this Fourth Committee Draft, the document has been placed in a tabular form using the following numbering scheme. As illustrated below in "2 Scope", the left-hand column contains reference numbers that are associated with the 2000 edition of R60. Paragraphs that appear without a reference number in the left-hand column represent new entries in the document.~~

Part 1 (Metrological and Technical Requirements) and Part 2 (Metrological Controls and Performance Tests) of this Recommendation are contained in this document~~a combined publication~~, Part 3 (Test Report Format) is located in a separate document.

2. Scope

2.1.

This Recommendation prescribes the principal metrological static requirements and static evaluation procedures for load cells used in the determination of conformity to this recommendation. It is intended to provide authorities with uniform means for determining the metrological characteristics of load cells used in measuring instruments that are subjected to metrological controls.

It is acknowledged that test procedures found in Part 2 of this Recommendation (see section 9) are useful in the evaluation of load cells that are currently found in service (i.e., primarily strain gauge design) however, there may be variations in designs for load cells that will require additional or modified test procedures to appropriately evaluate them. These additional test procedures may be annexed when necessary.

Except where otherwise specified, these requirements apply regardless of the technology or operating principle employed. The requirements and evaluation procedures in this Recommendation have been drafted to be non-specific with regard to load cell design and their operating principles.

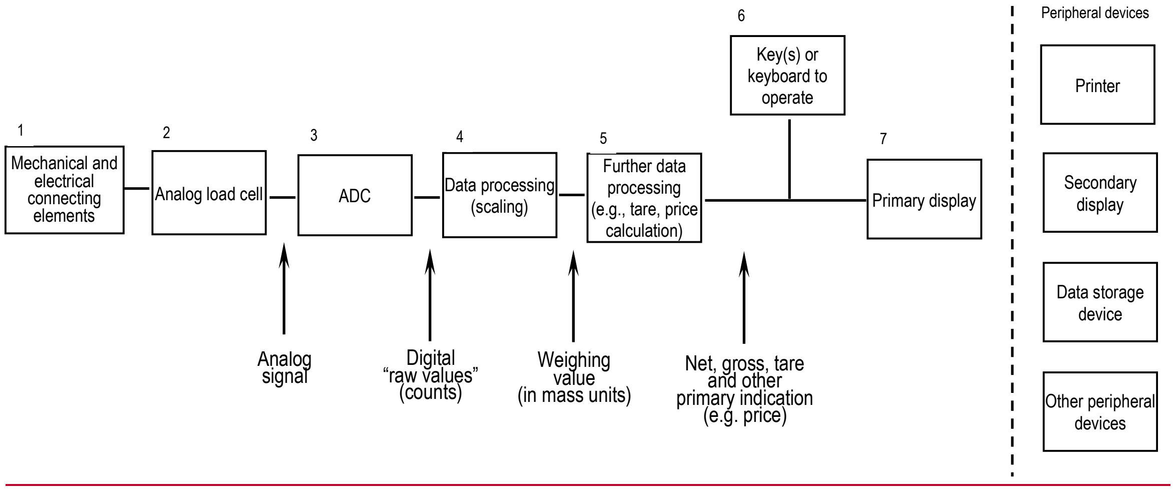
2.2.

This Recommendation utilizes the principle that several measurement errors shall be considered together when applying load cell performance characteristics to the permitted error envelope. Thus, it is not considered appropriate to specify individual errors for given characteristics (e.g., non-linearity, hysteresis, effects of influence factors), but rather to consider the total error envelope allowed for a load cell as the limiting factor. The use of an error envelope allows the balancing of the individual contributions to the total error of measurement while still achieving the intended final result.

Note: the error envelope may be defined as the ~~curves that provide the~~ boundary of the combined individual errors~~maximum permissible errors~~ (see Table 4) as a function of the force introduced by the applied load (expressed in mass units) over the measuring range. The combined error~~s~~ determined may be positive or negative and include the effects of nonlinearity, hysteresis and temperature.

2.3.

"Weighing modules" as noted in OIML~~per~~ R76 [1], T.2.2.7 (see Annex A, A.~~5~~2.1), are not covered by this recommendation. ~~Instruments~~Weighing instruments ~~which are comprised of~~that include load cells and which give an indication of mass are the subjects of separate Recommendations. While digital load cells may be covered under this Recommendation, a load cell that produces an output consisting of more than digital “raw counts” will not be covered under R60. In the illustration from OIML R76 below, the scope of R60 would not extend beyond module #~~3~~4.



From OIML R76:

Definition of typical modules within a weighing system (other combinations are possible)

Figure 1. Weighing Modules

3. Terminology (Terms and definitions)

The terms most frequently used in the load cell field and their definitions are given below (see 3.~~7~~ 6 for an illustration of certain definitions). The terminology used in this Recommendation conforms to OIML V 1 International Vocabulary of Basic and General Terms in Metrology (VIM) [2] ~~[2]~~, to OIML V 2 International Vocabulary of Terms in Legal Metrology (VIML) [3] ~~[3]~~, to OIML D 9 Principles of metrological supervision [4], to OIML D 11 General Requirements for electronic measuring instruments [5], and to OIML B 3 OIML Certificate System for Measuring Instruments [6].

In addition, for the purposes of this Recommendation, the following definitions apply:

3.1. General definitions

3.1.1. durability [VIML 5.15]

Ability of a measuring instrument to maintain its performance characteristics over a period of use.

3.1.2. durability test [VIML 5.22]

test intended to verify whether the EUT is able to maintain its performance characteristics over a period of use.

3.1.3. inspection by sampling [VIML 2.18]

inspection of a homogeneous batch of measuring instruments based on the results of evaluation of a statistically appropriate number of specimens selected at random from an identified lot.

3.1.4. legal metrology [VIML 1.01]

practice and process of applying statutory and regulatory structure and enforcement to metrology.

(For notes, please refer to VIML)

~~3.1.1.~~3.1.5. load cell

measuring transducer that will produce an output in response to an applied load.~~, in response to an applied load will produce an output~~. This output may be converted by another device into measurement units such as mass.

3.1.5.1. non-electronic load cell

load cell from which the output provides either measureable data or direct information representing the measurand value.

Note: The ratio between output and input may be adjustable and this type of load cell may utilize:

- passive electronics (i.e., strain gauges); and
- passive temperature compensation elements

3.1.5.2. electronic load cell

load cell which is capable of performing the functions as described under "non-electronic" load cell (3.1.5.1.) and which utilizes active electronics.

Note: This type of load cell may utilize the active electronics for:

- gaining an electronic representation of the measurand value;
- active temperature compensation; and
- similar functions being of influence to the measurand value.

3.1.5.3. digital load cell

electronic load cell which includes an analogue to digital conversion device providing a representation of the measurand value in some digital format.

Note: This type of load cell may utilize some further data processing (e.g., scaling).

~~1.1.1. load cell equipped with electronics~~

~~load cell employing an assembly of electronic components having a recognizable function of its own. Load cells that include intrinsically (as a minimum) the function of analog to digital output conversion, are referred to as "digital load cells" and are examples of load cells equipped with electronics. Additional features such as temperature compensation and signal filtering may also be an intrinsic functions of the load cell equipped with electronics.~~

~~*Note*: Passive elements such as strain gauges are not considered electronic components for the purpose of this recommendation~~

3.1.6. marking [VIML 2.19]

affixing of one or more marks.

(For notes, please refer to VIML)

3.1.7. metrological supervision [VIML 2.03]

activity of legal metrological control to check the observance of metrology laws and regulations.

(For notes, please refer to VIML)

3.1.8. measuring transducer [VIM 3.7]

device, used in measurement, that provides an output quantity having a specified relation to the input quantity.

~~3.1.2.~~3.1.9. performance test

test to verify whether the load cell under test is capable of performing its intended functions.

3.1.10. preliminary examination [VIML 2.10]

examination of a measuring instrument either to partial requirements or before certain elements of the measuring instrument are installed as part of the verification procedure.

3.1.11. rated operating condition [VIM 4.9]

operating condition that must be fulfilled during measurement in order that a measuring instrument or measuring system perform as designed.

(For notes, please refer to VIM)

3.1.12. sealing [VIML 2.20]

means intended to protect the measuring instrument against any unauthorized modification, readjustment, removal of parts, software, etc.

(For notes, please refer to VIML)

3.1.13. sensitivity of a measuring system [VIM 4.12]

quotient of the change in an indication of a measuring system and the corresponding change in a value of a quantity being measured.

3.1.14. test program [VIML 5.20]

description of a series of tests for certain types of equipment.

3.1.15. type (pattern) evaluation [VIML 2.04]

conformity assessment procedure on one or more specimens of an identified type (pattern) of measuring instruments which results in an evaluation report and / or an evaluation certificate.

(For notes, please refer to VIML)

3.1.16. type approval [VIML 2.05]

decision of legal relevance, based on the review of the type evaluation report, that the type of a measuring instrument complies with the relevant statutory requirements and results in the issuance of the type approval certificate.

3.1.17. verification by sampling [VIML 2.11]

verification of a homogeneous batch of measuring instruments based on the results of examination of a statistically appropriate number of specimens selected at random from an identified lot.

3.1.18. verification of a measuring instrument [VIML 2.09]

conformity assessment procedure (other than type evaluation) which results in the affixing of a verification mark and/or issuing of a verification certificate.

(For notes, please refer to VIML)

3.2. Categories of Load Cells

3.2.1. Application ~~of load~~of load

3.2.1.1. compression loading

compressive force applied to the load receptor of a load cell.

3.2.1.2. tension loading

tension force applied to the load receptor of a load cell.

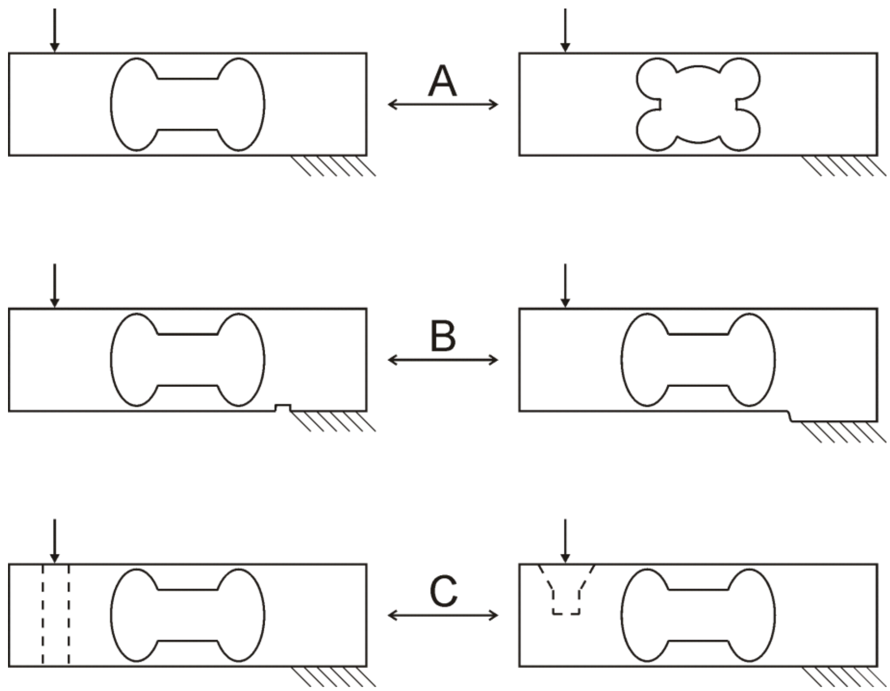
3.3. Construction of load cells

3.3.1. strain gauge

analog resistive element that is ~~bonded~~ attached to a load cell structure and changes resistance depending on the ~~compression or tension~~ deformation of the load cell structure when compression or tension forces are applied to the load cell.

~~1.1.2. Load cell shape~~

~~When classifying load cells on the basis of the shape design, additional consideration should be given to design criteria such as the geometrical characteristics of the areas of the load cell created during fabrication. Examples for load cells with identical outer dimensions but different geometries are shown below.~~



~~A. difference of geometry in the area of thin places (i.e., round or oval drilling)~~

~~B. difference of geometry in the area of fixing/load introduction (i.e., groove, base, offset)~~

~~C. difference of geometry in the inner of fixing/load introduction (i.e., drilling, thread, dropping)~~

~~**Figure 2. Examples of Load Cell Design Shapes**~~

3.4. Metrological characteristics of a load cell

3.4.1. humidity symbol

symbol assigned to a load cell that indicates the conditions of humidity under which the load cell has been tested.

3.4.2. load cell family

group of load cells, which for the purposes of type evaluation, are considered one a ~~load cell~~ family ~~consists of load cells~~ and that are of:

a) the same material or combination of materials (for example, mild steel, stainless steel or aluminum);

b) the same design of the measurement technique (for example, strain gauges bonded to metal);

~~b)~~c) when used, the same type attachment of the strain gauge to the load cell;

~~c)~~d) the same method of construction (for example, shape, sealing of strain gauges, mounting method, manufacturing method); the same set of specifications (for example, output rating, input impedance, supply voltage, cable details); and

~~d)~~e) one or more load cell groups where all load cells within the group possess identical metrological characteristics (as listed in 5.1.5 – including: class; n_{max}; temperature rating; etc.).

Note: The examples provided are not intended to be limiting.

~~3.4.3. load cell group~~

~~all load cells within a family possessing identical metrological characteristics (as listed in 6.1.5 – including: class; n_{max}; temperature rating; etc.).~~

3.5. Range, capacity and output terms

3.5.1. load cell interval

subdivision of the load cell measuring range~~part of the load cell measuring range into which that range is divided~~.

3.5.2. load cell measuring range ~~(DR)~~

range of values of the measured quantity for which the result of measurement ~~should~~ is not ~~be~~ affected by an error exceeding the maximum permissible error (MPE) (see ~~Annex A: A.1.11~~3.7.10).

Note:

~~D_R~~ Load cell measuring range is the range between the maximum load of the measuring range D_{max} and minimum load of the measuring range D_{min}

Load cell measuring range~~D_R~~ = (D_{max} – D_{min})

3.5.3. load cell output

measurable quantity into which a load cell converts the measured input quantity.

3.5.4. load cell verification interval (v)

load cell interval, expressed in units of mass, used in the test of the load cell for accuracy classification.

3.5.5. maximum capacity (E_{max})

largest value of a quantity ~~force~~ expressed in units of mass, which may be applied to a load cell resulting in output not affected by an error exceeding the maximum permissible error (MPE) ~~without the result exceeding the MPE~~ (see ~~Annex A: A.1.11~~3.7.10).

3.5.6. maximum load of the measuring range (D_{max})

largest value of a quantity expressed in units of mass which can be~~force~~ introduced to a load cell during test or use ~~(expressed in units of mass)~~.

3.5.7. maximum measuring range ~~(ER)~~

range of values of the quantity expressed in units of mass that may be applied to a load cell resulting in output not affected by an error exceeding the maximum permissible error (MPE) (see 3.7.10).

Note:

maximum measuring range is the range between maximum capacity E_{max} and minimum dead load E_{min}

[~~E_R~~ maximum measuring range = (E_{max} – E_{min})]

3.5.8. maximum number of load cell verification intervals (~~n_{max}~~n_{LC})

maximum number of load cell verification intervals into which the load cell measuring range may be divided for which the result of measurement will not be affected by an error exceeding the MPE (see ~~Annex A: A.1.11~~3.7.10).

3.5.9. minimum dead load (E_{min})

smallest value of ~~force introduced by a load~~a quantity (expressed in mass units) that may be applied to a load cell without the result exceeding the MPE (see ~~Annex A: A.1.11~~3.7.10).

3.5.10. minimum dead load output return (DR)

observed difference of load cell output, expressed in units of mass at the minimum load of the measuring range (D_{min}), measured before and after application of a load of D_{max}

~~3.5.11. the observed difference of output, expressed in load cell verification intervals at the minimum load of the measuring range (Dmin), measured before and after application of a load of Dmax~~

~~3.5.12.~~3.5.11. minimum load cell verification interval (v_{min})

smallest load cell verification interval into which the load cell measuring range DR (D_{max} –D_{min}) can be divided.

~~3.5.13.~~3.5.12. minimum load of the measuring range (D_{min})

smallest value of a quantity expressed in units of mass, ~~for a load which is~~ applied to a load cell during test or use.

~~*Note: For the limits on D_{min} during testing, see 9.7.3.4.*~~

~~3.5.14.~~3.5.13. number of load cell verification intervals (n)

~~number~~ total of load cell verification intervals into which the load cell measuring range is divided.

~~3.5.15.~~3.5.14. relative minimum dead load output return~~DR~~ or Z

ratio of the load cell measuring range~~ DR~~, to two times the minimum dead load output return, DR.

Note: This ratio is used to describe multi-interval instruments.

~~3.5.16.~~3.5.15. relative minimum load cell verification interval~~v_{min}~~ or Y

ratio of the maximum measuring range~~load cell measuring range DR~~, to the minimum load cell verification interval, v_{min}.

Note: This ratio describes the resolution of the load cell independent from the load cell capacity

~~3.5.17.~~3.5.16. safe load limit (E_{lim})

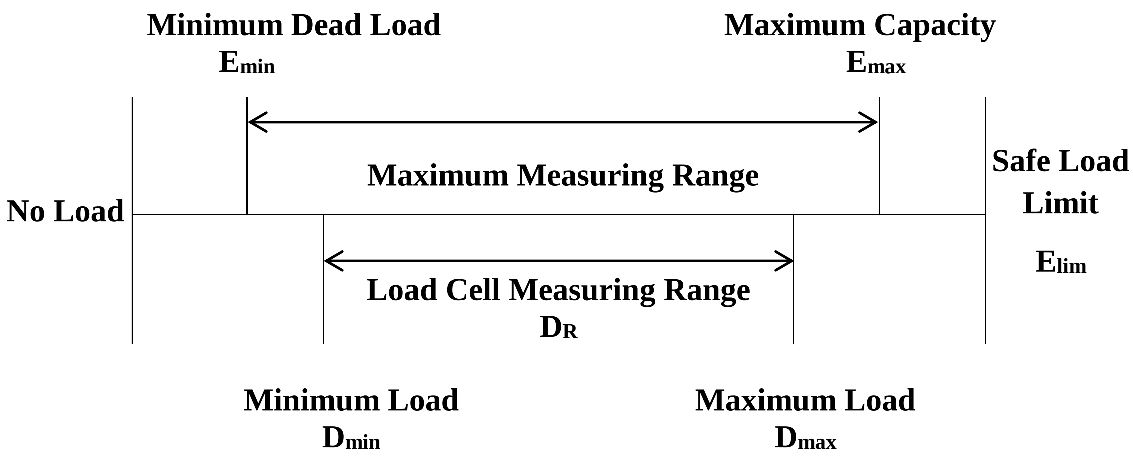
maximum load that can be applied without producing a permanent shift in the performance characteristics beyond those specified.

~~3.5.18.~~3.5.17. warm-up time

time between the moment power is applied to a load cell and the moment at which the load cell is capable of complying with the requirements.

3.6. Illustration of certain definitions

The terms that appear above the central horizontal line (related to E) in Figure 3 below are parameters that are fixed by the design of the load cell. The terms that appear below that line (related to D) are parameters that are variable, dependent on the conditions of use or in the test of a load cell (in particular, those load cells used in weighing instruments).



The following statements apply: (see also 8.7.3.4)

a) Range of D ($D_{min} – D_{max}$) ≤ range of E (E_{min}-E_{max})

b) $E_{min} \leq D_{min} \leq (0.1\ E_{max})$, and $(0.9\ E_{max}) \leq D_{max} \leq E_{max}$

Figure 3. Illustration of certain definitions

3.7. Measurement and error terms

3.7.1. creep

change in load cell output occurring with time while under constant load and with all environmental conditions and other variables also remaining constant.

3.7.2. ~~apportionment~~ apportioning factor (p_{LC})

the value of a dimensionless fraction expressed as a decimal (for example, 0.7) representing that portion of an error ~~produced by~~observed in the (weighing) instrument which is attributed to the load cell alone.

Note: This value is used in determining MPE (see ~~Annex A: A.1.11~~3.7.10)

3.7.3. durability error [VIML 5.16]

difference between the intrinsic error after a period of use and the initial intrinsic error of a measuring instrument

~~3.7.3.~~3.7.4. expanded uncertainty

quantity defining an interval about the result of a measurement that may be expected to encompass a large fraction of the distribution of values that could reasonably be attributed to the measurand. [Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement, BIPM, IEC, IFCC, ISO, IUPAC, IUPAP, OIML, 2008] [7] ~~[7]~~

3.7.5. fault [VIML 5.12]

difference between the error of indication and the intrinsic error of a measuring instrument.

(For notes, please refer to VIML)

~~3.7.4.~~3.7.6. fault detection output

electrical representation issued by the load cell indicating that a fault condition exists.

~~3.7.5.~~3.7.7. hysteresis error

difference in load cell output readings for the same applied force between the reading obtained by increasing the load from minimum load (D_{min}), and the reading obtained by decreasing the load from maximum load (D_{max}).

~~3.7.6.~~3.7.8. initial intrinsic error [VIML 5.11]

intrinsic error of a measuring instrument as determined prior to performance tests and durability evaluations

~~3.7.7.~~3.7.9. load cell intrinsic error

error resulting from a load cell, determined under reference conditions (see ~~Annex A, A.1.7~~3.7.9).

3.7.10. maximum permissible error (MPE) [VIM 4.26]

extreme value of measurement error, with respect to a known reference quantity value, permitted by specifications or regulations for a given measurement, measuring instrument, or measuring system.

(For notes, please refer to VIM)

3.7.11. measurement error [VIM 2.16)]

measured quantity minus a reference quantity value.

(For notes, please refer to VIM)

3.7.12. measured quantity value [VIM 2.10)]

quantity value representing a measurement result.

(For notes, please refer to VIM)

3.7.13. measurement repeatability [VIM 2.21]

measurement precision under a set of repeatability conditions of measurement.

~~3.7.8.~~3.7.14. non-linearity

deviation from the average of the values of load cell signals from a straight line through zero force applied and maximum force applied.

~~3.7.9.~~3.7.15. repeatability error

difference between load cell output readings taken from consecutive tests under the same loading and environmental conditions of measurement.

3.7.16. resolution [VIM 4.14]

smallest change in a quantity being measured that causes a perceptible change in the corresponding indication.

(For note, please refer to VIM)

3.7.17. ~~R~~resolution of a displaying device [VIM 4.15]

smallest difference between displayed indications that can be meaningfully distinguished.

3.7.18. significant durability error [VIML 5.17]

durability error exceeding the value specified in the applicable Recommendation.

(For note, please refer to VIML)

3.7.19. significant fault [VIML 5.14]

fault exceeding the applicable fault limit value.

(For note, please refer to VIML)

~~3.7.10.~~3.7.20. span stability

capability of a load cell to maintain the load cell output of the load cell's measuring range (DR) over a period of use within specified limits.

~~3.7.11.~~3.7.21. temperature effect on minimum dead load output

change in minimum dead load output due to a change in ambient temperature.

~~3.7.12.~~3.7.22. temperature effect on sensitivity

change in sensitivity due to a change in ambient temperature.

3.8. Influences and reference conditions

3.8.1. ~~For definition of terms: "influence quantity"; "rated operating conditions"; and "reference conditions" refer to Annex A~~disturbance [VIML 5.19]

influence quantity having a value within the limits specified in the relevant Recommendation, but outside the specified rated operating conditions of a measuring instrument.

3.8.2. influence factor [VIML 5.17]

influence quantity having a value which ranges within the rated operating conditions of a measuring instrument.

(For notes, please refer to VIML)

3.8.3. influence quantity [VIM 2.52]

quantity that, in a direct measurement, does not affect the quantity that is actually measured, but affects the relation between the indication and the measurement result.

(For examples and notes, please refer to VIM)

3.8.4. Rated operating condition [VIM 4.9]

operating condition that must be fulfilled during measurement in order that a measuring instrument or measuring system perform as designed.

(For note, please refer to VIM)

3.8.5. reference operating condition [VIM 4.11]

operating condition prescribed for evaluating the performance of a measuring instrument or measuring system or for comparison of measurement results.

(For notes, please refer to VIM)

3.9. Abbreviations

AC	Alternating Current
DC	Direct Current
EMC	Electro Magnetic Compatibility
EUT	Equipment Under Test
IEC	International Electrotechnical Committee
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
I/O	Input/Output
LC	Load Cell
MPE	Maximum Permissible Error
OIML	International Organization of Legal Metrology
VIM	International Vocabulary of Metrology – Basic and General Concepts and Associated Terms

4. Description of Load Cells

A load cell provides an output proportional to a force resulting from applying a load. Load cells may be used as a single transducer or applied together with other load cells in a system where the design allows such application. The term “load cell” in this Recommendation is not limited to any particular type of technology or design principle.

While many technologies are used in the design of load cells, those used in legal metrology applications are commonly designed to provide an output relative to an input stimulus based on electrical current. Both analog and digital outputs are recognized in load cells within that category. Although strain gauge technology was a primary focus in the development of R60, it is to be understood that load cells that operate using other principles may also be evaluated under this Recommendation. Variations of transducers that operate using alternative basis of input/output may include, but are not limited to: pressure (e.g., hydraulic, pneumatic); vibratory frequency; and magnetic forces.

The term load cell may describe an elemental component/module or a somewhat more complex instrument including constituents that perform functions such as signal filtering and analog-to-digital conversion.

~~5. Units of measurement~~

~~The units of measurement resulting from the output of a load cell that is incorporated as a component of an instrument are required to conform to the Recommendation(s) applicable to the instrument.~~

~~6.~~5. Metrological requirements

~~6.1.~~5.1. Principle of load cell classification

The classification of load cells into specific accuracy classes is provided to facilitate their application to various measuring systems. In the application of this Recommendation, it should be recognized that the effective performance of a particular load cell may be improved by compensation means within the measuring system with which it is applied. Therefore, it is not the intention of this Recommendation to require that a load cell be of the same accuracy class for a load cell as the measuring system in which it may be ~~used~~applied. Nor does it require that a measuring instrument, ~~giving indications~~indicating in units of mass for example, use a load cell which has been ~~separately~~ approved during a separate type evluation. All data/items found in ~~6~~5.1.1 to ~~6~~5.1.7 shall be specified by the manufacturer

~~6.1.1.~~5.1.1. Accuracy classes and their symbols

Load cells shall be ranked, according to their overall performance capabilities, into one of the four accuracy classes whose designations are as follows:

Class A; Class B; Class C; Class D.

~~6.1.2.~~5.1.2. Maximum number of load cell verification intervals

The maximum number of load cell verification intervals, $\cancel{n_{max}}n_{LC}$, into which the load cell maximum measuring range can be divided in a measuring system shall be within the limits ~~fixed~~ presented in Table 1.

Maximum Number of Load Cell Verification Intervals ($\cancel{n_{max}}n_{LC}$) according to accuracy class.

	Class A	Class B	Class C	Class D
Lower Limit	**50 000**	**5 000**	**500**	**100**
Upper Limit	**Unlimited**	**100 000**	**10 000**	**1 000**

Table 1

~~6.1.3.~~5.1.3. Minimum load cell verification interval

The minimum load cell verification interval, v_{min}, shall be specified by the manufacturer (see 3.5.11 in combination with 3.5.15).

~~6.1.4.~~5.1.4. Supplementary classifications

Load cells shall also be classified by the ~~type of~~intended manner in which a load is applied to the load cell wherever there would be a risk of confusing the ~~type~~ manner of loading (i.e., compression loading, tension loading or, universal). A load cell may bear different classifications ~~for different types of~~according to the intended manner in which a load is applied to the load cell. The ~~type of load~~manner of loading for which the classification(s) applies(y) shall be specified. For multiple capacity load cells, each capacity shall be classified separately.

~~6.1.5.~~5.1.5. Complete load cell classification

The load cell shall be classified ~~according to six parts~~corresponding to the following six parameters:

a) accuracy class designation (see ~~6~~5.1.1 and ~~7~~6.2.4.1);

b) maximum number of load cell verification intervals (see ~~6~~5.1.2 and ~~7~~6.2.4.5);

c) ~~type of load~~intended manner of the application of the load, if necessary (see ~~6~~5.1.~~4~~7 and ~~7~~6.2.4.2);

d) special limits of working temperature, if applicable (see ~~7~~6.2.4.3);

e) humidity symbol, if applicable (see ~~7~~6.2.4.4); and

f) additional characterization information, as listed below in Figure 4, ~~6~~5.1.6, and ~~6~~5.1.7.

An example illustrating the six parts of the load cell classification is shown in Figure 4.

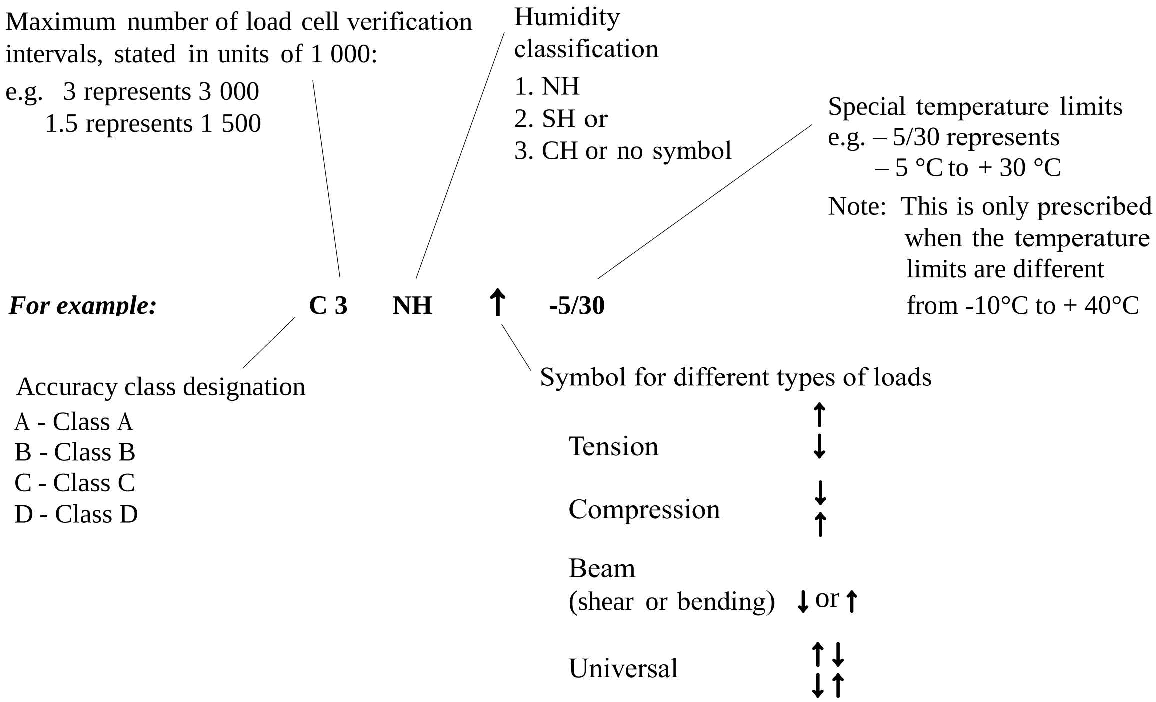


Figure 4. Complete load cell classification

~~6.1.6.~~5.1.6. Standard classification

Standard classifications shall be used; examples are shown in Table 2.

Classification symbol	Description
C2	Class C, 2 000 intervals
C3 ↓↑ 5/35	Class C, 3 000 intervals, compression, + 5 °C to + 35 °C
C2 NH	Class C, 2 000 intervals, not to be subjected to humidity test

Table 2. Examples of load cell classification

~~6.1.7.~~5.1.7. Multiple classifications

Load cells that have ~~complete~~ comprehensive classifications for the manner in which the load is applied to the load cell ~~different types of load~~ shall be accompanied by the relative ~~designated using separate~~ information for each classification. Example~~s are~~ is shown in Table 3. An illustration of the standard classification symbols, using an example is shown in Figure 4.

Classification Symbol	Description
C2 ↑	Class C, 2 000 intervals, shear beam
C1.5 ↓	Class C, 1 500 intervals, bending beam
C1 ↓↑ - 5/30	Class C, 1 000 intervals, compression, – 5 °C to + 30 C
C3 ↑↓ - 5/30	Class C, 3 000 intervals, tension, – 5°C to + 30 °C

Table 3. Examples of Multiple Classifications

~~6.2.~~5.2. Measuring ranges

~~6.2.1.~~5.2.1. Minimum load of the measuring range (D_{min}) (see 3.5.12)

The value of the smallest ~~value of mass~~load applied to a load cell during test or use which is expressed in units of mass shall not be less than E_{min} (see 3.5.9).

~~6.2.2.~~5.2.2. Maximum load of the measuring range (D_{max}) (see 3.5.6)

The ~~largest~~ value of ~~force introduced~~the largest load applied to a load cell during test or use which is expressed in units of mass shall not be greater than E_{max} (see 3.5.5). ~~For the limits on D_{max} during testing, see 9.7.3.4.~~

~~6.3.~~

~~6.4.~~5.3. Maximum permissible measurement errors

Under the rated operating conditions in ~~6~~5.6, the maximum permissible error (MPE) shall not exceed the values stated in ~~6~~5.5

The~~se~~ MPE~~s~~ ~~are~~ is applicable after increasing as well as decreasing the force applied (i.e., they include hysteresis).

Note: The term “measurement error” in this Recommendation refers to load cell measurement errors.

~~6.4.1.~~5.3.1. Maximum permissible errors for each accuracy class

The maximum permissible measurement errors for each accuracy class are related to the maximum number of load cell verification intervals (~~n_{max}~~n_{LC}) specified for the load cell (see ~~6~~5.1.2) and to the actual value of the load cell verification interval, v.

~~6.4.2.~~5.3.2. Type evaluation

The MPE (see ~~Annex A: A.1.11~~3.7.10) on type evaluation shall be the values derived using the expressions contained in the left column of Table 4. The apportionment factor, p_{LC} shall be chosen and declared (if other than 0.7) by the manufacturer and shall be in the range of 0.3 to 0.8

$(0.3 \leq p_{LC} \leq 0.8)$1.

Where "m" is the value (expressed in mass) representing the force introduced by the load applied

MPE	Load, m			
	Class A	Class B	Class C	Class D
$p_{LC} \times 0.5$ v	$0 \leq m \leq 50\,000$ v	$0 \leq m \leq 5\,000$ v	$0 \leq m \leq 500$ v	$0 \leq m \leq 50$ v
$p_{LC} \times 1.0$ v	$50\,000\text{ v} < m \leq 200\,000$ v	$5\,000\text{ v} < m \leq 20\,000$ v	$500\text{ v} < m \leq 2\,000$ v	$50\text{ v} < m \leq 200$ v
$p_{LC} \times 1.5$ v	$200\,000\text{ v} < m$	$20\,000\text{ v} < m \leq 100\,000$v	$2\,000\text{ v} < m \leq 10\,000$ v	$200\text{ v} < m \leq 1\,000$ v

Table 4. Maximum Permissible Errors (MPE) on Type Evaluation

The value of the apportionment factor, p_{LC} shall appear on the OIML certificate, if the value is not equal to 0.7. If the apportionment factor, p_{LC} is not specified on the certificate then the value 0.7 shall be assumed. The maximum permissible ~~measurement~~ error~~s~~ may be positive or negative and ~~are~~ is applicable to both increasing and decreasing loads.

The limits of error shown include errors due to nonlinearity, hysteresis and temperature effect on sensitivity over certain temperature ranges, specified in ~~6~~5.6.1.1 and ~~6~~5.6.1.2. Further errors, not included in the Table 4 limits of error, are treated separately.

~~6.5.~~5.4. Repeatability error

The maximum difference between the results of five identical load applications for classes A and B and of three identical load applications for classes C and D shall not be greater than the absolute value of the MPE for that load.

~~6.6.~~5.5. Permissible variation of results under reference conditions

~~6.6.1.~~5.5.1. Creep

The difference between the reading taken upon the application of a maximum load (D_{max}) and the reading observed within and after 30 minutes of exposure of 90% to 100% of E_{max} shall not exceed 0.7 times the absolute value of MPE for the applied load.*

1 Associated with apportionment of error provisions contained within OIML R 76-1, 3.5.1 and 3.10.2.1 [1]; R 50-1, 2.2.3 [28] ~~[26]~~; R 51-1, 5.2.3.4 [28] ~~[25]~~; R 61-1, 5.2.3.3 [28] ~~[24]~~; R 106-1, 5.1.3.2 [28] ~~[28]~~; or R 107-1, 5.1.4.1 [28] ~~[27]~~, when load cell is applied to such instruments.

Example: (p_{LC} declared by manufacturer = 0.75)

0.7 × [the absolute value of (the apportionment factor, p_{LC} = 0.7 × MPE for the applied load)]

= 0.7 × (0.7 × 1.5v) = 0.735

The difference in readings taken after 20 minutes of exposure to 90% to 100% of E_{max} and at 30 minutes of exposure to 90% to 100% of E_{max} shall not exceed 0.15 times the absolute value of MPE.

Example: (p_{LC} declared by manufacturer = 0.75)

0.15 × [the absolute value of (the apportionment factor, p_{LC} = 0.7 × MPE for the applied load)]

= 0.15 × (0.7 × 1.5v) = 0.1575

*Regardless of any value declared by the manufacturer for the apportionment factor, p_{LC}, the MPE for creep shall be determined from Table 4 using the apportionment factor, p_{LC} = 0.7.~~“~~

~~6.6.2.~~5.5.2. Minimum dead load output return

The difference between the initial reading of the minimum load output (D_{min}) and the reading of D_{min} at the conclusion of the creep test (5.5.1), shall not exceed half the value of the load cell verification interval (0.5 v).~~The difference between the initial reading of the minimum load output (D~~$\cancel{_{min}}$~~) and the reading of D~~$\cancel{_{min}}$~~ after being exposed to a load of 90% to 100% of E~~$\cancel{_{max}}$~~ for 30 minutes shall not exceed half the value of the load cell verification interval (0.5 v).~~

Note:

It should be noted that DR is the minimum dead load output return expressed in mass units (g, kg, t). DR has to be adjusted in a value expressed in load cell verification intervals v

~~6.7.~~5.6. Influence quantities (Rated operating conditions)

Load cells are to be evaluated under the conditions specified in ~~6~~5.6.1 - ~~6~~5.6.3. An evaluation may include additional special testing performed under conditions that vary from those specified in ~~6~~5.6.1 - ~~6~~5.6.3 if requested and specified by the ~~submitter of~~person(s) responsible for submitting the load cell for evaluation. This special testing may be performed in addition to, but not instead of testing under the specified conditions in ~~6~~5.6.1 – ~~6.~~5.6.3.

Load cells that are equipped with functions typically performed by complete instruments (~~e.g., analog to digital conversion)~~ may be required to be evaluated against additional requirements contained in other OIML Recommendations for those complete instruments. These additional evaluations are outside the scope of this Recommendation (see 2.3. and Figure 1).

~~6.7.1.~~5.6.1. Temperature

~~6.7.1.1.~~5.6.1.1. Temperature limits

Excluding temperature effects on minimum dead load output, the load cell shall perform within the limits of error in ~~6.3.1.1~~5.3.2 over the temperature range of – 10 °C to + 40 °C, unless otherwise specified as in ~~6~~5.6.1.2 below.

Note: National legislation may prescribe alternate temperature limits outside of the range specified above~~with a range of 50 °C or more~~ as appropriate for local climatic conditions and the environmental conditions that can be anticipated.

~~6.7.1.2.~~5.6.1.2. Special limits

Load cells for which particular limits of working temperature are specified shall satisfy, within those ranges, the conditions defined in ~~6.3.1.1~~5.3.2. The span of these ranges shall be at least:
5 °C for load cells of class A;
15 °C for load cells of class B;
30 °C for load cells of classes C and D.

~~6.7.1.3.~~5.6.1.3. Temperature effect on minimum dead load output

The minimum dead load output of the load cell over the temperature range, as specified in ~~6~~5.6.1.1 or ~~6~~5.6.1.2, shall not vary by an amount greater than the apportionment factor, p_{LC}, times the minimum load cell verification interval, v_{min}, for any change in ambient temperature of:
~~2 °~~2 °C for load cells of class A;
5 °C for load cells of class B, C and D.

~~6.7.2.~~5.6.2. Barometric pressure

The output of the load cell shall not vary by an amount greater than the minimum load cell verification interval, v_{min}, for any incremental change in barometric pressure equivalent to 1 kPa.

~~6.7.3.~~5.6.3. Humidity

With respect to humidity conditions, this Recommendation defines 3 humidity classes: CH (cyclic humidity - as standard), NH (no humidity), and SH (steady-state humidity). In case of class NH, or SH, the class designation shall be marked on the load cell. In the case of class CH, class designation marking of the load cell is not mandatory.

~~6.7.3.1.~~5.6.3.1. Humidity error – CH or unmarked load cells

This requirement is only applicable to load cells marked CH or with no humidity symbol marking and not applicable to load cells marked NH or SH.

The influence of exposure to temperature cycles specified in ~~9~~8.10.5.12 on the load cell output for minimum load shall not be greater than 4 % of the difference between the output on the maximum capacity, E_{max}, and that at the minimum dead load E_{min}.

The influence of exposure to temperature cycles specified in ~~9~~8.10.5.12 on the load cell output for the maximum load shall not be greater than the load cell verification interval v.

~~6.7.3.2.~~5.6.3.2. Humidity error – SH marked load cells

This requirement is only applicable to load cells marked SH and not applicable to load cells marked NH or CH or with no humidity symbol marking.

A load cell shall meet the ~~applicable~~ MPE applicable to the load applied as specified in Table 4, when exposed to conditions of relative humidity variations as specified in ~~9~~8.10.6.11

~~6.8.~~5.7. Requirements for load cells equipped with electronics

~~6.8.1.~~5.7.1. General requirements

In addition to the other requirements of this Recommendation, a load cell equipped with electronics shall comply with the following requirements. The MPE shall be determined using an apportionment factor, p_{LC}, equal to 1.0 (p_{LC} = 1.0) substituted for the apportionment factor, p_{LC}, that is declared by the manufacturer and applied to the other requirements.

If a load cell is configured with substantial additional electronic functions (e.g., display of indications, frequency counter) that are typical of an electronic weighing instrument, it may be considered outside the scope of this Recommendation and need to undergo additional evaluation using requirements contained in other OIML Recommendations which are applicable to ~~complete~~ weighing instruments.

~~6.8.1.1.~~5.7.1.1. Faults

A load cell equipped with electronics shall be designed and manufactured such that when it is exposed to electrical disturbances either:

a) significant faults do not occur; or

b) significant faults are detected and acted upon.

If significant faults do occur, and the load cell is equipped with the intelligence to detect and act upon significant faults through the instrument that the load cell is installed in, the reporting of and acting upon significant faults would then be evaluated under the appropriate Recommendation for the complete instrument.

Messages of significant faults should not be confused with other messages presented.

Note: A fault, in value that is equal to or smaller than the load cell verification interval, v, is allowed.

~~6.8.1.2.~~5.7.1.2. Acting upon significant faults

When a significant fault has been detected, either the load cell shall be made inoperative automatically or a fault detection output shall be issued automatically. This fault detection output shall continue until ~~the user acts on the fault or the fault disappears~~fault has been resolved.

~~6.8.1.3.~~5.7.1.3. Durability

The load cell shall be suitably durable so that the requirements of this Recommendation may be met in accordance with the intended use of the load cell.

~~6.8.1.4.~~5.7.1.4. Compliance with requirements

A load cell equipped with electronics is presumed to comply with the requirements in ~~6~~5.7.1.1 and ~~6~~5.7.1.3, if it passes the examinations specified in ~~6~~5.7.2 and ~~9~~8.10.7

~~6.8.1.5.~~5.7.1.5. Application of the requirements in ~~6~~5.7.1.1

The requirements in ~~6~~5.7.1.1 may be applied separately to each individual cause or significant fault. The choice of whether ~~6~~5.7.1.1 a) or ~~6~~5.7.1.1 b) is applied is left to the manufacturer.

5.7.2. Functional requirements

~~6.8.1.6.~~5.7.2.1. Warm-up time

During the design warm-up time of a load cell equipped with electronics there shall be no transmission of measurement results.

~~6.8.1.7.~~5.7.2.2. Mains power supply (AC)

A load cell equipped with electronics that operates from a mains power supply shall be designed to comply with the metrological requirements if the mains power supply varies in voltage from – 15 % to + 10 % of the supply voltage.~~A load cell equipped with electronics that operates from a mains power supply shall be designed to comply with the metrological requirements if the mains power supply varies:~~

~~a) in voltage from – 15 % to + 10 % of the supply voltage specified by the manufacturer; and~~
~~b) in frequency from – 2 % to + 2 % of the frequency specified by the manufacturer, if AC is used.~~

~~6.8.1.8.~~5.7.2.3. Battery power supply (DC)

A load cell equipped with electronics that operates from a battery power supply shall either continue to function correctly or not provide a measurement result whenever the voltage is below the value specified by the manufacturer.

~~6.8.1.9.~~5.7.2.4. Maximum allowable variations during voltage variations:

All functions shall operate as designed.
All measurement results shall be within maximum permissible errors.

~~*Note:* Where a load cell is powered by a three-phase supply, the voltage variations shall apply to each phase successively and all phases simultaneously.~~

~~6.8.1.10.~~5.7.2.5. Disturbances

When a load cell equipped with electronics is subjected to the disturbances specified in ~~9~~8.10.7.~~1~~ 5 to 8.10.7.10 (also summarized in Table 5), the difference between the load cell output due to a disturbance and the load cell output without disturbance (fault) shall ~~not exceed the minimum load cell verification interval, , or the load cell shall detect and react to a significant fault~~satisfy the conditions in 5.7.1.1.

Test	**Section 9.10 test procedure**	p_{LC}	**Characteristic under test**
Warm-up time	9.10.7.3	1.0	Influence factor
Power voltage variations	9.10.7.4		Influence factor
Short-time power reductions	9.10.7.5		Disturbance
Bursts (electrical fast transients)	9.10.7.6		Disturbance
Surge	9.10.7.7		Disturbance
Electrostatic discharge	9.10.7.8		Disturbance
Electromagnetic susceptibility	9.10.7.9		Disturbance
Immunity to conducted electromagnetic fields	9.10.7.10		Disturbance
Span stability	9.10.7.11		Influence factor

Table 5.

Performance and Stability Tests for a Load Cell Equipped with Electronics

~~6.8.1.11.~~5.7.2.6. Span stability: maximum allowable variation requirements (not applicable to class A load cells)

When a load cell equipped with electronics is subjected to the span stability test specified in ~~9.10.7.1 and 9~~8.10.7.11, the variation in the load cell span measurement results shall not exceed half the load cell verification interval or half the absolute value of the MPE for the test load applied, whichever is the ~~greater on any of the measurements~~greatest.

~~Test~~	~~Section 9.10 test procedure~~	~~p_{LC}~~	~~Characteristic under test~~
~~Warm-up time~~	~~9.10.7.3~~	~~1.0~~	~~Influence factor~~
~~Power voltage variations~~	~~9.10.7.4~~		~~Influence factor~~
~~Short-time power reductions~~	~~9.10.7.5~~		~~Disturbance~~
~~Bursts (electrical fast transients)~~	~~9.10.7.6~~		~~Disturbance~~
~~Surge~~	~~9.10.7.7~~		~~Disturbance~~
~~Electrostatic discharge~~	~~9.10.7.8~~		~~Disturbance~~
~~Electromagnetic susceptibility~~	~~9.10.7.9~~		~~Disturbance~~
~~Immunity to conducted electromagnetic fields~~	~~9.10.7.10~~		~~Disturbance~~
~~Span stability~~	~~9.10.7.11~~		~~Influence factor~~

~~Table 5.~~

~~Performance and Stability Tests for a Load Cell Equipped with Electronics~~

~~6.8.1.12. Compliance with requirements~~

~~A load cell equipped with electronics is presumed to comply with the requirements in 6.7.1.1 and 6.7.1.3, if it passes the examinations specified in 6.7.2.~~

~~6.8.1.13. Application of the requirements in 6.7.1.1~~

~~The requirements in 6.7.1.1 may be applied separately to each individual cause or significant fault. The choice of whether 6.7.1.1 a) or 6.7.1.1 b) is applied is left to the manufacturer.~~

~~7.~~6. Technical Requirements

~~7.1.~~6.1. Software

Provision shall be made for appropriate sealing by mechanical, electronic and/or cryptographic means, making any change that affects the metrological integrity of the device impossible or evident.

Any embedded programming (i.e., firmware) that influences the raw count output of the load cell will be evaluated under the terms of this Recommendation. In addition, if the software modifies load cell performance, not exceeding the functions of analog to digital conversion and the linearization of the load cell output, then that software shall be evaluated under the terms in this Recommendation and in accordance with OIML D31 Edition 2008(E) [8] Any weighing instrument function shall be evaluated under other appropriate Recommendations for weighing instruments.

Functionality of any software which is not covered by this Recommendation, e. g. functionalities of weighing instruments, is outside the scope of this Recommendation and not evaluated. It may be required to undergo additional evaluations against other requirements contained in the applicable OIML Recommendations for weighing instruments.

The requirements which are relevant to the evaluation of load cells and provided in OIML D 31 Edition 2008 (E) [8] have to be fulfilled for the load cell by taking into account the following aspects.

a). In general, for load cells, the severity level I, examined with validation procedure A, is required.

b). For legally relevant software of digital load cells the following statements according to OIML D31 shall be applied.

1) The exception described in D 31, 5.1.1 [8] for an imprint of the software identification is allowed.

2) The level of conformity of manufactured devices to the approved type is according to D 31, 5.2.5 (clause a) [8].

3) Updating the legally relevant software of a load cell in the field is possible via verified or traced update according to D31, 5.2.6.2 and 5.2.6.3 [8]

4) The software documentation shall include descriptions according to the applicable requirements of D 31, 6.1.1 [8]

The validation procedures are described in D 31, 6.4 [8]

~~7.2.~~6.2. Inscriptions and presentation of load cell information

Technical information markings including load cell classifications as indicated in ~~6~~5.1.5 ~~Complete Load Cell Classification~~ must be specified for the load cell(s).

~~7.2.1.~~6.2.1. Mandatory markings on the load cell

The following mandatory markings shall be clearly an indelibly marked on the load cell:

a. Manufacturer’s name or trade mark

b. Manufacturer’s type designation or load cell model

c. Serial number

d. Maximum capacity as: E_{max} = (in units g, kg, t,)

e. Year of production

f. OIML certificate number (if applicable)

~~f.~~g. Type approval mark

If due to the limitation of the size of the load cell, it is impossible to apply all mandatory markings, ~~the minimum of~~ the load cell type designation and the serial number shall be provided as a minimum on the load cell itself. All other mandatory information shall be provided in an accompanying document supplied by the manufacturer and submitted to the user. Where such a document is provided, the information required in ~~7~~6.2.2 shall also be given therein.

~~7.2.2.~~6.2.2. Mandatory additional information

The following mandatory information shall be provided in a document accompanying the load cell supplied by the manufacturer and submitted to the user (or, if space permits, they may be marked on the load cell). Where the information provided is associated with a specific unit of measure, the unit (~~i.e.,~~ g, kg, t,) shall also be specified.

a. Manufacturer's name or trade mark

b. Type designation

c. Accuracy class(es); see ~~7~~6.2. 4.1

d. Type of load; see ~~7~~6.2.4.2

e. Working temperature when required; see ~~7~~6.2.4.3

f. Humidity symbol when required; see ~~7~~6.2.4.4

g. Maximum capacity as: E_{max} =

h. Minimum dead load as: E_{min} =

i. Safe load limit as: E_{lim} =

j. Minimum load cell verification interval as v_{min} =

k. Value of the apportionment factor, p_{LC}, if not equal to 0.7; and

l. Other pertinent conditions that must be observed to obtain the specified performance (for example, electrical characteristics of the load cell such as output rating, input impedance, supply voltage, cable details, mounting torque, etc.)

~~7.2.3.~~6.2.3. Non-mandatory additional information

In addition to the information required in ~~7~~6.2.2, the following information may optionally be specified:

a. for a weighing instrument (for example a multiple range instrument according to OIML R 76) [1], the relative v_{min}, Y, where $Y = E_{max} / v_{min}$ (see 3.5.15);

b. for a weighing instrument (for example a multi-interval instrument according to OIML R 76) [1], the relative DR, Z, where $Z = E_{max} / (2 \times DR)$ (see 3.5.14) and the value of

DR (see 3.5.10) is set at the maximum permissible minimum dead load output return according to ~~9~~8.10.1.

c. other information considered necessary or useful by the manufacturer.

~~7.2.4.~~6.2.4. Specific markings

~~7.2.4.1.~~6.2.4.1. Accuracy class designation

Class A load cells shall be designated by the character “A”, class B by “B”, class C by “C” and class D by the character “D”.

~~7.2.4.2.~~6.2.4.2. Designation of the type of load applied to the load cell

The designation of the type of load applied to the load cell shall be specified when it is not clearly apparent from the load cell construction, using the symbols shown in Table 6.

Tension	↑ ↓
Compression	↓ ↑
Beam (shear or bending)	↑ **or** ↓
Universal	↑↓ ↓↑

Table 6.

Symbols for Different Types of Load Transmission Principles

~~7.2.4.3.~~6.2.4.3. Working temperature designation

The special limits of working temperature, as referred to in ~~6~~5.6.1.2, shall be specified when the load cell cannot perform within the limits of error in ~~6~~5.3.to ~~6~~5.6 over the temperature range specified in ~~6~~5.6.1.1. In such cases, the limits of temperature shall be designated in degrees Celsius (°C).

~~7.2.4.4.~~6.2.4.4. Humidity symbols

a). A load cell not designed to meet performance criteria evaluated under ~~9~~8.10.5 or ~~9~~8.10.6 shall be marked by the symbol NH.

b). A load cell submitted for evaluation and designed to meet performance criteria evaluated under ~~9~~8.10.5 shall be marked by the symbol CH or not be marked with any humidity classification.

c). A load cell submitted for evaluation and manufactured to meet performance criteria evaluated under ~~9~~8.10.6 shall be marked by the symbol SH.

~~7.2.4.5.~~6.2.4.5. Maximum number of load cell verification intervals

The maximum number of load cell verification intervals for which the accuracy class applies shall be designated in actual units (e.g., 3 000) or, when combined with the accuracy class designation (see ~~7~~6.2.4.1 above) to produce a classification symbol (see ~~6~~5.1.6), it shall be designated in units of 1 000.

Part 2 Metrological controls and performance tests

7 Metrological controls

7.1 Liability to legal metrological controls

7.1.1 Imposition of controls

This Recommendation prescribes performance requirements for load cells used in devices or systems subjected to legal metrological control. National legislation may impose metrological controls that verify compliance with this Recommendation. Such controls, when imposed, may include type evaluation.

~~7.2 Responsibility for compliance with the requirements~~

~~Notwithstanding the kind of legal metrological control in a country, the manufacturer (or their formal representative) has the full responsibility that the load cells comply with the requirements in Part 1 (Metrological and technical requirements) and are in accordance with the certificate issued for the load cell's type approval at the moment they are delivered to the user. After assignment, the responsibility of compliance with the requirements in Part 1 (Metrological and technical requirements) is that of the owner of the load cell as long as the load cell is in use. The operational presence of the load cell in his premises is considered as "in use".~~

~~7.3~~7.2 Measurement standards

The expanded uncertainty, U (for coverage factor k = 2), for the combination of the force-generating system and the indicating instrument used during the tests to observe the load cell output shall be less than 1/3 times the MPE of the load cell under test. [*Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement, 2008*] [7] ~~[7]~~

8 Type evaluation

8.1 Scope

This section provides test procedures for type evaluation testing of load cells.

Wherever possible, test procedures have been established to apply as broadly as possible to all load cells within the scope of OIML R 60.

The procedures apply to the testing of load cells only. No attempt has been made to cover testing of complete systems that include load cells.

8.2 Test requirements

Test procedures for the type evaluation of load cells are provided in Section ~~9~~ 8.7 and the Test Report Format is provided in OIML R60 Part 3. Initial and subsequent verification of load cells independent of the measuring system in which they are used is normally considered inappropriate if the complete system performance is verified by other means.

8.3 Selection of specimens for evaluation

Type evaluation shall be carried out on at least one specimen, which represents the type. The evaluation shall consist of the examination and tests specified in ~~9~~8.6 and ~~9~~8.7

In case the applicant wants to have approved several versions or measuring ranges, the issuing authority decides which version(s) and range(s) shall be supplied.

If a specimen does not pass a specific test as a result of the design of the type and therefore has to be modified, the applicant shall carry out this modification to all the specimens supplied for test. If the modification has been applied to all sub-types of the family which have the common design defect that required modification, it is then required that the other specimens that have been submitted shall be ~~completely~~ re-tested. Depending upon the modification this may involve a repeat of the specific test or a complete re-test.

If during the evaluation the specimen experiences malfunction or breakage that necessitates a repair in order to complete the test, the applicant shall verify whether this repair concerns an incident or whether a modification will need be made to the design. In the latter case the modification is to be applied to all specimens supplied for the test and the applicable documentation to be updated accordingly.

If the issuing authority has reason to believe that a modification or repair could cause a different outcome for test result(s) than the result(s) which was observed prior to any modification, these tests shall be repeated. The reason for repeating a test shall be given within the scope of the test report.

8.3.1 Number of load cells to be tested

The selection of load cells to be tested shall be such that the number of load cells to be tested is minimized ~~as well as optimized~~. (see practical example in Annex D).

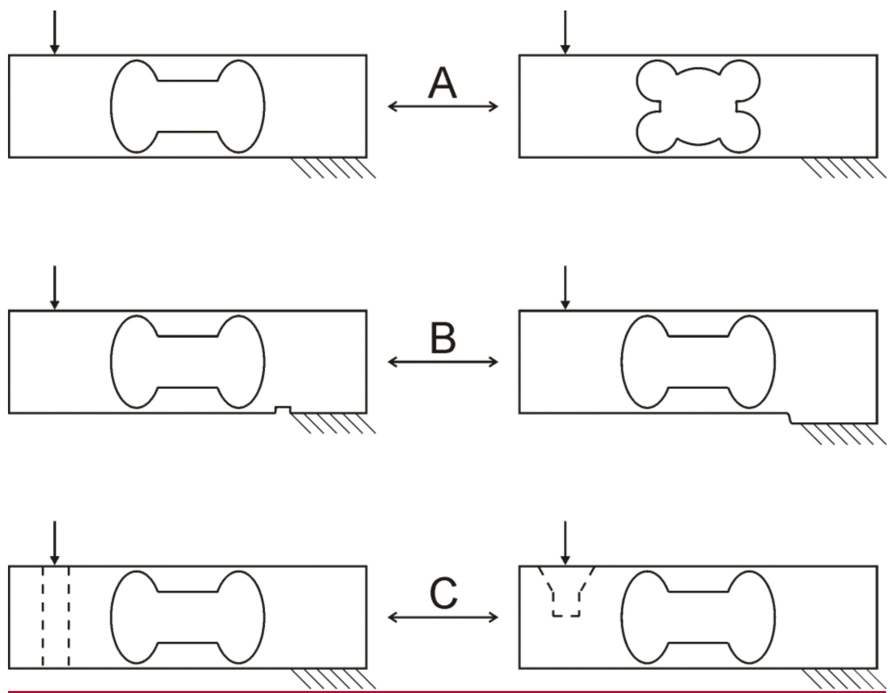
8.4 Selection of load cells within a family

In order to accelerate the test procedure, the testing laboratory may carry out different tests simultaneously on different units. In this case, the issuing authority decides which version or measuring range will be subjected to a specific test.

All accuracy and influence tests including span stability test for digital load cells, shall be performed on the same unit. Disturbance tests on digital load cells may be (simultaneously) carried out on not more than 2 ~~an~~ additional load cell ~~instrument~~s.

Where a family composed of one or more groups of load cells of various capacities and characteristics is presented for type evaluation, the following provisions shall apply.

When classifying load cells on the basis of the shape design, additional consideration should be given to design criteria such as the geometrical characteristics of the areas of the load cell created during fabrication. Examples of load cells with identical outer dimensions but different geometries are shown below.



A. difference of geometry in the area of thin places (i.e., round or oval drilling)

B. difference of geometry in the area of fixing/load introduction (i.e., groove, base, offset)

C. difference of geometry in the inner of fixing/load introduction (i.e., drilling, thread, dropping)

8.4.1 Load cells of the same capacity belonging to different groups

Where load cells of the same family and same capacity belong to different groups, the selection of a load cell for testing requires a choice between characteristics of the load cells. In this case, the load cell requiring the most onerous tests shall be selected. This selection will result in the load cell with the most stringent metrological characteristics being tested.

8.4.2 Load cells with a capacity in between the capacities tested

Load cells of the same family with a capacity in between the capacities tested, as well as those above the largest capacity tested, but not over 5 times ~~above~~ the largest capacity tested, may be included in the certificate and are deemed to fulfill the requirements of this Recommendation. This is under the provision that along with the change of capacity there is no change of measurement principle or material used in the construction of the load cell (e.g., from bending beam to shear beam or stainless steel replacing aluminum).

8.4.3 Smallest capacity load cell from the group

For any family, the smallest capacity load cell from the group with the best characteristics shall be selected for testing. For any group, the smallest capacity load cell in the group shall always be selected for test unless that capacity falls within the range of allowed capacities of selected load cells having better metrological characteristics according to the requirements of ~~9~~8.4.~~2~~ 1 and ~~9~~8.4.~~3~~2.

8.4.4 Ratio of largest capacity to the nearest smaller capacity

When the ratio of the largest capacity load cell in each group to the nearest smaller capacity having been selected for test is greater than 5, then another load cell shall be selected. The selected load cell shall have a capacity between 5 and 10 times that of the nearest smaller capacity load cell which has been selected. When no capacity meets this criterion, the selected load cell shall be that having the smallest capacity exceeding 10 times that of the nearest smaller capacity load cell which has been selected.

8.4.5 Humidity test

If more than one load cell of a family has been submitted for testing, only one load cell shall be tested for humidity when applicable.

8.4.6 Selection of load cells equipped with electronics

For load cells and load cell families equipped with electronics and with an analog to digital converter (that does not differ between load cells in the family) all applicable tests shall be performed on the load cell with the minimum, $\mu V/v_{min}$ as input for the analog to digital converter.

(Same principle as OIML R76 [1], Annex C, Table 12)

Notwithstanding this requirement, the criteria for assignment of a load cell to a family and the selection of test specimens found in ~~9~~8.4.1 to ~~9~~8.4.5 shall be observed.

8.5 Documentation

The documentation submitted with the application for type ~~approval~~ evaluation shall include:

a) description of its general principle of measurement;

b) mechanical drawings (including documents on the load transmission(s) as per Annex E);

c) electric/electronic diagrams;

d) installation requirements (physical and electrical) if appropriate;

e) operating instructions that shall be provided to the user if appropriate;

f) documents or other evidence to support and demonstrate the manufacturer's belief that the design and characteristics of the load cell will comply with the requirements of this Recommendation; and

g) documentation relative to software if appropriate.

If the testing laboratory deems this necessary, it can require more detailed documentation; either to be able to study the quality of the instrument, or to be able to fully define the approved type, or both.

If the manufacturer does not prescribe a specific load transmission it will be the responsibility of the test laboratory to decide what kind of load transmission is to be used for testing. (see also Annex E)

8.6 Examinations

Examinations and testing of load cells are intended to verify compliance with the requirements of Part 1 of this Recommendation.
The load cell ~~and the documentation~~ shall be given a visual inspection to obtain a general appraisal of its design and construction and the documentation shall be studied.

In particular, the following aspects shall be examined:

a. accuracy classes and their symbols (~~6~~5.1.1 and ~~7~~6.2.4.1);
b. maximum number of load cell verification intervals (~~6~~5.1.2 and ~~7~~6.2.4.5);
c. load cell measuring ranges (~~6~~3.5.2);
d. apportioning of errors (~~6~~5.3.1.1 and 3.7.2);
e. construction of load cells (3.3);
f. software (~~7~~6.1) (if applicable);
g. inscriptions and presentation of load cell information (~~7~~6.2); and
h. installation instructions/recommendations.

8.7 Performance Tests

8.7.1 Purpose

The following test procedures for quantitative determination of load cell performance characteristics are established to ensure uniform type evaluation.

8.7.2 Test equipment

The basic equipment for type evaluation tests consists of a force-generating system and a suitable indicating instrument, which measures the output of the load cell (see ~~8.1~~7.2).

8.7.3 Test conditions

8.7.3.1 Environmental conditions

Tests shall be performed under stable environmental conditions. The ambient temperature is deemed to be stable when the difference between extreme temperatures noted during the test does not exceed one fifth of the temperature range of the load cell under test, without being greater than 2 °C.

~~During routine testing, some ambient conditions may not be actively measured or closely controlled unless they are specific parameters for which the load cell is being evaluated. In general, temperature, humidity, and barometric pressure are rigidly controlled under laboratory protocol.~~ Conditions involving: electrical power supplies; electromagnetic fields; and radio frequency fields are to be measured/controlled when the load cell is being evaluated against the effects of these influences, and must also be considered when there is a potential for these types of conditions to impart effects on other tests.

8.7.3.2 Acceleration of gravity

The mass standards used to generate the force applied during testing shall be corrected, if necessary, for the site of testing and the value of the gravity constant, g, at the test site shall be recorded with the test results. The value of the mass standards used to generate the force shall be traceable to the appropriate national or international standard of mass.

8.7.3.3 Loading conditions

Particular attention shall be paid to loading conditions to prevent the introduction of errors not inherent to the load cell. Factors such as surface roughness, flatness, corrosion, scratches, eccentricity, etc., should be taken into consideration. Loading conditions shall be in accordance with the ~~requirements~~ specifications of the load cell manufacturer. The loads shall be applied and removed along the sensitive axis of the load cell without introducing shock to the load cell.

Since the aim of this test is not to measure the influence on the metrological performances of mounting/dismounting the load cell on/from the force-generating system, the installation of the load cell in the force-generating system shall be done with particular care. In addition, the installation shall be done with consideration given to the intended use of the load cell and the load transmission. The effect on the metrological performance caused by mounting/dismounting the load cell on/from the force-generating system should be negligible in order to establish the magnitude of the test parameter. If possible, the load cell should not be dismounted from the force-generation system during the entire period of the test.

8.7.3.4 Measuring range limits

With consideration to the capability of the force-generating system, the minimum load, D_{min}, shall be as near as possible to but not less than the minimum dead load, E_{min}, and shall not be higher than a value equal to 10% of E_{max}. The maximum load, D_{max}, shall be not less than 90 % of E_{max}, nor shall it be greater than E_{max} (refer to Fig. 3).

8.7.3.5 Reference standards

All standards and measuring instruments used for the tests shall be traceable to national or international standards.

8.7.3.6 Stabilization period

A stabilization period for the load cell under test and the indicating instrument shall be provided, as recommended by the manufacturers of the equipment used.

8.7.3.7 Temperature conditions

It is important to allow sufficient time for temperature stabilization of the load cell to be achieved. Particular attention shall be devoted to this requirement for large load cells. The loading system shall be of a design which will not introduce significant thermal gradients within the load cell. The load cell and its connecting means (cables, tubes, etc.) which are integral or contiguous shall be at the same test temperature. The indicating instrument shall be maintained at room temperature. The temperature effect on auxiliary connecting means shall be considered in determining results.

8.7.3.8 Barometric pressure effects

Where changes in barometric pressure may significantly affect the load cell output, such changes shall be considered.

8.7.3.9 Humidity effects

When a load cell is marked with the symbol CH or is not marked with a humidity symbol, it shall be subjected to the humidity test, as specified in ~~9~~8.10.5.

When a load cell is marked with the symbol SH, it shall be subjected to the humidity test, as specified in ~~9~~8.10.6

Load cells marked with the symbol NH shall not be subjected to the humidity tests as described in ~~9~~8.10.5 and ~~9~~8.10.6.

8.7.3.10 Indicating instrument checking

Some indicating instruments are provided with a convenient means for checking the indicating instrument itself. When such features are provided, they shall be utilized frequently to ensure that the indicating instrument is within the accuracy required by the test being performed. Periodic checks on the calibration status of the indicating instrument shall be performed.

8.7.3.11 Other conditions

Other conditions specified by the manufacturer such as input/output voltage, electrical sensitivity, input impedance of the indicator, etc. shall be taken into consideration during the test(s).

8.7.3.12 Time and date format

All time and date points shall be recorded such that the data can later be presented in test reports in absolute, not relative, units of local time and date. The date shall be recorded in the ISO 8601 [9] (Representation of dates and times) format of ccyy-mm-dd.

Note: "cc" may be omitted in cases where there is no possible confusion as to the century.

8.7.4 Error under rated operating conditions

The type of load cell is presumed to comply with the provisions specified in ~~6~~5.3 to ~~6~~5.5 of this Recommendation, if it passes the tests (in ~~9~~8.10), confirming that the error of the measuring instrument does not exceed the maximum permissible error specified in ~~6~~5.3.1 under the ~~reference~~ conditions in ~~9~~8.7.3.

8.8 Rules concerning the determination of errors

8.8.1 Conditions

The limits of error shown in Table 4 shall apply to all load cell measuring ranges complying with the following conditions:

$n \leq n_{max}$

$v \geq v_{min}$

8.8.2 Limits of error

The limits of error shown in Table 4 shall refer to the error envelope defined in 2.2 and ~~6~~5.3.1.1 which is referenced to the straight line that passes through the minimum load output and the load cell output for a load of 75 % of the measuring range taken on ascending load at 20 °C. This is based upon the initial 20 °C load test. See Part 3 (Test Report Format for Type Evaluation).

8.8.3 Initial readings

During the conduct of the tests, the initial reading shall be taken at a time interval after the initiation of loading or unloading, whichever is applicable, as specified in Table ~~8~~7.

Change in load		Time Allowed for Loading and Stabilization:		
Greater than	**Up to and including**	**Classes C&D**	**Class B**	**Class A**
0 kg	10 kg	10 seconds	15 Seconds	20 Seconds
10 kg	100 kg	20 seconds	30 Seconds	40 Seconds
100 kg	1 000 kg	30 seconds	45 Seconds	60 Seconds
1 000 kg	10 000 kg	40 seconds	60 Seconds	80 Seconds
10 000 kg	100 000 kg	50 seconds	75 Seconds	100 Seconds
100 000 kg		60 seconds	90 Seconds	120 Seconds

Table ~~8~~7.

Combined Loading and Stabilization Times to be Achieved Prior to Reading

8.8.3.1 Loading/unloading times

The loading or unloading times shall be approximately half the time specified in Table ~~8~~7. The remaining time shall be utilized for stabilization. The tests shall be conducted under constant conditions. The loading or unloading time and the stabilizing time shall be recorded in the test report in absolute, not relative values.

8.8.3.2 ~~Loading~~Adherence to loading/unloading times ~~impracticable~~

When the specified loading or unloading times cannot be achieved, the applicant for evaluation should be consulted and the following shall apply.

a) In the case of the minimum dead load output return test, the time may be increased from 100 % to a limit of 150 % of the specified time provided that the permissible variation of the result is proportionally reduced from 100 % to 50 % of the allowable difference between the initial reading of the minimum load output upon unloading and the reading before loading.

For example:

(1). A change in load of 10 kg for class C&D load cells, loading (or unloading) time (approximately 5 s) is increased to 7.5 seconds (150% of 5 s), MPE is reduced to 50%; or

(2). A change in load of 1500 kg for class C&D load cells, loading (or unloading) time (approximately 20 s) is increased to 25 seconds (125% of 20 seconds), MPE is reduced to 75%.

b) In all cases, the actual times shall be recorded in the Test Report.

8.9 Variation of results under reference conditions

8.9.1 Creep

A load of D_{max} shall be applied as specified in ~~9~~8.10.2.1 – ~~9~~8.10.2.7 at which time an initial reading shall be taken. Variation between the initial reading and subsequent readings of the load D_{max}, taken as specified in ~~9~~8.10.2.8 shall comply with the limits specified in ~~6~~5.5.1

8.9.2 Minimum dead load output return

The difference between an initial reading at a load of D_{min} (as specified in ~~9~~8.10.3.1 – ~~9~~8.10.3.6) and a subsequent reading also of D_{min} (taken after the application of a load of D_{max} as specified in ~~9~~8.10.3.7 – ~~9~~8.10.3.10) shall not exceed the value in specified in ~~6~~5.5.2.

8.10 Test procedures

Each of the tests below is presented as a "stand alone" individual test. However, for the efficient conduct of the load cell tests, it is acceptable that the increasing and decreasing load, creep, repeatability, and minimum dead load output return tests can be conducted concurrently at the given test temperature before changing to the next test temperature (see ~~9~~8.11, Figures 5 and 6). The barometric pressure and the humidity tests are conducted individually following completion of the above tests.

8.10.1 Determination of measurement error, repeatability error and temperature effect on minimum dead load output.

This test is applied to verify compliance with the provisions in ~~6~~5.3, ~~6~~5.4, and ~~6~~5.6.1.3.

8.10.1.1 Check test conditions

Refer to the test conditions in ~~9~~8.7.3 to ensure that proper consideration has been given to those conditions, prior to performing the following tests.

8.10.1.2 Insert load cell

Insert the load cell into the force-generating system, load to the minimum test load, D_{min}, and stabilize at 20 °C (± 2 °C).

~~In the case where the total temperature range does not include 20 °C another reference temperature may be selected.~~

8.10.1.3 Preload load cell

Preload the load cell by applying the maximum test load, D_{max}, three times, returning to the minimum test load, D_{min}, after each load application. Wait 5 minutes before commencing with further tests.

8.10.1.4 Check indicating instrument

Check the indicating instrument according to ~~9~~8.7.3.10.

8.10.1.5 Monitor load cell

Monitor the minimum test load output until stable.

8.10.1.6 Record indication

Record the indicating instrument indication at the minimum test load, D_{min}.

8.10.1.7 Test load points

All test load points in a loading and unloading sequence shall be spaced at approximately equal time intervals. The readings shall be taken at time intervals as near as possible to those specified in Table 7 in ~~9~~8.8.3. These two time intervals shall be recorded.

8.10.1.8 Apply loads

Apply increasing loads up to the maximum test load, D_{max}. There shall be at least five increasing load points, which shall include values at or near those at which the maximum permissible error changes, as listed in Table 4 in ~~6~~5.3.1.1.

8.10.1.9 Record indications

Record the indicating instrument indications at time intervals as near as possible to those specified in Table 7 in ~~9~~8.8.3. These two time intervals shall be recorded.

8.10.1.10 Decrease test loads

Decrease the test loads to the minimum test load, D_{min}, using the same load points as described in ~~9~~8.10.1.8.

8.10.1.11 Record indications

Record the indicating instrument indications at time intervals as near as possible to those specified in Table 7 in ~~9~~8.8.3. These two time intervals shall be recorded.

8.10.1.12 Repeat procedures for different accuracy classes

Repeat the operations described in ~~9~~8.10.1.7 to ~~9~~8.10.1.11 four more times for accuracy classes A and B or two more times for accuracy classes C and D.

8.10.1.13 Repeat procedures for different temperatures

Repeat the operations described in ~~9~~8.10.1.3 to ~~9~~8.10.1.12, first at the higher temperature, then at the lower temperature, in accordance with 5.6.1~~including the approximate temperature range limits for the accuracy class intended~~; then perform the operations in ~~9~~8.10.1.3 to ~~9~~8.10.1.12 at 20 °C (± 2 °C).

8.10.1.14 Determine magnitude of measurement error

The magnitude of the measurement error shall be determined based on the average of the results of the tests conducted at each temperature level and compared with the maximum permissible measurement errors in ~~6.3.1.1~~5.3.2 (see Table 4).

8.10.1.15 Determine repeatability error

From the resulting data, the repeatability error may be determined and compared with the limits specified in ~~6~~5.4.

8.10.1.16 Determine temperature effect on minimum dead load output

From the resulting data, the temperature effect on minimum dead load output may be determined and compared with the limits specified in ~~6~~5.6.1.3.

8.10.2 Determination of creep error.

This test is applied to verify compliance with the provisions in ~~6~~5.5.1.

8.10.2.1 Check test conditions

Refer to the test conditions in ~~9~~8.7.3 to ensure that proper consideration has been given to those conditions prior to performing the following tests.

8.10.2.2 Insert load cell

Insert the load cell into the force-generating system, load to the minimum test load, D_{min}, and stabilize at 20 °C (± 2 °C).

8.10.2.3 Preload load cell

Preload the load cell by applying the maximum test load, D_{max}, three times, returning to the minimum test load, D_{min}, after each load application. Wait one hour.

8.10.2.4 Check indicating instrument

Check the indicating instrument according to ~~9~~8.7.3.10.

8.10.2.5 Monitor load cell

Monitor the minimum test load output until stable.

8.10.2.6 Record indication

Record the indicating instrument indication at the minimum test load, D_{min}.

8.10.2.7 Apply load

Apply a constant maximum test load, D_{max} (between 90% and 100% of E_{max}).

8.10.2.8 Record indications

Record the initial indicating instrument indication at the time intervals specified in Table 7 in ~~9~~8.8.3. Continue to record periodically thereafter, at recorded time intervals over a 30-minute period, ensuring that a reading is taken at 20 minutes.

8.10.2.9 Repeat procedures for different temperatures

Repeat the operations described in ~~9~~8.10.2.3 to ~~9~~8.10.2.8, first at the higher temperature, then at the lower temperature, in accordance with 5.6.1~~including the approximate temperature range limits for the accuracy class intended~~.

8.10.2.10 Determine creep error

With the resulting data, and taking into account the effect of barometric pressure changes according to ~~9~~8.7.3.7, the magnitude of the creep error can be determined and compared with the permissible variation specified in ~~6~~5.5.1.

8.10.3 Determination of minimum dead load output return (DR)

This test is applied to verify compliance with the provisions in ~~6~~5.5.2.

8.10.3.1 Check test conditions

Refer to the test conditions in ~~9~~8.7.3 to ensure that proper consideration has been given to those conditions prior to performing the following test.

8.10.3.2 Insert load cell

Insert the load cell into the force-generating system, load to the minimum test load, D_{min}, and stabilize at 20 °C (± 2 °C).

8.10.3.3 Preload load cell

Preload the load cell by applying the maximum test load, D_{max}, three times, returning to the minimum test load, D_{min}, after each load application. Wait one hour before commencing any further tests.

8.10.3.4 Check indicating instrument

Check the indicating instrument according to ~~9~~8.7.3.10.

8.10.3.5 Monitor load cell

Monitor the minimum test load output until stable.

8.10.3.6 Record indication

Record the indicating instrument indication at the minimum test load, D_{min}.

8.10.3.7 Apply load

Apply a constant maximum test load, D_{max} (between 90% and 100% of E_{max}).

8.10.3.8 Record indications

Record the initial indicating instrument indication at time intervals as near as possible to those specified in Table 7 in ~~9~~8.8.3. These two time intervals shall be recorded. Record the time at which the load is fully applied and maintain the load for a 30-minute period.

8.10.3.9 Record data

Record the time of initiation of unloading and return to the minimum test load, D_{min}.

8.10.3.10 Record indication

Record the indicating instrument indication at time intervals as near as possible to those specified in Table 7 in ~~9~~8.8.3. These two time intervals shall be recorded.

8.10.3.11 Repeat procedures for different temperatures

Repeat the operations described in ~~9~~8.10.3.3 to ~~9~~8.10.3.10, first at the higher temperature, then at the lower temperature in accordance with 5.6.1.

~~, including the approximate temperature range limits for the accuracy class intended.~~

8.10.3.12 Determine minimum dead load output return (DR)

With the resulting data, the magnitude of the minimum dead load output return (DR) can be determined and compared with the permissible variation specified in ~~9~~8.9.2.

8.10.4 Determination of barometric pressure effects (Atmospheric pressure).

This test is applied to verify compliance with the provisions in ~~6~~5.6.2.

This test shall be conducted unless there is sufficient design justification to show that the load cell performance is not affected by changes in barometric pressure. The justification for not conducting this test shall be noted in the test report.

8.10.4.1 Check test conditions

Refer to the test conditions in ~~9~~8.7.3 to ensure that proper consideration has been given to those conditions prior to performing the following test.

8.10.4.2 Insert load cell

At room temperature, insert the unloaded load cell into the pressure chamber at atmospheric pressure.

8.10.4.3 Check indicating instrument

Check the indicating instrument according to ~~9~~8.7.3.10.

8.10.4.4 Monitor load cell

Monitor the output until stable.

8.10.4.5 Record indication

Record the indicating instrument indication.

8.10.4.6 Change barometric pressure

Change the barometric pressure by a minimum of 1 kPa greater than atmospheric pressure and record the indicating instrument indication.

8.10.4.7 Determine barometric pressure error

With the resulting data, the magnitude of the barometric pressure influence can be determined and compared with the limits specified in ~~6~~5.6.2.

8.10.5 Determination of humidity effects for load cells marked CH or not marked.

This test is applied to verify compliance with the provisions in ~~6~~5.6.3.1.

8.10.5.1 Check test conditions

Refer to the test conditions in ~~9~~8.7.3 to ensure that proper consideration has been given to those conditions prior to performing the following test.

8.10.5.2 Insert load cell

Insert the load cell into the force-generating system, load to the minimum test load, D_{min}, and stabilize at 20 °C (± 2 °C).

8.10.5.3 Preload load cell

Preload the load cell by applying the maximum test load, D_{max}, three times, returning to the minimum test load, D_{min}, after each application. Wait 5 minutes before commencing any further tests.

8.10.5.4 Check indicating instrument

Check the indicating instrument according to ~~9~~8.7.3.10.

8.10.5.5 Monitor load cell

Monitor the minimum test load output until stable.

8.10.5.6 Record indication

Record the indicating instrument indication at the minimum test load, D_{min}.

8.10.5.7 Apply load

Apply a maximum test load, D_{max}.

8.10.5.8 Record indications

Record the initial indicating instrument indication at time intervals as near as possible to those specified in Table 7 in ~~9~~8.8.3. These two time intervals shall be recorded.

8.10.5.9 Remove load

Remove the test load to the minimum test load, D_{min}.

8.10.5.10 Record indication

Record the indicating instrument indication at time intervals as near as possible to those specified in Table 7 in ~~9~~8.8.3. These two time intervals shall be recorded.

8.10.5.11 Repeat procedures for different accuracy classes

Repeat the operations described in ~~9~~8.10.5.7 to ~~9~~8.10.5.10 four more times for accuracy classes A and B or two more times for accuracy classes C and D.

8.10.5.12 Conduct damp heat, cyclic test (CH)

This test is conducted to verify compliance with the provisions in ~~6~~5.6.3.1 under conditions of high humidity combined with cyclic temperature changes

Applicable standards:

IEC 60068-2-30 [10] ~~[10]~~: Environmental testing Part 2: Tests.
Test Db and guidance: Damp heat cyclic (12 + 12-hour) cycle

IEC 60068-3-4 [11] ~~[11]~~: Environmental testing - Part 2: Tests. Guidance for damp heat tests.

Test method	Exposure to damp heat with cyclic temperature variation
Test conditions	The relative humidity is between 80 % and 96 % and the temperature is varied from 25 °C to 40 °C, in accordance with the specified cycle.
Preconditioning of load cell	Load cell placed in the chamber with the output connection external to the chamber, and switched off. Use variant 2 of IEC 60068-2-30 Ed. 3.0 (2005-08) when lowering the temperature.
Initial measurements	Made according to ~~9~~8.10.5.1 - ~~9~~8.10.5.11
Test procedure in brief	This test consists of exposure to 12 temperature cycles of 24-hour duration each. Condensation is expected to occur on the load cell during the temperature rise. The 24 h cycle comprises: 1) temperature rise during 3 hours, 2) temperature maintained at upper value until 12 hours from the start of the cycle, 3) temperature lowered to lower temperature ~~level within~~level within a period of 3 to 6 hours, the declination (rate of fall) during the first hour and a half being such that the lower temperature level would be reached in a 3 hours period, 4) temperature maintained at the lower level until the 24 h period is completed. The stabilizing period before and recovery period after the cyclic exposure shall be such that the temperature of all parts of the load cell is within 3 °C of its final value. Recovery conditions and final measurements: According to ~~9~~8.10.5.13 – ~~9~~8.10.5.15~~ below~~.

8.10.5.13 Remove load cell from chamber

Remove the load cell from the humidity chamber, carefully remove surface moisture, and maintain the load cell at standard atmospheric conditions for a period sufficient to attain temperature stability (normally 1 to 2 hours).

8.10.5.14 Repeat test procedures

Repeat ~~9~~8.10.5.1 to ~~9~~8.10.5.11 ensuring that the minimum test load, D_{min}, and the maximum test load, D_{max}, applied are the same as previously used.

8.10.5.15 Determine the magnitude of humidity-induced variations

The difference between the average of the reading of the minimum load output and of the maximum output attributed to cyclic changes in humidity as determined using test procedures in ~~9~~8.10.5 shall not exceed the limits specified in ~~6~~5.3.1.1

The difference between the average of the reading of the maximum load, D_{max}, attributed to cyclic changes in humidity as determined using test procedures in ~~9~~8.10.5 shall not exceed the limits specified in 6.3.1.1

8.10.6 Determination of humidity effects for load cells marked SH.

This test is applied to verify compliance with the provisions in ~~6~~5.6.3.2.

8.10.6.1 Check test conditions

Refer to the test conditions in ~~9~~8.7.3 to ensure that proper consideration has been given to those conditions prior to performing the following tests.

8.10.6.2 Insert load cell

Insert the load cell into the force-generating system, load to the minimum test load, D_{min}, and stabilize at 20 °C (± 2 °C).

8.10.6.3 Preload load cell

Preload the load cell by applying the maximum test load, D_{max}, three times, returning to the minimum test load, D_{min}, after each load application. Wait 5 minutes before commencing any further tests.

8.10.6.4 Check indicating instrument

Check the indicating instrument according to ~~9~~8.7.3.10.

8.10.6.5 Monitor load cell

Monitor the minimum test load output until stable.

8.10.6.6 Record indication

Record the indicating instrument indication at the minimum test load, D_{min}.

8.10.6.7 Test load points

All test load points in a loading and unloading sequence shall be spaced at approximately equal time intervals. The readings shall be taken at time intervals as near as possible to those specified in Table 7 in ~~9~~8.8.3. These two time intervals shall be recorded.

8.10.6.8 Apply loads

Apply increasing loads up to the maximum test load, D_{max}. There shall be at least five increasing load points which shall include loads approximating to the highest values in the applicable steps of maximum permissible measurement errors, as listed in Table 4 in ~~6~~5.3.1.1.

8.10.6.9 Record indications

Record the indicating instrument indications at time intervals as near as possible to those specified in Table 7 in ~~9~~8.8.3. These two time intervals shall be recorded.

8.10.6.10 Decrease load

Decrease the test load to the minimum test load, D_{min}, using the same load points as described in ~~9~~8.10.6.8.

8.10.6.11 Conduct damp heat, steady state test

This test is conducted to verify compliance with the provisions in ~~6~~5.6.1 or ~~6~~5.6.3 under conditions of high humidity and constant temperature.

Applicable standards:

IEC 60068-2-78: Environmental testing ¬Part 2: Tests. Test Ca: Damp heat, steady state, Environmental testing - Part 2: Tests. Test Cb: Damp heat, steady state, primarily for equipment. [12] ~~[12]~~

IEC 60068-3-4: Environmental testing - Part 2: Tests. Guidance for damp heat tests. [11]~~[11]~~

Test method	Exposure to damp heat in steady state
Test conditions	Relative humidity of 85 %
Preconditioning of load cell	Place the load cell in the chamber with the output connection external to the chamber, and switched on.
Test procedure in brief	This test involves exposure of the load cell to a constant temperature and a constant relative humidity. The load cell shall be tested as specified in ~~9~~8.10.6.1 to ~~9~~8.10.6.10: a) at a reference temperature (20 °C or the mean value of the temperature range whenever 20 °C is outside this range) and a relative humidity of 50 % following conditioning; b) at the high temperature of the range specified in ~~6~~5.6.1 for the load cell and a relative humidity of 85 %, 48 hours following temperature and humidity stabilization; and c) at the reference temperature and relative humidity of 50 %. The load cell shall be handled such that no condensation of water occurs on it.

8.10.6.12 Recording indications

Record the indicating instrument indications at time intervals as near as possible to those specified in Table 7 in ~~9~~8.8.3. These two time intervals shall be recorded.

8.10.6.13 Determine the magnitude of humidity-induced variations

With the resulting data, the magnitude of humidity-induced variations can be determined and compared with the limits specified in ~~6~~5.6.3.2.

8.10.7 Additional test for load cells equipped with electronics (Disturbances).

These tests are applied to verify compliance with the provisions in ~~6~~5.7.2.1, and ~~6~~5.7.2.2.

8.10.7.1 Performance and stability tests

A load cell equipped with electronics shall pass the performance and stability tests according to ~~9~~8.10.7.2 to ~~9~~8.10.7.10 for the tests given in Table 5.

8.10.7.2 Evaluation of error for digital load cells

For load cells possessing a digital output interval greater than 0.20v, the changeover points are to be used in the evaluation of errors, prior to rounding as follows. At a certain load, L, the digital output value, I, is noted. Additional loads, for example 0.1 v, are successively added until the output of the load cell is increased unambiguously by one digital output increment (I + v). The additional amount of load, Δ L, added to the load cell gives the digital output value prior to rounding, P, by using the following formula:

$$P = I + 1/2\ v - \Delta L$$

where:

I = the indication or digital output value;

v = the load cell verification interval; and

Δ L = additional load added to the load cell.

The error, E, prior to rounding is:

$$E = P - L = I + 1/2\ v - \Delta L - L$$

and the corrected error, E_c, prior to rounding is:

$$E_C = E - E_O \leq MPE$$

where E_O is the error calculated at the minimum test load, D_{min}.

8.10.7.3 Warm-up time

Test procedure in brief:
Stabilize the load cell at 20 °C (± 2 °C) and disconnect from any electrical supply for a period of at least 8 hours prior to the test.

Insert the load cell into the force-generating system.
Preload the load cell by applying a maximum test load, D_{max}, then, returning to the minimum test load, D_{min}, three times.

Allow the load cell to rest for 5 minutes. Connect the load cell to the power supply and switch on.

Record data:
As soon as a measurement result can be obtained, record the minimum test load output and the maximum test load, D_{max}, applied.

Loading and unloading:
The maximum test load output shall be determined at time intervals as close as possible to

those specified in Table 7 in ~~9~~8.8.3 and recorded and the load should be returned to the minimum test load, D_{min}. These measurements shall be repeated after 5, 15 and 30 minutes.

For load cells of class A, the provisions of the operating manual for the time following connection to electrical supply shall be observed.

8.10.7.4 Power voltage variations

This test is applied to verify compliance with ~~6~~5.7.2.2, ~~6~~5.7.2.3, and ~~6~~5.7.2.4 under conditions of variations in voltage to the load cell's power supply.

Applicable standards:

For load cells powered by AC mains: IEC/TR3 61000-2-1 [13], IEC 61000-4-1 (set-up) [14] ~~[14]~~

For load cells powered by DC mains: IEC 61000-4-29 [15] ~~[15]~~, IEC 61000-4-1 (set-up) [14] ~~[14]~~

Test method	Subject load cell to variations of power supply voltage
Test conditions	In accordance with ~~9~~8.7.3.1 Environmental conditions
Preconditioning of load cell	Stabilize load cell under constant environmental conditions
Test level	Mains power voltage variations*: upper voltage limit (V + 10%); lower voltage limit (V – 15%) Battery power voltage variations: - upper voltage limit (not applicable); - lower power voltage: (specified by the manufacturer, below V) The voltage, (V) is the value specified by the manufacturer. If a range of reference mains power voltage (V_{min}, V_{max}) is specified, then the test shall be performed at an upper voltage limit of V_{max} and a lower voltage limit of V_{min}. ~~* Note: Where a load cell is powered by a three-phase supply, the voltage variations shall apply to each phase successively and all phases simultaneously.~~
Test procedure in brief	This test consists of subjecting the load cell to variations of power voltage. A load test is performed in accordance with ~~9~~8.10.1.1 to ~~9~~8.10.1.12 at 20°C (± 2 °C), with the load cell powered at reference voltage. The test is repeated with the load cell powered at the upper limit and at the lower limit of power voltage.

8.10.7.5 Short-time power reductions (see ~~6~~5.7.2.5 Disturbances)

This test is conducted to verify compliance with ~~6~~5.7.2.2, ~~6~~5.7.2.3, and ~~6~~5.7.2.4 under conditions of short-time power reductions

Applicable standards:

For load cells powered by DC mains: IEC 61000-4-29 [15] ~~[15]~~; IEC 61000-4-1 [14] ~~[14]~~

For load cells powered by AC mains; IEC 61000-4-11 [16] ~~[16]~~; IEC 61000-6-1 [17] ~~[17]~~; IEC 61000-6-2 [18]

Test method	Expose load cell to specified short-timer power reductions
Test conditions	In accordance with ~~9~~8.7.3.1 Environmental conditions
Preconditioning of load cell	Stabilize load cell under constant environmental conditions
Test level	Reduction: 100 % 50 % Number of half cycles: 1 2
Test procedure in brief	A test generator capable of reducing the amplitude of one or more half cycles (at zero crossings) of the AC mains voltage shall be used~~as defined in the referred standard shall be used~~. The test generator shall be adjusted before connecting to the load cell. The load cell shall be exposed to short ~~interuptions~~interruptions of power~~ as described in the ~~. The mains voltage reductions shall be repeated ten times at intervals of at least 10 seconds.
Notes	If test is conducted while load cell is installed as a component in a weighing instrument, then ~~D~~during the test, the effect of any automatic zero-setting or zero-tracking features (if applicable) shall be switched off or suppressed, for example by applying a small test load. The test load need not be greater than necessary to accomplish this suppression.

8.10.7.6 Bursts (electrical fast transients) (see ~~6~~5.7.2.5 Disturbances~~ ~~)

This test is conducted to verify compliance with the provisions in ~~6~~5.7.2.~~1~~ 5 during conditions where electrical bursts are superimposed on the mains voltage

Applicable standards:

IEC 61000-4-4 [19] ~~[19]~~: No. 8 (Test procedure), No. 7 (Test set-up), No. 6 (Test instrumentation), No. 5 (Test severity).

Test method	Introducing transients on the mains power lines
Test conditions	In accordance with ~~9~~8.7.3.1 Environmental conditions
Preconditioning of load cell	Stabilize load cell under constant environmental conditions
Test level	Level 2 in accordance with referenced standard: IEC 61000-4-4 No.5 Open circuit output test voltage for: • power supply lines: 1 kV; • I/O signal, data, and control lines: 0.5 kV.
Test procedure in brief	This test consists of exposing the load cell to specified bursts of voltage spikes. A burst generator as defined in the referred standard [IEC 61000-4-4. (1995-01) No. 6] shall be used. The characteristics of the generator shall be verified before connecting the EUT. The test shall be applied separately to: a) power supply lines; b) I/O circuits and communication lines, if any.
Notes	Test Load: If test is conducted while load cell is installed as a component in a weighing instrument, then d~~D~~uring the test, the effect of any automatic zero-setting or zero-tracking features (if applicable) shall be switched off or suppressed, for example by applying a small test load. The test load need not be greater than necessary to accomplish this suppression.

8.10.7.7 Surge (see ~~6~~5.7.2.5 Disturbances)

This test is conducted to verify compliance with the provisions in ~~6~~5.7.2.~~1~~ 5 during conditions where electrical surges are superimposed on the mains voltage and I/O and communication ports.

Applicable standards:

IEC 61000-4-5 [20] ~~[20]~~

Test method	Exposing the load cell(s) to electrical surges on the mains power lines or on signal, data and control lines
Test conditions	In accordance with ~~9~~8.7.3.1 Environmental conditions
Preconditioning of load cell	Stabilize load cell under constant environmental conditions
Test level	Level 2 Amplitude (peak value) Power supply lines: 0.5 kV (line to line) and 1 kV (line to earth)
Test load	The test shall be performed with one small test load.
Test procedure in brief	This test is only applicable in those cases where, based on typical situations of installation, the risk of a significant influence of surges can be expected. This is especially relevant in cases of outdoor installations and/or indoor installations connected to long signal lines (lines longer than 30 m or those lines partially or fully installed outside the buildings regardless of their length). This test shall be conducted unless there is justification provided regarding the specific details of the intended use and installation which would render this test unnecessary. The justification for not conducting this test shall be noted in the test report. The test is applicable to power lines, communication lines (internet, dial up modem, etc.), and other lines for control, data or signal mentioned above (lines to temperature sensors, gas or liquid flow sensors, etc.). It is also applicable to DC powered load cells where the (excitation) power supply comes directly from DC mains. The test consists of exposing the load cell to surges for which the rise time, pulse width, peak values of the output voltage/current on high/low impedance load and minimum time interval between two successive pulses are defined in the referenced standard. The characteristics of the generator shall be adjusted before connecting the load cell. The test shall be applied to power supply lines, communication lines (internet, dial-up modem, etc.), and other lines for control, data or signal mentioned above (lines to temperature sensors, gas or liquid flow sensors, etc.). On AC mains supply lines at least 3 positive and 3 negative surges shall be applied synchronously with AC supply voltage in angles 0°, 90°, 180° and 270°. On any other kind of power supply, at least three positive and three negative surges shall be applied.
Notes	Both positive and negative polarity of the surges shall be applied. The duration of the test shall not be less than one minute for each amplitude and polarity. The injection network on the mains shall contain blocking filters to prevent the surge energy being dissipated in the mains. If test is conducted while load cell is installed as a component in a weighing instrument, then d~~D~~uring the test, the effect of any automatic zero-setting or zero-tracking features (if applicable) shall be switched off or suppressed, for example by applying a small test load.

8.10.7.8 Electrostatic discharge (see ~~6~~5.7.2.5 Disturbances)

This test is conducted to verify compliance with the provisions in ~~6~~5.7.2.~~1~~ 5 in case of direct exposure to electrostatic discharges or such discharges in the neighbourhood of the load cell

Applicable standard:

IEC 61000-4-2 [21] ~~[21]~~: No. 6 (test generator), No. 7 (set-up), No. 8 (test procedure).

Test method	Exposure to electrostatic discharge (ESD)
Test conditions	In accordance with ~~9~~8.7.3.1 Environmental conditions
Preconditioning of the load cell	Stabilize the load cell under constant environmental conditions
Test procedure in brief	The test comprises exposure of the load cell to electrical discharges. An ESD generator as defined in the referred standard shall be used and the test set-up shall comply with the dimensions, materials used and conditions as specified in the referred standard. Before starting the tests, the performance of the generator shall be verified. At least 10 discharges per preselected discharge location shall be applied. The time interval between successive discharges shall be at least 10 seconds. This test includes the paint penetration method, if appropriate; For direct discharges, the air discharge shall be used where the contact discharge method cannot be applied. Contact discharge is the preferred test method. Air discharge is far less defined and reproducible and therefore shall be used only where contact discharge cannot be applied. Direct application: In the contact discharge mode to be carried out on conductive surfaces, the electrode shall be in contact with the EUT before activation of the discharge. In such case the discharge spark occurs in the vacuum relays of the contact discharge tip. On insulated surfaces only the air discharge mode can be applied. The load cell is approached by the charged electrode until a spark discharge occurs Indirect application: The discharges are applied in the contact mode only on coupling planes mounted in the vicinity of the load cell. For load cells not equipped with a ground terminal, the load cell shall be fully discharged between discharges.
Test severity	Level 3 (in accordance with IEC 61000-4-2 (2008-12) Ed 2.0 Consolidated edition, No. 5). DC voltage up to and including 6 kV for contact discharges and 8 kV for air discharges.
Notes	If test is conducted while load cell is installed as a component in a weighing instrument, then d~~D~~uring the test, the effect of any automatic zero-setting or zero-tracking features shall be switched off or suppressed (if applicable), for example by applying a small test load. The test load applied during this test need not be greater than necessary to accomplish this suppression.

8.10.7.9 Exposure to radiated RF electromagnetic fields ~~Electromagnetic susceptibility~~ (see ~~6~~5.7.2.5 Disturbances)

This test is conducted to ~~verify~~verify compliance with the provisions in ~~6~~5.7.2.~~1~~ 5 under conditions of exposure to electromagnetic fields

Applicable standard:
IEC 61000-4-3 [22] ~~[22]~~: No. 6 (test generator), No. 7 (test set-up), No. 8 (test procedure)

Test method	Exposure to specified electromagnetic fields
Test conditions	In accordance with ~~9~~8.7.3.1 Environmental conditions
Preconditioning of the load cell	Stabilize the load cell under constant environmental conditions.
Test procedure in brief	The load cell is exposed to electromagnetic fields with the required field strength and the field uniformity as defined in the referred standard. The level of field strength specified refers to the field generated by the unmodulated carrier wave. The load cell shall be exposed to the modulated wave field. The frequency sweep shall be made only pausing to adjust the RF signal level or to switch RF-generators, amplifiers and antennas if necessary. Where the frequency range is swept incrementally, the step size shall not exceed 1 % of the preceding frequency value. The dwell time of the amplitude modulated carrier at each frequency shall not be less than the time necessary for the load cell to be exercised and to respond, but shall in no case be less than 0.5 s. Adequate EM fields can be generated in facilities of different type and set-up the use of which is limited by the dimensions of the load cell and the frequency range of the facility.
Test levels	Level 2: Frequency range: ~~26~~ 80 MHz* to 2 000 MHz; Field strength: 10 V/m; Modulation: 80 % AM, 1 kHz sine wave.
Notes	* Frequency range used in conventional testing shall be 80 MHz to 2 000 MHz, for load cells with power lines or I/O ports. The lower limit of frequency of electromagnetic field is 26 MHz for load cells without power lines or I/O ports, and for which the test for conducted electromagnetic field (9.10.7.10) is inapplicable. If test is conducted while load cell is installed as a component in a weighing instrument, then during the test, the effect of any automatic zero-setting or zero-tracking features enabled (if applicable) through the weighing instrument shall be switched off or suppressed, for example by applying a small test load. The test load need not be greater than necessary to accomplish this suppression.

8.10.7.10 Exposure to conducted (common mode) currents generated by RF EM fields~~Immunity to conducted electromagnetic fields~~ (see ~~6~~5.7.2.5 Disturbances)

This test is conducted to verify compliance with the provisions in ~~6~~5.7.2.~~1~~ 5 while exposed to electromagnetic fields

Applicable standard: IEC 61000-4-6 [23] ~~[23]~~

Test method	Exposure of the the load cell to disturbances induced by radiated radio-frequency fields.
Test conditions	In accordance with ~~9~~8.7.3.1 Environmental conditions
Preconditioning of the load cell	Stabilize the load cell under constant environmental conditions.
Test procedure in brief	A RF EM current, simulating the influence of EM fields shall be coupled or injected into the power ports and I/O ports of the load cell using coupling/decoupling devices as defined in the referred standard. The characteristics of the test equipment consisting of an RF generator, (de-)coupling devices, attenuators, etc. shall be verified before connecting the load cell.
Test load	The test shall be performed with one small test load only (10 v).
Test level index	Level 2 (in accordance with the referred standard) Frequency range: 0.15 MHz-80 MHz RF amplitude (50 Ω): 10 V (emf) Modulation: 80 % AM, 1 kHz, sine wave
Notes	This test is not applicable for load cells without mains power supply or other input port. If test is conducted while load cell is installed as a component in a weighing instrument, then during the test, the effect of any automatic zero-setting or zero-tracking features enabled (if applicable) through the weighing instrument shall be switched off or suppressed, for example by applying a small test load. The test load need not be greater than necessary to accomplish this suppression.~~During the test, the effect of any automatic zero-setting or zero-tracking features (if applicable) shall be switched off or suppressed, for example by applying a small test load.~~

8.10.7.11 Span stability (see ~~6~~5.7.2.~~2~~6) (not applicable to class A load cells)

Test procedure in brief:

The test consists in observing the variations of the output of the load cell under reasonably constant (±2 °C °) conditions (e.g., in a normal laboratory environment) at various intervals before, during and after the load cell has been subjected to performance tests. The performance tests shall include (as a minimum) the temperature test and, if applicable, the damp heat test

The load cell shall be disconnected from the mains power supply, or battery supply where fitted, two times for at least 8 hours during the period of test. The number of disconnections may be increased if the manufacturer specifies so or at the discretion of the approval authority in the absence of any such consideration.

For the conduct of this test, the manufacturer's operating instructions shall be considered.
The load cell shall be stabilized at sufficiently constant ambient conditions after switch-on for at least 5 hours, but at least 16 hours after any temperature or humidity tests have been performed.

Test duration:

28 days or the period necessary for the performance tests to be carried out, whichever is shorter, for temperature and humidity tests.
~~This~~The duration may be ~~extended up~~increased to 40 days for CH marked load cells only.

Time between measurements:
Between 1/2 day (12 hours) and 10 days (240 hours) for SH marked load cells, and 14 days for CH marked load cells, with an even distribution of the measurements over the total duration of the test.

Test loads:
A minimum test load, D_{min}; the same test load shall be used throughout the test.
A maximum test load, D_{max}; the same test load shall be used throughout the test.

Number of measurements: At least 8.

Test sequence:
Identical test equipment and test loads shall be used throughout the test.
Stabilize all factors at sufficiently constant ambient conditions.
Each set of measurements shall consist of the following:

a) Preload the load cell by applying the maximum test load, D_{max}, three times, returning to the minimum test load, D_{min}, after each load application;
b) stabilize the load cell at the minimum test load, D_{min};
c) read the minimum test load output and apply the maximum test load, D_{max}. Read the maximum test load output at time intervals as near as possible to those specified in Table 7 in ~~9~~8.8.3, and return to the minimum test load, D_{min}. Repeat this four more times for accuracy class B or two more times for accuracy classes C and D;
d) determine the span measurement result, which is the difference in output between the mean maximum test load outputs and the mean minimum test load outputs. Compare subsequent results with the initial span measurement result and determine the error.

Record the following data:
a) date and time (absolute, not relative);
b) temperature;
c) barometric pressure;
d) relative humidity;
e) test load values;
f) load cell outputs;
g) errors.

Apply all necessary corrections resulting from variations in temperature, pressure, etc. between the various measurements.

Allow for full recovery of the load cell before any other tests are performed.

Where differences of results indicate a trend of more than half the allowable variation specified above, the test shall be continued until the trend comes to rest or reverses itself, or until the error exceeds the maximum allowable variation.

8.11 Test sequence

8.11.1 Test sequence for test temperatures

The recommended test sequence for each test temperature when all tests are carried out in the same force-generating system is shown in Figure 35. ~~The recommended test sequence for each test temperature when all tests are carried out in the same machine~~

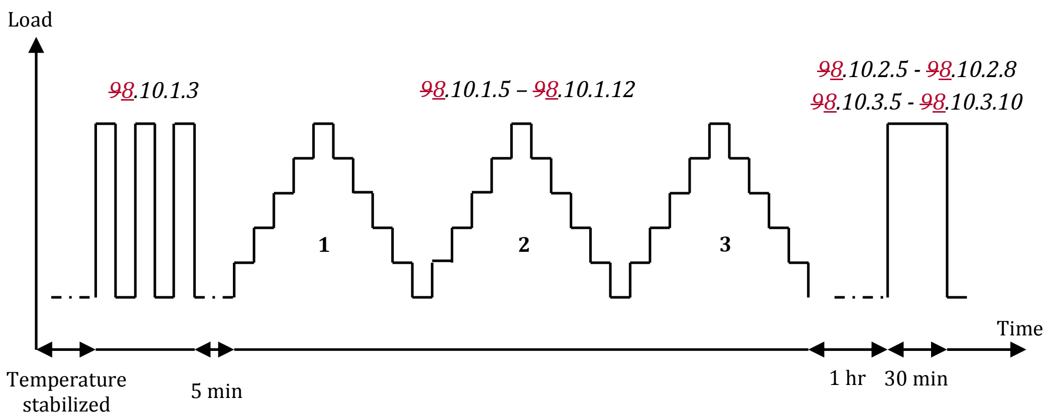


Figure 5

~~8.11.1~~8.11.2 Test sequence for minimum dead load output return

The recommended test sequence for each test temperature for the minimum dead load output return (DR) and creep tests when carried out in a force-generating system different to that used for the load tests is shown in Figure 6.

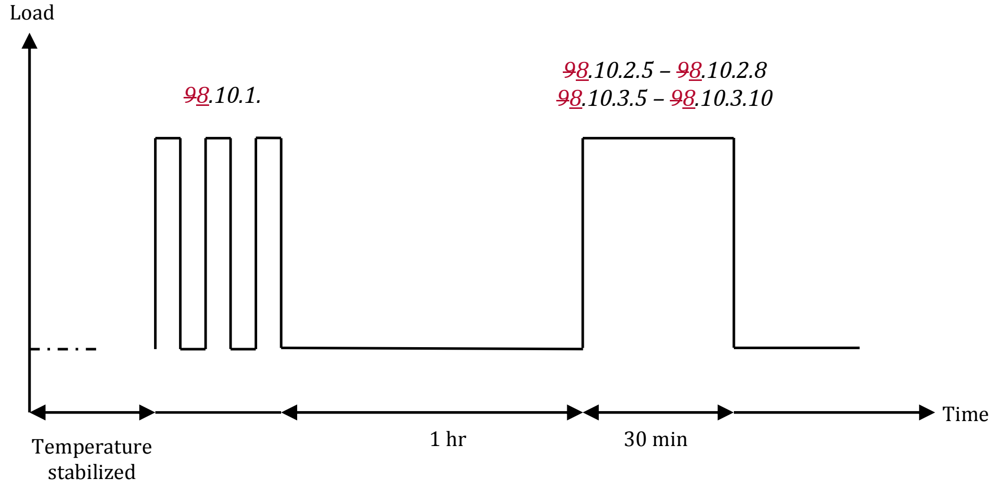


Figure 6

Recommended test sequence for each test temperature for the minimum dead load output return (DR) and creep tests when carried out in a machine different from that used for the load tests

8.12 OIML certificate

8.12.1 Preparation of certificate

The OIML certificate shall be prepared according to the rules contained within the OIML Publication OIML Certificate System for Measuring Instruments. The format of the certificate shall be as specified in Annex B, OIML Certificate of conformity for load cells.

8.12.2 Reference of values on certificate

Regardless of the evaluation result of any load cell in a load cell family, the certificate to be issued should not provide for any characteristics or values which are beyond those that the manufacturer has requested and for which the manufacturer intends to guarantee, for example, by expressing the relevant characteristics and values in its data sheet.

Annex A (Mandatory) Definitions from other applicable international publications

~~A.1 Definitions from VIM [3]~~

~~A.1.1 Measured quantity value [VIM 2.10)]~~

~~Quantity value representing a measurement result~~
~~(For notes, please refer to VIM)~~

~~A.1.2 Measurement error [VIM 2.16)]~~

~~Measured quantity minus a reference quantity value.~~
~~(For notes, please refer to VIM)~~

~~A.1.3 Measurement repeatability [VIM 2.21]~~

~~Measurement precision under a set of repeatability conditions of measurement~~

~~A.1.4 Influence quantity [VIM 2.52]~~

~~Quantity that, in a direct measurement, does not affect the quantity that is actually measured, but affects the relation between the indication and the measurement result.~~
~~(For examples and notes, please refer to VIM)~~

~~A.1.5 measuring transducer [VIM 3.7]~~

~~Device, used in measurement, that provides an output quantity having a specified relation to the input quantity.~~

~~A.1.6 rated operating condition [VIM 4.9]~~

~~operating condition that must be fulfilled during measurement in order that a measuring instrument or measuring system perform as designed~~
~~(For notes, please refer to VIM)~~

~~A.1.7 Reference operating condition [VIM 4.11]~~

~~Operating condition prescribed for evaluating the performance of a measuring instrument or measuring system or for comparison of measurement results~~
~~(For notes, please refer to VIM)~~

~~A.1.8 Sensitivity of a measuring system [VIM 4.12]~~

~~Quotient of the change in an indication of a measuring system and the corresponding change in a value of a quantity being measured~~

~~A.1.9 Resolution [VIM 4.14]~~

~~Smallest change in a quantity being measured that causes a perceptible change in the corresponding indication~~
~~(For note, please refer to VIM)~~

~~A.1.10 Resolution of a displaying device [VIM 4.15]~~

~~Smallest difference between displayed indications that can be meaningfully distinguished~~

~~A.1.11 Maximum permissible measurement error [VIM 4.26]~~

~~Extreme value of measurement error, with respect to a known reference quantity value, permitted by specifications or regulations for a given measurement, measuring instrument, or measuring system.~~
~~(For notes, please refer to VIM)~~

~~A.2 Definitions from the VIML [2]~~

~~A.2.1 legal metrology [VIML 1.01]~~

~~Practice and process of applying statutory and regulatory structure and enforcement to metrology~~
~~(For notes, please refer to VIML)~~

~~A.2.2 metrological supervision [VIML 2.03]~~

~~Activity of legal metrological control to check the observance of metrology laws and regulations.~~
~~(For notes, please refer to VIML)~~

~~A.2.3 type (pattern) evaluation [VIML 2.04]~~

~~Conformity assessment procedure on one or more specimens of an identified type (pattern) of measuring instruments which results in an evaluation report and / or an evaluation certificate.~~
~~(For notes, please refer to VIML)~~

~~A.2.4 type approval [VIML 2.05]~~

~~Decision of legal relevance, based on the review of the type evaluation report, that the type of a measuring instrument complies with the relevant statutory requirements and results in the issuance of the type approval certificate~~

~~A.2.5 verification of a measuring instrument [VIML 2.09]~~

~~Conformity assessment procedure (other than type evaluation) which results in the affixing of a verification mark and/or issuing of a verification certificate~~
~~(For notes, please refer to VIML)~~

~~A.2.6 preliminary examination [VIML 2.10]~~

~~Examination of a measuring instrument either to partial requirements or before certain elements of the measuring instrument are installed as part of the verification procedure~~

~~A.2.7 verification by sampling [VIML 2.11]~~

~~verification of a homogeneous batch of measuring instruments based on the results of examination of a statistically appropriate number of specimens selected at random from an identified lot~~

~~A.2.8 inspection by sampling [VIML 2.18]~~

~~inspection of a homogeneous batch of measuring instruments based on the results of evaluation of a statistically appropriate number of specimens selected at random from an identified lot~~

~~A.2.9 marking [VIML 2.19]~~

~~Affixing of one or more marks~~
~~(For notes, please refer to VIML)~~

~~A.2.10 sealing mark [VIML 2.20]~~

~~Means intended to protect the measuring instrument against any unauthorized modification, readjustment, removal of parts, software, etc.~~
~~(For notes, please refer to VIML)~~

~~A.3~~A.1 Definitions from OIML D 11 [4]

~~(For definitions in OIML D 11 that are copied from the VIM, see E.1)~~

~~A.3.1~~A.1.1 Electronic measuring instrument (OIML D 11, 3.1)

Measuring instrument intended to measure an electrical or non-electrical quantity using electronic means and/or equipped with electronic devices.
(For notes, please refer to OIML D 11)

A.1.2 Module (OIML D11, 3.2)

Device performing a specific function or functions and (usually) manufactured and constructed such that it can be separately evaluated according to prescribed metrological and technical performance requirements.

A.1.3 Device (OIML D 11, 3.3)

Identifiable instrument or part of an instrument or of a family of instruments that performs a specific function or functions
(For note, please refer to OIML D 11)

A.1.4 Checking facility (OIML D11, 3.19)

Facility incorporated in a measuring instrument which enables significant faults to be detected and acted upon
(For notes, please refer to OIML D 11)

~~A.3.2 Electronic device (OIML D 11, 3.2)~~

~~Device employing electronic sub-assemblies and performing a specific function. Electronic devices are usually manufactured as separate units and are capable of being tested independently~~
~~(For notes, please refer to OIML D 11)~~

~~A.3.3 Electronic sub-assembly (OIML D 11, 3.3)~~

~~Part of an electronic device, employing electronic components and having a recognizable function of its own. Examples: amplifiers, comparators, power converters.~~
~~(For notes, please refer to OIML D 11)~~

~~A.3.4 Electronic component (OIML D11, 3.4)~~

~~Smallest physical entity that uses electron or hole conduction in semi-conductors, gases or in a vacuum.~~

~~Examples: electronic tubes, transistors, integrated circuits.Initial intrinsic error (OIML D 11, 3.8)~~

~~Intrinsic error of a measuring instrument as determined prior to performance tests and durability~~

~~evaluations.~~

~~Fault (OIML D 11, 3.9)~~

~~Difference between the error of indication and the intrinsic error of a measuring instrument.~~

~~(For notes, please refer to OIML D 11)~~

~~Significant fault (OIML D 11, 3.10)~~

~~Fault greater than the value specified in the relevant Recommendation~~

~~(For notes, please refer to OIML D 11)~~

~~A.3.5 Durability error (OIML D 11, 3.11)~~

~~Difference between the intrinsic error after a period of use and the initial intrinsic error of a measuring instrument.~~

~~A.3.6 Significant durability error (OIML D 11, 3.12)~~

~~Durability error greater than the value specified in the relevant Recommendation.~~
~~(For notes, please refer to OIML D 11)~~

~~A.3.7 Influence factor (OIML D 11, 3.13.1)~~

~~Influence quantity having a value within the rated operating conditions of a measuring instrument specified in the relevant Recommendation.~~

~~A.3.8 Disturbance (OIML D 11, 3.13.2)~~

~~Influence quantity having a value within the limits specified in the relevant Recommendation, but outside the specified rated operating conditions of a measuring instrument.~~
~~(For notes, please refer to OIML D 11)~~

~~A.3.9 Rated operating conditions [OIML D 11, 3.14]~~

~~Conditions of use giving the range of values of influence quantities for which specified metrological characteristics of a measuring instrument are intended to lie within given limits.~~

~~A.3.10 Performance (OIML D 11, 3.16)~~

~~Ability of a measuring instrument to accomplish its intended functions.~~

~~A.3.11 Durability (OIML D 11, 3.17)~~

~~Ability of a measuring instrument to maintain its performance characteristics over a period of use.~~

~~A.3.12~~A.1.5 Automatic checking facility (OIML D 11, 3.18.1)

Checking facility that operates without the intervention of an operator.

~~A.3.13~~A.1.6 Permanent automatic checking facility (type P) (OIML D 11, 3.18.1.1)

Automatic checking facility that operates at each measurement cycle.

~~A.3.14~~A.1.7 Intermittent automatic checking facility (type I) (OIML D 11, 3.18.1.2)

Automatic checking facility that operates at certain time intervals or per fixed number of measurement cycles.

~~A.3.15~~A.1.8 Non-automatic checking facility (type N) (OIML D 11, 3.18.2)

Checking facility that requires the intervention of an operator.

~~A.3.16~~A.1.9 Durability protection facility (OIML D 11, 3.19)

Facility that is incorporated in a measuring instrument and which enables significant durability errors to be detected and acted upon.

~~A.3.17~~A.1.10 Test (OIML D 11, 3.20)

Series of operations intended to verify the compliance of the equipment under test (EUT) with specified requirements.

~~A.3.18~~A.1.11 Test procedure (OIML D 11, 3.20.1)

Detailed description of the test operations.

~~A.3.19 Test program (OIML D 11, 3.20.2)~~

~~Description of a series of tests for certain types of equipment.~~

~~A.3.20~~A.1.12 Performance test (OIML D 11, 3.20.3)

Test intended to verify whether the EUT is able to accomplish its intended functions

~~A.3.21 Durability test (OIML D 11, 3.20.4)~~

~~Test intended to verify whether the EUT is able to maintain its performance characteristics over a period of use.~~

~~A.3.22~~A.1.13 Mains power (OIML D 11, 3.21)

Primary external source of electrical power for an instrument, including all sub-assemblies. (Examples: public or local power grid (AC or DC~~),~~) or external generator~~, external battery or other DC supply systems)~~.

~~A.3.23~~A.1.14 Power converter (power supply device) (OIML D 11, 3.22)

Sub-assembly converting the voltage from the mains power to a voltage suitable for other sub-assemblies.

~~A.3.24~~A.1.15 Auxiliary battery (OIML D 11, 3.23)

Battery that is:

Mounted in, or connected to, an instrument that can be powered by the mains power as well; and

Capable of completely powering the instrument for a reasonable period of time.

~~A.3.25~~A.1.16 Back-up battery (OIML D 11, 3.24)

Battery that is intended to power specific functions of an instrument in the absence of the primary power supply. Example: to preserve stored data.

~~A.4 Definitions from OIML B 3 [5]~~

~~A.4.1 Category of instruments [B 3, 2.2]~~

~~Identification or classification of instruments according to unique metrological and technical characteristics that may include the measured quantity, the measuring range, and the principle or method of measurement.~~

~~A.4.2 Family of measuring instruments [B 3, 2.3]~~

~~Identifiable group of measuring instruments belonging to the same manufactured type within the same category that have the same design features and metrological principles for measurement but which may differ in some metrological and technical performance characteristics, as defined in the relevant Recommendation.~~

~~A.4.3 Module [B 3, 2.4]~~

~~Identifiable part of a measuring instrument or of a family of measuring instruments that performs a specific function or functions and that can be separately evaluated according to prescribed metrological and technical performance requirements in the relevant Recommendation.~~

~~A.4.4 Family of modules [B 3, 2.5]~~

~~Identifiable group of modules belonging to the same manufactured type that have similar design features but may differ in some metrological and technical performance requirements as defined in the relevant Recommendation~~

~~A.5~~A.2 Definitions from OIML R76 [1]

~~A.5.1~~A.2.1 Weighing Module [T.2.2.7]

Part of the weighing instrument that comprises all mechanical and electronic devices (i.e. load receptor, load-transmitting device, load cell, and analog data processing device or digital data processing device) but not having the means to display the weighing result. It may optionally have devices for further processing (digital) data and operating the instrument.

~~A.5.2 Influence quantity [T.6.1]~~

~~Quantity that is not the subject of the measurement but which influences the values of the measurand or the indication of the instrument.~~

Annex B (Mandatory) OIML Certificate of conformity for load cells - Format of certificate

Member State	**OIML CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMITY**	OIML certificate no.
Issuing Authority		

Name:
....
Address:
....
Person responsible:
....

Applicant

Name:

....

Address:

....

Manufacturer of the certified type (if the manufacturer is not the applicant)..

Identification of the certified type: Load cell (construction principle, e.g., strain gauge, compression).....................

....

Model designation				
Maximum capacity, E_{max}				
Accuracy class				
Maximum number of load cell verification intervals, n_{max}				
Minimum verification interval, v_{min}				
Apportionment factor, p_{LC}				

(Additional characteristics and identification, as applicable according to R 60, 3.4.2 and ~~6~~5.1.5, continued overleaf or on addendum if necessary)

This certificate attests the conformity of the above-mentioned type (represented by the samples identified in the associated test report(s) with the requirements of the following Recommendation of the International Organization of Legal Metrology - OIML):

R 60 *Metrological regulation for load cells* Edition .... for accuracy class ....

This certificate relates only to the metrological and technical characteristics of the type of instrument concerned, as covered by the relevant OIML International Recommendation.

This certificate does not bestow any form of legal international approval.

The conformity was established by tests described in the associated test report no. ……, which includes ……. pages.

Identification(s) and signature(s) or stamp(s), of (as applicable):

Issuing Authority: CIML Member:

Date: .... Date: ....

Page 1. This certificate includes .... pages.

OIML certificate no.

* * *

Additional characteristics[1] and identification, as applicable to R 60, 3.4.2 and ~~6~~5.1.5 *(continued)*

Model designation				
(Additional characteristics, per 3.4.2 and ~~6~~5.1.5)				

Special conditions:

....

....

Important note:

Apart from the mention of the certificate's reference number and the name of the OIML Member State in which the certificate was issued, partial quotation of the certificate or the associated test report is not permitted, though they may be reproduced in full.

[1] The table with the essential technical data may, upon request by the manufacturer, be placed on the certificate or on an addendum.

Page 2. This certificate includes .... pages.

~~B1)~~B.1. Contents of addendum to ~~test~~ certificate (Informative)

Addendum to ~~test~~ certificate no. ....

(Name and type of the load cell) ....

~~B2)~~B.2. Technical data

The essential technical data for the ~~test~~ OIML certificates of conformity are listed on the certificate (at the request of the manufacturer) alternatively, in the case of limited space on the certificate the following information may be provided:

Table B.1 Technical data

Model designation	*Designation*	*Example*				*Units*
Classification		C4				
Additional markings		–				
Maximum number of load cell verification intervals	n_{LC}	4 000				
Maximum capacity	E_{max}	30 000				kg
Minimum dead load, relative	E_{min} / E_{max}	0				%
Relative v_{min} (ratio to minimum load cell verification interval)	$Y = E_{max} / v_{min}$	24 000				
Relative DR (ratio to minimum dead load output return)	$Z = E_{max} / (2 \times DR)$	7 500				
Rated output*		2.5				mV/V*
Maximum excitation voltage		30				V
Input impedance (for strain gauge load cells)	R_{LC}	4 000				Ω
Temperature rating		– 10/+ 40				°C
Safe overload, relative	E_{lim} / E_{max}	150				%
Cable length		3				m
Additional characteristics per 3.4.2 and ~~6~~5.1.5**		–				

* *Note:* For load cells with digital output this refers to the number of counts for E_{max}

** *Note:* For load cells with digital output this is not required

Page 1. The Annex to the certificate includes .... pages.

~~B.1. Tests~~

~~The tests listed in Table E.2 have been carried out in accordance with OIML R 60:~~

~~-at the laboratory .... *(insert laboratory name)*~~

~~-as documented in the test report no. .... *(insert test report number)*~~

~~**Table E.2 Tests performed with load cell:**~~

~~Serial no.: ....~~

~~Class: ....~~

~~E_{max}: ....~~

~~n_{max}: ....~~

~~Y: ....~~

~~Z: ....~~

~~*Test*~~	~~*R 60 Ref.*~~	~~*Approved*~~	~~*Institute*~~
~~Temperature test and repeatability at 20 °C, 40 °C, –10 °C, 20 °C~~	~~6.3.1.1, 6.4; 9.10.1~~		
~~Temperature effect on minimum dead load output at 20 °C, 40 °C, –10 °C, 20 °C~~	~~6.6.1.3; 9.10.1~~		
~~Creep at 20 °C, 40 °C, –10 °C~~	~~6.5.1; 9.10.2~~		
~~Minimum dead load output return at 20 °C, 40 °C, –10 °C~~	~~6.5.2; 9.10.3~~		
~~Barometric pressure effects at room temperature~~	~~6.6.2; 9.10.4~~		
~~Damp heat, cyclic: marked CH (or not marked)~~	~~6.6.3.1; 9.10.5~~		
~~Damp heat, steady state: marked SH~~	~~6.6.3.2; 9.10.6~~		
~~**Additional tests for load cells equipped with electronics**~~	~~6.7; 9.10.7~~		

~~Warm-up time~~	~~9.10.7.3~~		
~~Power voltage variations~~	~~9.10.7.4~~		
~~Short time power reductions~~	~~6.7.1.5; 9.10.7.5~~		
~~Bursts (electrical fast transients)~~	~~6.7.1.5; 9.10.7.6~~		
~~Electrostatic discharge~~	~~6.7.1.5; 9.10.7.8~~		
~~Electromagnetic susceptibility~~	~~6.7.1.5; 9.10.7.9~~		
~~Span stability~~	~~6.7.2.2; 9.10.7.11~~		

Annex C (Informative) OIML Certificate of conformity for load cells

This Annex is provided as an example of supplemental information that may be included in the OIML Certificate format and is intended to compliment the OIML Certificate format found in Annex B.

Certificate history

Certificate release	Date	Essential changes
xxx	xxx	primary certificate

1. Technical Data

The metrological characteristics of the load cells type xxx are listed in Table C1. Further technical data are listed in the data sheet of the manufacturer at page 5 to 6 of this annex.

Table C1: Essential data

Accuracy class			C3
Maximum number of load cell intervals	n_{LC}		3000
Rated output		mV/V	2
Maximum capacity	E_{max}	kg	150 / 200 / 250 / 300 / 500 / 750
Minimum load cell verification interval	$v_{min} = (E_{max} / Y)$	kg	E_{max} / 15000
Minimum dead load output return	DR = (½ E_{max} / Z)	kg	½ E_{max} / 5000

Dead load: xxx%·E_{max}; Safe overload: xxx%·E_{max}; Input impedance: xxx Ω

2. Tests

The determination of the measurement error, the stability of the dead load output, repeatability and creep in the temperature range of –10°C to +40°C as well as the tests of barometric pressure effects and the determination of the effects of static damp heat have been performed according to OIML R60 (~~2000~~2015) as shown in Table C2 on the load cell nominated in the test report with the reference No. xxx, dated xxx.

Table C2: Tests performed

Test	R60 (~~2000~~2015)	tested samples	result
Temperature test and repeatability at (20 / 40 / -10 / 20°C)	~~6~~5.3.1.1; ~~9~~8.10.1 ~~6~~5.4	150 kg	+

Temp. effect on minimum dead load output at (20 / 40 / -10 / 20°C)	~~6~~5.6.1.3 ~~9~~8.10.1.16~~.7~~	150 kg	+
Creep test at (20 / 40 / -10 / 20°C)	~~6~~5.5.1 ~~9~~8.10.2	150 kg	+
Minimum dead load output return at (20 / 40 / -10 / 20°C)	~~6~~5.5.2 ~~9~~8.10.3	150 kg	+
Barometric pressure effects at ambient temperature	~~6~~5.6.2 ~~9~~8.10.4	150 kg	+
Damp heat test , static, marked SH	~~6~~5.6.3.2 ~~9~~8.10.6	150 kg	+

3. Description of the load cell

{Example}

The load cells (LC) of the series xxx are double bending beam load cells. They are made of aluminium, the strain gauge application is hermetically sealed. Further essential characteristics are given in the data sheet, see chapter 6 of this annex.

Picture of load cell

Figure 1: Load cell type xxx

The complete type designation is indicated as follows in the example on the name plate:

Picture of name plate

Figure 2: Name plate

4. Documentation

{Example}

- Test Report No. xxx; C3; Y=xxx; Z=xxx; E_{max}=xxx kg; SN: xxx
- Datasheet No. Xxx
- Technical Drawing No. Xxx

5. Further information

The manufacturing process, material and sealing (i.e., environmental protection) of the produced load cells have to be in accordance with the tested patterns; essential changes must be identified and communicated to the issuing authority and are only allowed with the permission of the issuing authority based on the impact of those changes on the certification process.

Sufficient information shall be included to describe the patent design.

The typical errors related to linearity, hysteresis and temperature coefficient as indicated in the data sheet point out possible single errors of a pattern; however the overall error of each pattern is determined by the maximum permissible error according OIML R60 No 5.3.1.1.

The technical data, the dimensions of the load cell and the principle of load transmission are given in chapter 6 of this annex, have to be complied with.

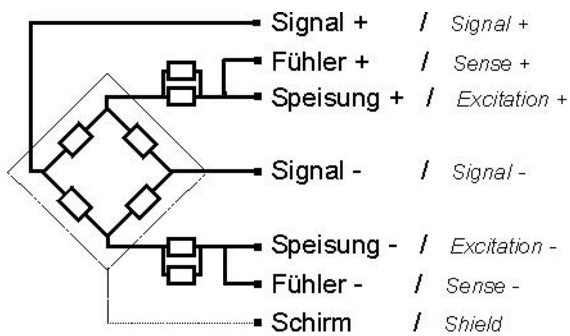
6. Data sheet and dimensions

Specifications of the Load Cell Family

Accuracy class acc. to OIML R60			C3
Rated output	$C_{\cancel{n}}$	mV/V	2,0 ± 0,2
Maximum capacity	E_{max}	kg	150 / 200 / 250 / 300 / 500 / 750
Max. number of load cell intervals	n_{LC}		3000
Min. load cell verification interval	v_{min}	kg	E_{max} / 15000
Minimum dead load output return (MDLOR)	DR	kg	½·E_{max} / 5000
Minimum dead load		%·E_{max}	0
Safe load limit		%·E_{max}	150
Ultimate load		%·E_{max}	300
Excitation voltage, recommended	U_{EXE}	V	10 – 12 DC
Excitation voltage, maximum		V	15 DC
Input resistance	R_{LC}	Ω	404 ± 10
Output resistance	R_{out}	Ω	350 ± 3
Insulation resistance	R_{ISO}	MΩ	≥ 2000
Compensated temperature range	T	°C	- 10 ... + 40
Load cell material			Aluminium
Cable length	L	m	2
Coating			Silicone rubber

Wiring

The load cell is provided with a shielded 4 or 6 conductor cable. The cable length is indicated in the accompanying document. The shield will be connected or not connected to the load cell according to customers preference.



Connections

Connections	4-wires	6-wires
Excitation +	red	red
Excitation –	black	black
Signal +	green	green
Signal –	white	white
Sense +	--	blue
Sense –	--	yellow
Shield	purple	purple
Cable length	2 m	

~~Load cell dimensions in mm~~

Picture of the load cell dimensions

~~Figure 3: Dimensions of the load cell type xxx in mm~~

Annex D (Informative) Selection of load cell(s) for testing - a practical example

D.1. This Annex describes a practical example showing the complete procedure for the selection of test samples out of a load cell family.

D.2. Assume a family consisting of three groups of load cells, differing in class, maximum number of load cell verification intervals, n_{max}, and maximum capacities, E_{max}. The capacities, E_{max}, overlap between the groups according to the following example:

Group 1: Class C, n_{max} = 6 000, Y = 18 000, Z = 6 000

E_{max}: 50 kg, 100 kg, 300 kg and 500 kg

Group 2: Class C, n_{max} = 3 000, Y = 12 000, Z = 4 000

E_{max}: 100 kg, 300 kg, 500 kg, 5 000 kg, 10 t, 30 t and 50 t

Group 3: Class B, n_{max} = 10 000, Y = 25 000, Z = 10 000

E_{max}: 500 kg, 1 000 kg and 4 000 kg

D.2.1. Summarize and sort the load cells with respect to E_{max} and accuracy as follows:

Class n_{max} Group	Y Z	<--- lowest 			E_{max}, kg v_{min}, kg			---> highest 			
C3 3 000 2	12 000 4 000		100 0.0083	300 0.025	500 0.042			5 000 0.42	10 000 0.83	30 000 2.5	50 000 4.17
C6 6 000 1	18 000 6 000	50 0.0028	100 0.0055	300 0.0167	500 0.028						
B10 10 000 3	25 000 10 000				500 0.020	1 000 0.040	4 000 0.16				

D.2.2. Identify the smallest capacity load cells in each group to be tested, according to 9.4.4:

Class n_{max} Group	Y Z	<--- lowest 			E_{max}, kg v_{min}, kg			---> highest 			
C3 3 000 2	12 000 4 000		100 0.0083	300 0.025	500 0.042			5 000 0.42	10 000 0.83	30 000 2.5	50 000 4.17
C6 6 000 1	18 000 6 000	50 0.0028	100 0.0055	300 0.0167	500 0.028						
B10 10 000 3	25 000 10 000				500 0.020	1 000 0.040	4 000 0.16				

In this example, select and identify:

C6 - 50 kg (full evaluation test required)

B10 - 500 kg (full evaluation test required)

Although load cell C3 - 100 kg is the smallest capacity in its group, its capacity falls within the range of other selected load cells having better metrological characteristics. Therefore, it is not selected.

D.2.3. Begin with the group with the best metrological characteristics (in this example, B10) and in accordance with ~~9.4.5~~8.4.2, select the next largest capacity between 5 and 10 times that of the nearest smaller capacity load cell which has been selected. When no capacity meets this criterion, the selected load cell shall be that having the smallest capacity exceeding 10 times that of the nearest smaller capacity load cell which has been selected. Continue this process until all load cell capacities in the group have been considered.

Class n_{max} Group	Y Z	<--- lowest E_{max}, kg ---> highest v_{min}, kg									
C3 3 000 2	12 000 4 000		100 0.0083	300 0.025	500 0.042			5 000 0.42	10 000 0.83	30 000 2.5	50 000 4.17
C6 6 000 1	18 000 6 000	50 0.0028	100 0.0055	300 0.0167	500 0.028						
B10 10 000 3	25 000 10 000				500 0.020	1 000 0.040	4 000 0.16				

In this example, select and identify:

B10 - 4 000 kg (full evaluation test required)

D.2.4. Move to the group with the next best characteristics (in this example, C6) and, in accordance with ~~9.4.5~~8.4.2 select the next largest capacity between 5 and 10 times that of the nearest smaller capacity load cell which has been selected. When no capacity meets this criterion, the selected load cell shall be that having the smallest capacity exceeding 10 times that of the nearest smaller capacity load cell which has been selected. Continue this process until all load cell capacities in the group have been considered.

Class n_{max} Group	Y Z	<--- lowest E_{max}, kg ---> highest v_{min}, kg									
C3 3 000 2	12 000 4 000		100 0.0083	300 0.025	500 0.042			5 000 0.42	10 000 0.83	30 000 2.5	50 000 4.17
C6 6 000 1	18 000 6 000	50 0.0028	100 0.0055	300 0.0167	500 0.028						
B10 10 000 3	25 000 10 000				500 0.020	1 000 0.040	4 000 0.16				

In this example, **there is no change** to the load cells selected. The capacities of the load cells C6 - 300 kg and C6 - 500 kg exceed the capacity of the load cell C6 - 50 kg by greater than 5 times but not greater than 10 times. However, a 500 kg load cell of better metrological characteristics (from group B10) has already been selected. Therefore, in order to minimize the number of load cells to be tested according to ~~9~~8.3.1, neither cell is selected.

D.2.5. Again, and repeating this process until all groups have been considered, move to the group with the next best characteristics (in this example, C3) and in accordance with ~~9~~8.4.4, select the next largest capacity between 5 and 10 times that of the nearest smaller capacity load cell which has been selected. When no capacity meets this criterion, the selected load cell shall be that having the smallest capacity exceeding 10 times that of the nearest smaller capacity load cell which has been selected. Continue this process until all load cell capacities in the group and all groups have been considered.

Class n_{max} Group	Y Z	<--- lowest			E_{max}, kg v_{min}, kg			---> highest			
C3 3 000 2	12 000 4 000		100 0.0083	300 0.025	500 0.042			5 000 0.42	10 000 0.83	30 000 2.5	50 000 4.17
C6 6 000 1	18 000 6 000	50 0.0028	100 0.0055	300 0.0167	500 0.028						
B10 10 000 3	25 000 10 000				500 0.020	1 000 0.040	4 000 0.16				

In this example, select and identify:

C3 - 30 000 kg (full evaluation test required) Proceeding from smallest to largest capacity, the only capacity of load cell which is greater than 5 times the capacity of an already selected load cell but less than 10 times that capacity is the C3 - 30 000 kg load cell. Since the capacity of the C3 - 50 000 kg load cell does not exceed 5 times the capacity of the next smaller selected load cell, which is C3 - 30 000 kg, according to ~~9~~8.4.3 it is presumed to comply the requirements of this Recommendation.

D.2.6. After completing steps ~~A~~D.2.2 to ~~A~~D.2.5 and identifying the load cells, compare load cells of the same capacity from different groups. Identify the load cells with the highest accuracy class and highest n_{max} in each group (see shaded portion of table below). For those load cells of the same capacity but from different groups, identify only the one with the highest accuracy class and n_{max} and lowest v_{min}.

Class n_{max} Group	Y Z	<--- lowest			E_{max}, kg v_{min}, kg			---> highest			
C3 3 000 2	12 000 4 000		100 0.0083	300 0.025	500 0.042			5 000 0.42	10 000 0.83	30 000 2.5	50 000 4.17
C6 6 000 1	18 000 6 000	50 0.0028	100 0.0055	300 0.0167	500 0.028						
B10 10 000 3	25 000 10 000				500 0.020	1 000 0.040	4 000 0.16				

Inspect the values of v_{min}, Y, and Z for all cells of the same capacity.

If any load cell of the same capacity has a lower v_{min} or higher Y than the identified load cell, that load cell (or load cells) is also liable for partial evaluation testing, specifically the conduct of additional temperature effect on minimum dead load, E_{min} and barometric pressure effect tests.

If any load cell of the same capacity has a higher Y than the selected load cell, that load cell (or load cells) is also liable for partial evaluation testing, specifically the conduct of additional creep and DR tests.

In this example, **the load cells identified above also have the best characteristics of lowest v_{min}, highest Y and highest Z.** This is normally the case, but not always.

D.2.7. If applicable, select the load cell for humidity testing in accordance with ~~9.4.6~~8.4.5, that being the load cell with the most severe characteristics, for example the greatest value of n_{max} or the lowest value of v_{min}.

In this example, the load cell with the greatest value of n_{max} or the lowest value of v_{min} is the same load cell, therefore select:

B10 - 500 kg (humidity test required)

Note: The other B10 load cells also possess the same qualifications and are possible choices. The 500 kg load cell was chosen because it is the smallest of the applicable B10 capacities. Although the C6 - 50 kg load cell has the lowest v_{min} of 0.0028, the B10 load cells have the highest n_{max}, highest accuracy class, and the highest Y and Z.

D.2.8. If applicable, select the load cell for the additional tests to be performed on load cells equipped with electronics in accordance with ~~9.4.7~~8.4.6, that being the load cell with the most severe characteristics, for example the greatest value of n_{max} or the lowest value of v_{min}.

D.2.9. Summarizing, the load cells selected for test are:

In this example, no load cell in the family is equipped with electronics.

Summary	*Selected cells*
Load cells requiring full evaluation test	C6 - 50 kg B10 - 500 kg B10 - 4 000 kg C3 - 30 000 kg
Load cells requiring partial evaluation test	None
Load cell to be tested for humidity	B10 - 500 kg
Load cells equipped with electronics for additional tests	None

Annex E (Informative) Load transmission to the load cell

This Annex is taken from the WELMEC 2.4 (European cooperation in legal metrology) Guide for Load Cells (Issue 2, published in August, 2001). With permission from WELMEC, the following portion of that document is reprinted here to provide guidelines for load cell evaluators, during load cell performance evaluations. Recognizing the critical role that load cell receptors and load transmission devices play in accurate measurements, this Annex is intended to provide information regarding the effect of load transmission and recommendations for test design and procedure. The annex is informational and not to be considered required practice.

For some types of load cells the kind of load transmission to the load cell has influence on the measurements and with this on the test results.

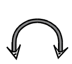
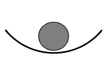
In this annex the standard load transmission devices are listed.

The manufacturer should define whether the load cell works with all standard load transmission devices for the type of load cell or with selected standard load transmission devices or with a load cell specific load transmission devices.

This information may be considered for the load cell tests and may be marked on the certificate.

Standard load transmission devices

Tables 1 and 2 identify different types of LCs, (compression, tension, ...) and typical load cell mounting devices suitable for them. The symbols below classify the mobility between one point of contact on the load cell and its counterpart on the load receptor or mounting base.

Symbol	Description
⟺	Movement possible normal to load axis Note: allows for temperature dilatation
|⟺|	Movement possible normal to load axis, with reversing force (spring-back effect) Note: allows for temperature dilatation, also used for damping of lateral shock
	Inclination possible Note: allows for tilt of load cell or deflection of load receptor, no movement normal to load axis possible
	Indicates auto-centering effect of the complete mounting assembly of one load cell

Remarks on the standard load transmission devices presented in Tables 1 and 2:

All combinations of load cell and transmitting device shown in Tables 1 and 2 can also be utilised in a completely reversed manner.

The load transmission device is independent of the encapsulation, potting or housing which are shown in the examples.

(a) Compression LCs (Table 1, upper part)
- The load transmissions 1 to 8 are presented for canister type LCs. Instead, all load transmissions may be constructed for S-type or ring type load cells.
- 6a shows a pendulum construction build as a complete unit.
- 6b and 6c show external pendulum rocker pins combined with ring-type LCs.
- The bearings for all compression load cells may be installed either below or above the LC.

(b) Tension LCs (Table 1, lower part)
- The load transmissions 1 and 2 are presented for canister type LCs. Alternatively, both load transmissions may be used for S-type LCs.

(c) Beam LCs (table 2, upper part)
- The drawings present double bending and shear beams, as well as plastic potted and encapsulated constructions; all these constructions may be combined with ether of the load transmissions 1 to 10.
- The direction of loading, which is given by the manufacturer, has to be observed.

(d) Single point LCs (Table 2, middle part)
- The load transmissions 1 to 10 for the beam LCs may be applied to all single point LCs.
- The direction of loading, which is given by the manufacturer, has to be observed.

(e) Double bending beam LCs (Table 2, lower part)
- The table shows examples of common constructions. Variations are possible provided the constructions allow enough horizontal flexibility between both ends.
- The direction of loading, provided by the manufacturer, has to be observed.

The single bending beams had been exempted for general acceptance, because very small displacements of the “force transducing point” may lead to a change of span and linearity.

Table 1: Schematic drawings for compression and tension LCs

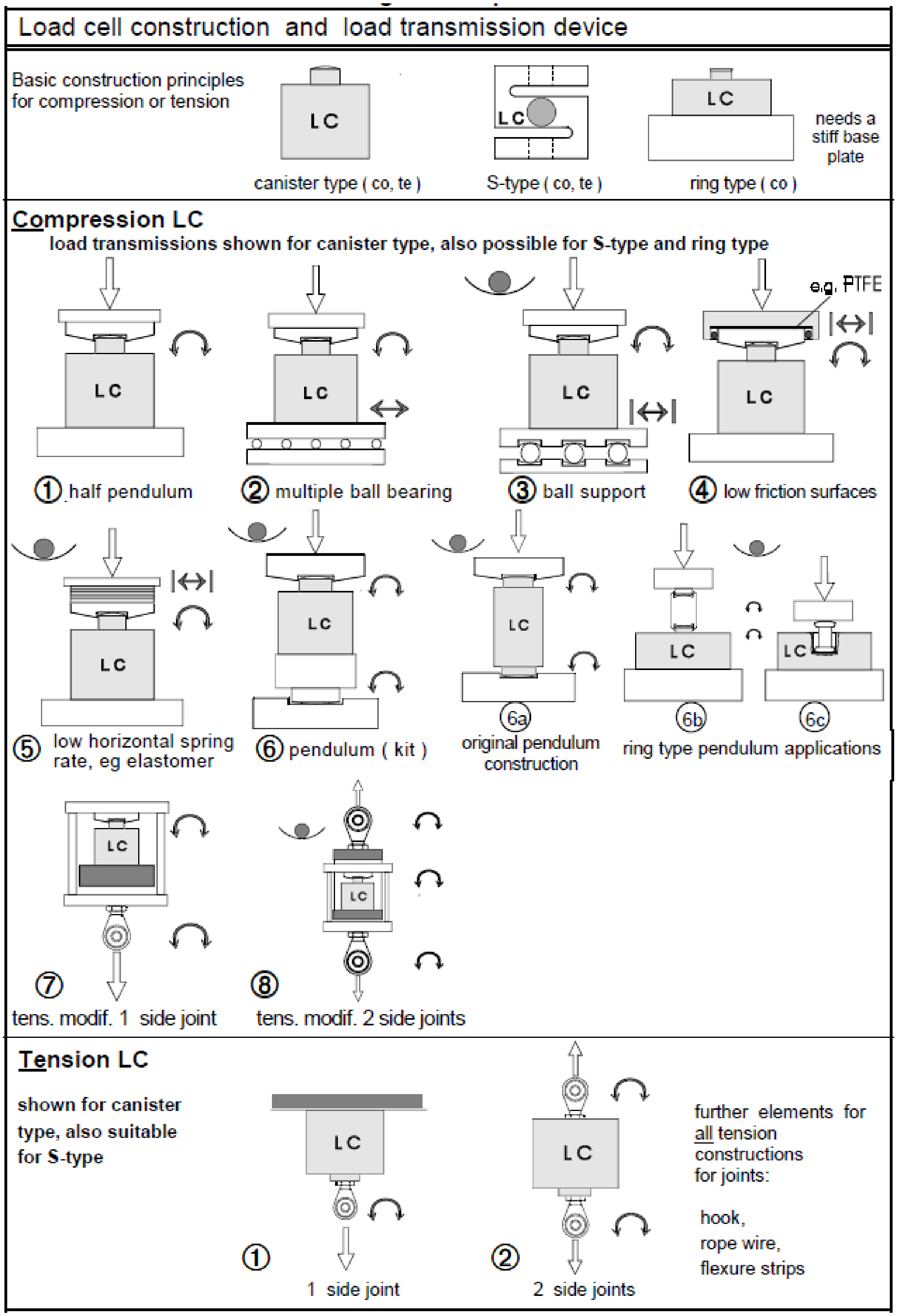


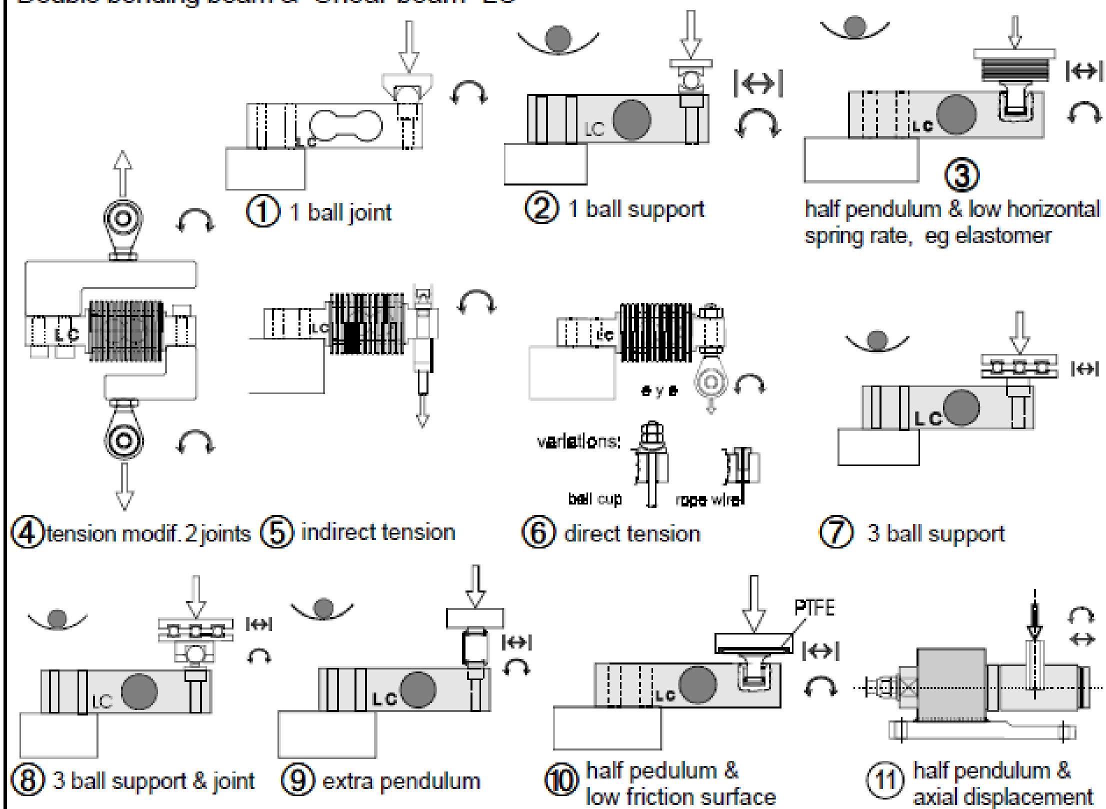
Table 2: Schematic drawings for beam LCs

Load cell construction and load transmission device

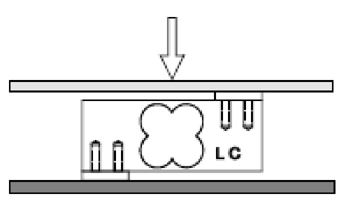
The load transmission device is independent of the encapsulation, potting or housing and the mounting at the fixed end shown below

Beam LC - Cantilever beam

Double bending beam & Shear beam LC



Single point LC

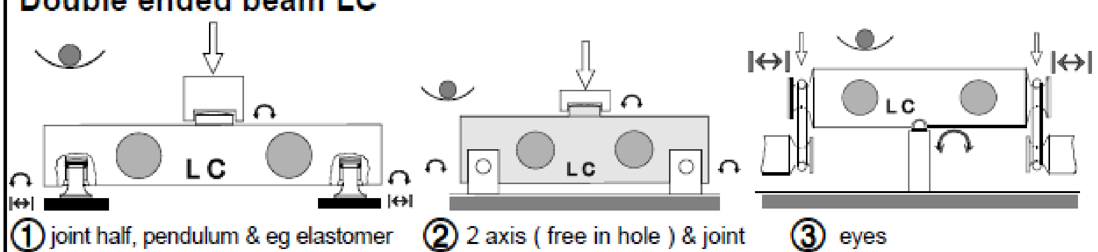


The single point LC has no degree of freedom for horizontal displacement or inclination, using more than one LC in a load receptor discoupling elements are necessary.

The load transmissions 1 to 10 for the beam LCs may be applied.

Max. platform dimensions may be mentioned in the TC or the TAC.

Double ended beam LC



Constructions with fixed clamping at the two ends need for minimum displacement and inclination some elasticity of the supporting construction.

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