



Administrative Circular

AC/22/2004

2004-05-07

TO ALL NATIONAL COMMITTEES

TO THE OFFICERS OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEES

Dear Sir/Madam,

Launch of the IEC Glossary

We are pleased to announce the availability of the IEC Glossary on the IEC website.

The IEC Glossary is a compilation of electrotechnical terminology in English and French extracted from the "Terms and Definitions" clause of IEC publications (those issued since 2003). In some cases terms and definitions have also been collected from earlier publications (e.g. from TC 37, 77, 86 and CISPR). The database presently contains some 10,000 items, with new ones being added on a continuous basis.

The Glossary complements and in many cases draws from the [International Electrotechnical Vocabulary \(IEV\)](#) published by TC 1 (Terminology). The IEV is the authoritative source for "standardized IEC terminology" organized into some 80 subject areas. The Glossary is of a more limited nature. Its definitions relate to the source standard from which they are extracted. A term can therefore have different meanings, depending on the context in which it is used. The Glossary should be considered as an informative document as the terms and definitions have been separated from the context in which they are applied.

There are links to the IEC Glossary from the home page of the IEC web site. Access to the Glossary is open, with no passwords required. We believe this will be a valuable tool for experts drafting standards and we encourage them to make use of the glossary, in particular when drafting terms and definitions, with a view to avoiding the creation of unnecessary new terms and definitions and to avoiding duplication.

Yours faithfully,

A. AMIT
General Secretary

JRS

