

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

IEC 60825-2
Edition 3.0 2004-06

SAFETY OF LASER PRODUCTS –

Part 2: Safety of optical fibre communication systems (OFCS)

INTERPRETATION SHEET 2

This interpretation sheet has been prepared by IEC technical committee 76: Optical radiation safety and laser equipment.

The text of this interpretation sheet is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
76/599/FDIS	76/606/RVDISH

Full information on the voting for the approval of this interpretation sheet can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

IEC 60825-1 Ed. 3.0 (2014) introduced a new formula for C_7 between 1 200 nm and 1 400 nm. This formula significantly increases the AEL of class 1 in this wavelength range.

The new formula for C_7 in IEC 60825-1 Ed. 3.0 should not be used within IEC 60825-2 Ed. 3.2 (2010) because it may lead to excessive power limits, for example within Hazard Level 1. Note e) to Table A.1 of IEC 60825-1 Ed. 3.0 states that: “In the wavelength range between 1 250 nm and 1 400 nm, the limits to protect the retina given in this table may not adequately protect the anterior parts of the eye (cornea, iris) and caution needs to be exercised. There is no concern for the anterior parts of the eye if the exposure does not exceed the skin MPE values.”

IEC 60825-2 Ed. 3.2 Clause 2 (normative references) contains a dated reference to IEC 60825-1:2007 in which the correction factor C_7 was set equal to 8 within the wavelength range of 1 200 nm to 1 400 nm. This dated reference in the normative references section is technically sufficient for the correct interpretation of IEC 60825-2 Ed. 3.2, even though undated references to IEC 60825-1 occur in other clauses. This interpretation sheet is therefore provided as an additional warning and prompt for users of IEC 60825-2 Ed. 3.2. Accordingly, within the wavelength range 1 200 nm to 1 400 nm the formula $C_7 = 8$ is still to be used within all affected clauses of IEC 60825-2 Ed. 3.2.

This interpretation sheet will remain valid until a new edition of IEC 60825-2 is published.

NOTE Exposure limits for the eye and the skin of employees in the workplace and the general public are in many countries specified in national laws. These legally-binding national exposure limits might differ from the MPEs given in the informative Annex A of IEC 60825-1 Ed. 3.0.