

COLLECTION OF CTL DECISIONS

Decision

Standard: IEC 60950 (1991) 2 nd ed., Amdts.1(1992), 2(1993), 3(1995), 4(1996); IEC 60950 (1991) 3 rd ed.	Sub clause: 2. and 4	Sheet n. 388 Page 1 (1)
Subject: Characteristics of user available ports	Key words: User available ports	Decision confirmed at CTL 38th meeting
<p>Question: Should all user-available ports (e.g. serial, parallel, USB and similar intended for use with standard accessory cables) be evaluated for compliance with electrical shock, energy or fire hazard even when the live ports of the connector are otherwise not accessible?</p> <p>Decision: Evaluate all user-available ports (e.g. serial, parallel, USB and similar intended for use with standard accessory cables) for compliance with electrical shock, energy or fire hazards even when the live parts of the connector are not accessible.</p> <p>Explanatory notes:</p> <p>In general each of the ports will be assigned a circuit description e.g. SELV, TNV-1, based on the circuit characteristics. The accessibility and status of the particular circuit is not just dependent on the protection provided by the EUT, but by the protection provided by the equipment to which it is connected. Qualification of SELV ports (including Energy hazards) is therefore necessary regardless of the use of standard interface cables or inaccessibility in the EUT. Additionally, assessment of fire hazard is relevant regardless of the accessibility.</p> <p>1. Revise "user-available ports" to "user-accessible data ports." This will avoid confusing data ports with TNV communication ports and other non-SELV circuits, and the word "accessible" is used more frequently in IEC 60950 than "available."</p> <p>2. The Decision clause/sub-clause reference, rather than to clauses 2 and 4, should be to 3.5, Interconnection of equipment. The basic rationale behind the proposed Decision is sub-clause 3.5.1, which requires that "systems" of interconnected equipment comply with the basic requirements in IEC 60950. Therefore, user accessible data ports that eventually will be connected to other equipment need to be viewed in this light.</p> <p><i>This decision really only applies to SELV data ports because 3.5.2 allows interconnection circuits to be either SELV, TNV-1, TNV-2, TNV-3, or Hazardous voltage, as long as the individual circuits/parts comply with the appropriate requirements. Also, 3.5.2 will even allow an ELV circuit to be used as an interconnection circuit, as long as the specific connected equipment is known and accessible parts of the connected equipment comply with SELV, as appropriate.</i></p>		