

CENELEC/TC or SC	Secretariat	Date
CLC/TC 61	Reina Luca(Italy)	2021/11/10

TC or SC title: CLC TC 61, Safety of household and similar electrical appliances**A Background**

CLC/TC61 deals with :

- safety requirements for electrical appliances primarily for household purposes, but also for other equipment and appliances in similar fields.
- To prepare safety requirements for electrical appliances primarily for household purposes, but also for other equipment and appliances in similar fields where it fits the already existing work programme.

Note 1: CLC/TC 61 does not deal with appliances which are already explicitly covered by the scope of other Technical Committees.

Note 2: The work of CLC/TC 61 in fields other than household may lead to a recommendation that the work on that project should be transferred to a new Technical Committee.

The scope as listed accurately reflects the work of IEC TC 61. The scope of CLC/TC 61 is broad enough to allow the TC to address new and emerging technologies as needed

B Business Environment**B.1 General**

External: The work of CLC/TC 61 continues to proceed at a rapid pace due to the growing world-wide use of international safety standards, the increased interest in certification and the increase in the number of appliances falling under the scope of TC 61. The value of European Economic trade area in electrical appliances is measured in billions of Euros. The regulatory environment applied to electrical appliances varies from country to country, but manufacturers usually have to contend with either a performance based regulatory environment or a pre-market intervention regulatory environment. In both cases, standards are vital for the appliance industry to manage the risk associated with electricity and appliances. The standards produced by CLC/TC 61 are used for certification purposes in the scheme, and the certificates issued are used to obtain or cover the market approval requirements.

Internal: CLC/TC 61 aims to produce and maintain international standards in accordance with Frankfurt Agreement and common modification for linking the standards to legislation. The scope of CLC/TC61 is relating to the safety of household and similar appliances in a manner that is timely, efficient and which keeps pace with modern technology. The standards produced will fulfil the needs of certification bodies, users, manufacturers and national authorities responsible for safety. The requirements are written so as to facilitate European Economic trade Area in electrical appliances and to minimise the need for national differences.

B.2 Market demand

The electrical appliance industry is a mature industry and as such the coverage of the current standards produced by CLC/TC 61 and its subcommittees is sufficient for most products. However, the standards produced require frequent amendments in order to respond to safety problems encountered in the field and to allow manufacturers to gain certification for new features on existing appliance types. New standards are developed in response to an increase in European Economic trade Area in new appliance types. Usually an existing regional or national standard is available to form the basis of the international standard. It is for these reasons and in order not to impede development that standardization concerning safety of appliances is generally a reactive process rather than a proactive process.

Many aspects relating to the safety of children when they use an appliance or come into contact with it are already covered by the 60335 series due to application of ISO/IEC GUIDE 50. The intent is to apply the probe 18 in all cases where the children can be in contact with appliance. However, due to the unpredictable nature of child behaviour it is inevitable that some aspects can only be introduced on a

reactive basis and will be part 2 specific. Health/hygiene requirements are generally only a safety issue in relation to appliances involved in the commercial distribution, storage and use of foodstuffs, appliances used to clean up hazardous dust and appliances connected to the water mains. These aspects are covered by the existing standards. Performance issues relating to appliances in general and in particular to the commercial distribution and storage of foodstuffs and domestic storage of foodstuffs are covered by EN standards produced by other committees such as TC 59 and ISO standards.

B.3 Trends in technology

The use of electronic circuits (including programmable elements) to provide a safety related function and the effects of electromagnetic phenomena on such circuits will significantly impact the design and construction of future appliances. In addition, manufacturers are using the telecommunications network to enable remote control of appliances and remote servicing of appliances that incorporate programmed electronic circuits – this aspect of appliance servicing and usage is expected to grow. The development of ever more powerful and compact batteries has led to their use for powering an ever-increasing range of appliances. All these aspects have a significant impact in the development of appliance safety.

B.4 Market trends

See B.3

B.5 Ecological environment

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B.6 Involvement of societal stakeholders

The customers for CLC/TC 61 standards include consumers, manufacturers of appliances, certification and testing laboratories, retailers and national (local) inspection authorities.

These groups, except for retailers, are actively represented on the committee. At present there is no difficulty in obtaining the participation of the important groups. The standards produced by this committee have attained wide use at both the regional and national levels.

B.7 Involvement of SMEs

The SME are involved (including experts of the NCs and stakeholders) in the WGs and plenary CLC/TC61 meetings. All the SMEs (HAS consultants included) are able to speak during the meetings for sharing the technical knowledge and discuss the technical requirements of the standards.

C System approach aspects

The CLC/TC61 will:

- Continue to maintain and develop standards necessary for manufacturers and the safety of users of electrical appliances, national authorities responsible for appliance safety and bodies responsible for certifying appliance safety.
- Continue to identify new technical areas requiring attention and establish appropriate working groups or subcommittees for such work if necessary.

D Objectives and strategies (3 to 5 years)

Security, in particular security in transactions over the external public network and the web are of a great concern and are carefully studied within the CLC/TC 61, in particular as far as their impact on the control/management of appliances from remote locations and the possible consequences on the malfunction or safety of appliances. Also, the application of the RED to CLC/TC61 appliance shall be considered in the new standards requirements.

Robotic technologies are getting more and more common and widely used, encompassing different sectors and types of products. Household and similar electrical appliances are impacted already now and will be more and more impacted in the future. TC 61 is carefully monitoring the situation by following with a liaison person the activities in the horizontal Committees dealing with robotics technology (e.g. IEC SYC AAL and ISO TC299, etc.) at IEC level.

The new versions of LVD and MD directives will ask a new revision of the standards for covering the new safety aspects requested by new essential requirements and in particular Artificial Intelligence and Remote operation.

E Action plan

The CLC/TC61 will support the IEC TC61 to:

- Develop and add security requirements for appliances containing programmable electronic circuits and having data connection possibilities via TC 61/MT23;
- Develop and add repeatable and reproducible fire containment requirements to address internal fire events of appliances of such magnitude that flames may propagate from the appliance to the installation site;
- Consider the effects of smart grid/parallel grid operation applications on the safety of the appliance via TC 61/MT23;
- Develop and maintain requirements to address battery operation of appliance(Also in Toys);
- Develop in the EN 60335 series of standards specific requirements for service robot appliances for household and similar use
- Develop in the EN 60335 series of standards specific requirements for beauty care appliances;
- Develop in the EN 60335 series of standards specific requirements for vacuum packaging appliances
- Develop in the EN 60335 series of standards specific requirements for furniture with electrically motorized parts

F Useful links to CENELEC web site

TC home page giving access to Membership, TC/SC Officers, Scope, Publications, Work programme:

- CLC/TC61 CENELEC WEB PAGE: [LINK](#)
- CLC/TC61 CENELEC COLLABORATION PLATFORM: [LINK](#)

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