

Initial working document by Secretary

Model Regulation with respect to thermal propagation of REESS for electric power train

Remark: The text below was prepared by the interim secretary, acknowledging tremendous contribution by some of industry experts, to facilitate the discussion at the ad-hoc Special Interest Group on model regulation regarding the safety of electric vehicles with a focus on a thermal propagation test method.

The contents are, in principle, the compilation of the available materials which seemed to have received certain level of consent at the former informal working group on EVS-GTR. As the SIG activity is focusing on the regulation applied under type approval scheme, the structure has been transformed to the UNR100 format.

In this document, the texts in blue are current texts of UN-R100 which would be related to thermal propagation requirements and the texts in orange are based on the the outcomes from former EVS-GTR IWG, where the modifications are marked in bold for new or strikethrough for deleted characters.

The intent of this model regulation is to enhance the requirements of thermal propagation prescribed in the Global Technical Regulation No. 20 (ECE/TRANS/180/Add.20) with the view to implement robust and practicable certification procedure.

The numbering of paragraph in this document corresponds to those of 03 series of amendments to UN Regulation No.100. Technical aspects of this model regulation may be adopted also for other national regulations based on Global Technical Regulation No.20.

1. Scope

1.1. Part I: Safety requirements with respect to the electric power train of road vehicles of categories M and N¹, with a maximum design speed exceeding 25 km/h, equipped with electric power train, excluding vehicles permanently connected to the grid.

Part I of this regulation does not cover;

- (a) Post-crash safety requirements of road vehicles.
- (b) High voltage components and systems which are not galvanically connected to the high voltage bus of the electric power train.

1.2. Part II: Safety requirements with respect to the Rechargeable Electrical Energy Storage System (REESS), of road vehicles of categories M and N equipped with electric power train, excluding vehicles permanently connected to the grid.

Part II of this Regulation does not apply to a battery whose primary use is to supply power for starting the engine and/or lighting and/or other vehicle auxiliaries' systems..

2. Definitions

For the purpose of this Regulation the following definitions apply:

2.1. "Active driving possible mode" means the vehicle mode when application of pressure to the accelerator pedal (or activation of an equivalent control) or release of the brake system will cause the electric power train to move the vehicle.

2.2. "Aqueous electrolyte" means an electrolyte based on water solvent for the compounds (e.g. acids, bases) providing conducting ions after its dissociation.

2.3. "Automatic disconnect" means a device that when triggered, conductively separates the electric energy sources from the rest of the high voltage circuit of the electric power train.

2.4. "Breakout harness" means connector wires that are connected for testing purposes to the REESS on the traction side of the automatic disconnect

2.5. "Cell" means a single encased electrochemical unit containing one positive and one negative terminals, which exhibits a voltage differential across its two terminals and used as rechargeable electrical energy storage device.

2.6. "Conductive connection" means the connection using connectors to an external power supply when the Rechargeable Electrical Energy Storage System (REESS) is charged.

2.7. "Connector" means the device that provides mechanical connection and disconnection of high voltage electrical conductors to a suitable mating component including its housing

2.8. "Coupling system for charging the Rechargeable Electrical Energy Storage System (REESS)" means the electrical circuit used for charging the REESS from an external electric power supply including the vehicle inlet.

2.9. "C Rate" of "n C" is defined as the constant current of the Tested-Device, which takes 1/n hours to charge or discharge the Tested-

¹ As defined in the Consolidated Resolution on the Construction of Vehicles (R.E.3.), document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/78/Rev.6, para. 2
<https://unece.org/transport/standards/transport/vehicle-regulations-wp29/resolutions>

- 43 DeviceTested-Device between 0 per cent of the state of charge and 100 per
44 cent of the state of charge.
- 45 2.10. "*Direct contact*" means the contact of persons with high voltage live parts.
- 46 2.11. "*Electric energy conversion system*" means a system (e.g. fuel cell) that
47 generates and provides electric energy for electric propulsion.
- 48 2.12. "*Electric power train*" means the electrical circuit which includes the traction
49 motor(s), and may include the REESS, the electric energy conversion system,
50 the electronic converters, the associated wiring harness and connectors, and the
51 coupling system for charging the REESS.
- 52 2.13. "*Electrical chassis*" means a set made of conductive parts electrically linked
53 together, whose potential is taken as reference.
- 54 2.14. "*Electrical circuit*" means an assembly of connected live parts which is
55 designed to be electrically energized in normal operation.
- 56 2.15. "*Electrical protection barrier*" means the part that provides protection against
57 direct contact with the high voltage live parts.
- 58 2.16. "*Electrolyte leakage*" means the escape of electrolyte from the REESS in the
59 form of liquid
- 60 2.17. "*Electronic converter*" means a device capable of controlling and/or
61 converting electric power for electric propulsion.
- 62 2.18. "*Enclosure*" means the part enclosing the internal units and providing
63 protection against any direct contact.
- 64 2.19. "*Explosion*" means the sudden release of energy sufficient to cause pressure
65 waves and/or projectiles that may cause structural and/or physical damage to
66 the surrounding of the Tested-Device.
- 67 2.20. "*Exposed conductive part*" means the conductive part which can be touched
68 under the provisions of the protection degree IPXXB, and which is not
69 normally energized, but which can become electrically energized under
70 isolation failure conditions. This includes parts under a cover that can be
71 removed without using tools.
- 72 2.21. "*External electric power supply*" means an alternating current (AC) or direct
73 current (DC) electric power supply outside of the vehicle.
- 74 2.22. "*Fire*" means the emission of flames from a Tested-Device. Sparks and arcing
75 shall not be considered as flames.
- 76 2.23. "*Flammable electrolyte*" means an electrolyte that contains substances
77 classified as Class 3 "flammable liquid" under "UN Recommendations on the
78 Transport of Dangerous Goods – Model Regulations (Revision 17 from
79 June 2011), Volume I, Chapter 2.3"²
- 80 2.24. "*High Voltage*" means the classification of an electric component or circuit, if
81 its working voltage is > 60 V and ≤ 1500 V DC or > 30 V and ≤ 1000 V AC
82 root mean square (rms).
- 83 2.25. "*High voltage bus*" means the electrical circuit, including the coupling system
84 for charging the REESS that operates on high voltage. In case of electrical
85 circuits, that are galvanically connected to each other and fulfilling the voltage
86 condition specified in paragraph 2.42., only the components or parts of the
87 electric circuit that operate on high voltage are classified as a high voltage bus.
- 88 2.26. "*Indirect contact*" means the contact of persons with exposed conductive parts.

² www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/unrec/rev17/17files_e.html

- 89 2.27. "Live parts" means the conductive part(s) intended to be electrically energized
90 under normal operating conditions.
- 91 2.28. "Luggage compartment" means the space in the vehicle for luggage
92 accommodation, bounded by the roof, hood, floor, side walls, as well as by the
93 barrier and enclosure provided for protecting the occupants from direct contact
94 with high voltage live parts, being separated from the passenger compartment
95 by the front bulkhead or the rear bulk head.
- 96 2.29. "Manufacturer" means the person or body who is responsible to the approval
97 authority for all aspects of the approval process and for ensuring conformity of
98 production. It is not essential that the person or body is directly involved in all
99 stages of the construction of the vehicle or component which is the subject of
100 the approval process.
- 101 2.30. "Non-aqueous electrolyte" means an electrolyte not based on water as the
102 solvent.
- 103 2.31. "Normal operating conditions" includes operating modes and conditions that
104 can reasonably be encountered during typical operation of the vehicle
105 including driving at legally posted speeds, parking and standing in traffic, as
106 well as, charging using chargers that are compatible with the specific charging
107 ports installed on the vehicle. It does not include conditions where the vehicle
108 is damaged, either by a crash, road debris or vandalization, subjected to fire or
109 water submersion, or in a state where service and or maintenance is needed or
110 being performed.
- 111 2.32. "On-board isolation resistance monitoring system" means the device which
112 monitors the isolation resistance between the high voltage buses and the
113 electrical chassis.
- 114 2.33. "Open type traction battery" means a liquid type battery requiring refilling
115 with water and generating hydrogen gas released to the atmosphere.
- 116 2.34. "Passenger compartment" means the space for occupant accommodation,
117 bounded by the roof, floor, side walls, doors, window glass, front bulkhead and
118 rear bulkhead, or rear gate, as well as by the barriers and enclosures provided
119 for protecting the occupants from direct contact with live parts.
- 120 2.35. "Protection degree IPXXB" means protection from contact with high voltage
121 live parts provided by either an electrical protection barrier or an enclosure and
122 tested using a Jointed Test Finger (IPXXB) as described in Annex 3.
- 123 2.36. "Protection degree IPXXD" means protection from contact with high voltage
124 live parts provided by either an electrical protection barrier or an enclosure and
125 tested using a Test Wire (IPXXD) as described in Annex 3.
- 126 2.37. "Rechargeable Electrical Energy Storage System (REESS)" means the
127 rechargeable energy storage system that provides electric energy for electrical
128 propulsion.
- 129 A battery whose primary use is to supply power for starting the engine and/or
130 lighting and/or other vehicle auxiliaries' systems is not considered as a REESS.
- 131 The REESS may include the necessary systems for physical support, thermal
132 management, electronic controls and casing
- 133 2.38. "REESS subsystem" means any assembly of REESS components which stores
134 energy. A REESS subsystem may or may not include the entire management
135 system of the REESS.
- 136 2.39. "Rupture" means opening(s) through the casing of any functional cell assembly
137 created or enlarged by an event, large enough for a 12 mm diameter test finger
138 (IPXXB) to penetrate and make contact with live parts (see Annex 3).
- 139 2.40. "Service disconnect" means the device for deactivation of the electrical circuit
140 when conducting checks and services of the REESS, fuel cell stack, etc.

141	2.41.	"Solid insulator" means the insulating coating of wiring harnesses provided in order to cover and prevent the high voltage live parts from any direct contact
142		
143	2.42.	"Specific voltage condition" means the condition that the maximum voltage of a galvanically connected electrical circuit between a DC live part and any other live part (DC or AC) is ≤ 30 V AC (rms) and ≤ 60 V DC.
144		
145		
146		Note 1: When a DC live part of such an electrical circuit is connected to chassis and the specific voltage condition applies, the maximum voltage between any live part and the electrical chassis is ≤ 30 V AC (rms) and ≤ 60 V DC
147		
148		
149		Note 2: For pulsating DC voltages (alternating voltages without change of polarity) the DC threshold shall be applied.
150		
151	2.43.	"State of Charge (SOC)" means the available electrical charge in a Tested-Device expressed as a percentage of its rated capacity.
152		
153	2.44.	"Tested-Device" means either complete REESS or REESS subsystem that is subjected to the tests prescribed by this Regulation.
154		
155	2.45.	"Thermal event" means the condition when the temperature within the REESS is significantly higher (as defined by the manufacturer) than the maximum operating temperature.
156		
157		
158	2.46.	"Thermal runaway" means an uncontrolled increase of cell temperature caused by exothermic reactions inside the cell.
159		
160	2.47.	"Thermal propagation" means the sequential occurrence of thermal runaway within a REESS triggered by thermal runaway of a cell in that REESS.
161		
162	2.48.	"Type of REESS" means systems which do not differ significantly in such essential aspects as:
163		
164		(a) The manufacturer's trade name or mark;
165		(b) The chemistry, capacity and physical dimensions of its cells;
166		(c) The number of cells, the mode of connection of the cells and the physical support of the cells;
167		
168		(d) The construction, materials and physical dimensions of the casing and
169		(e) The necessary ancillary devices for physical support, thermal management and electronic control.
170		
171	2.49.	"Vehicle connector" means the device which is inserted into the vehicle inlet to supply electric energy to the vehicle from an external electric power supply.
172		
173	2.50.	"Vehicle inlet" means the device on the externally chargeable vehicle into which the vehicle connector is inserted for the purpose of transferring electric energy from an external electric power supply.
174		
175		
176	2.51.	"Vehicle type" means vehicles which do not differ in such essential aspects as:
177		(a) Installation of the electric power train and the galvanically connected high voltage bus;
178		
179		(b) Nature and type of electric power train and the galvanically connected high voltage components.
180		
181	2.52.	"Venting" means the release of excessive internal pressure from cell or REESS subsystem or REESS in a manner intended by design to preclude rupture or explosion."
182		
183		
184	2.53.	"Working voltage" means the highest value of an electrical circuit voltage root-mean-square (rms), specified by the manufacturer, which may occur between any conductive parts in open circuit conditions or under normal operating condition. If the electrical circuit is divided by galvanic isolation, the working voltage is defined for each divided circuit, respectively.
185		
186		
187		
188		

189	--	
190	5.	Part I: Requirements of a vehicle with regard to
191		specific requirements for the electric power train
192	--	
193	5.2.	Rechargeable Electrical Energy Storage System (REESS)
194	5.2.1.	For a vehicle with a REESS, the requirement of either paragraph 5.2.1.1. or
195		paragraph 5.2.1.2. shall be satisfied.
196	5.2.1.1.	For a REESS which has been type approved in accordance with Part II of this
197		series of Amendments to this Regulation, it shall be installed in accordance
198		with the instructions provided by the manufacturer of the REESS, and in
199		conformity with the description provided in Annex 1, Appendix 2 to this
200		Regulation.
201	5.2.1.2.	The REESS including related vehicle components, systems and structure as
202		applicable, shall comply with the respective requirements of paragraph 6. of
203		this Regulation.
204	--	
205	5.2.3.	Warning in the event of failure in REESS
206		The vehicle shall provide a warning to the driver when the vehicle is in active
207		driving possible mode in the event specified in paragraphs 6.13. to 6.15.
208		In case of optical warning, the tell-tale shall, when illuminated, be sufficiently
209		bright to be visible to the driver under both daylight and night-time driving
210		conditions, when the driver has adapted to the ambient roadway light
211		conditions.
212		This tell-tale shall be activated as a check of lamp function either when the
213		propulsion system is turned to the "On" position, or when the propulsion
214		system is in a position between "On" and "Start" that is designated by the
215		manufacturer as a check position. This requirement does not apply to the tell-
216		tale or text shown in a common space.
217	6.	Part II: Requirements of a Rechargeable Electrical
218		Energy Storage System (REESS) with regard to its
219		safety
220	6.1.	General
221		The procedures prescribed in Annex 9 of this Regulation shall be applied.
222	--	
223	6.12.	Management of gases emitted from REESS
224	6.12.1.	Under vehicle operation including the operation with a failure, the vehicle
225		occupants shall not be exposed to any hazardous environment caused by
226		emissions from REESS.
227	6.12.2.	Open-type traction batteries shall meet the requirements of paragraph 5.4. of
228		this Regulation with regard to hydrogen emissions.
229	6.12.3.	For REESS other than open-type traction battery, the requirement of paragraph
230		6.12.1. is deemed to be satisfied, if all applicable requirements of the following
231		tests are met: paragraph 6.2. (vibration), paragraph 6.3. (thermal shock and
232		cycling), paragraph 6.6. (external short circuit protection), paragraph 6.7.

233 (overcharge protection), paragraph 6.8. (over-discharge protection), paragraph
234 6.9. (over-temperature protection) and paragraph 6.10. (overcurrent protection).

235 6.13. Warning in the event of operational failure of vehicle controls that manage
236 REESS safe operation.

237 The REESS or vehicle system shall provide a signal to activate the warning
238 specified in paragraph 5.2.3. in the event of operational failure of the vehicle
239 controls (e.g. input and output signals to the management system of REESS,
240 sensors within REESS, etc.) that manage the safe operation of the REESS.
241 REESS or vehicle manufacturer shall make available, at the request of the
242 Technical Service with its necessity, the following documentation explaining
243 safety performance of the system level or subsystem level of the vehicle:

244 6.13.1. A system diagram that identifies all the vehicle controls that manage REESS
245 operations. The diagram must identify what components are used to generate
246 a warning due to operational failure of vehicle controls to conduct one or more
247 basic operations.

248 6.13.2. A written explanation describing the basic operation of the vehicle controls
249 that manage REESS operation. The explanation must identify the components
250 of the vehicle control system, provide description of their functions and
251 capability to manage the REESS, and provide a logic diagram and description
252 of conditions that would lead to triggering of the warning.

253 6.14. Warning in the case of a thermal event within the REESS.

254 The REESS or vehicle system shall provide a signal to activate the warning
255 specified in paragraph 5.2.3. in the case of a thermal event in the REESS (as
256 specified by the manufacturer). REESS or vehicle manufacturer shall make
257 available, at the request of the Technical Service with its necessity, the
258 following documentation explaining safety performance of the system level or
259 subsystem level of the vehicle:

260 6.14.1. The parameters and associated threshold levels that are used to indicate a
261 thermal event (e.g. temperature, temperature rise rate, SOC level, voltage drop,
262 electrical current, etc.) to trigger the warning.

263 6.14.2. A system diagram and written explanation describing the sensors and operation
264 of the vehicle controls to manage the REESS in the event of a thermal event.

265 6.15. Thermal propagation.

266 For a REESS containing flammable electrolyte, the vehicle occupants shall not
267 be exposed to any hazardous environment caused by thermal propagation
268 which is triggered by an internal short circuit leading to a single cell thermal
269 runaway. To ensure this, the requirements of paragraphs 6.15.1. and 6.15.2.
270 shall be satisfied **in accordance with the verification procedure described**
271 **in paragraph 5.4.12.4.**³

272 6.15.1. The REESS or vehicle system shall provide a signal to activate the advance
273 warning indication **in the event of a thermal propagation which is triggered**
274 **by an internal short circuit leading to a single cell thermal runaway:**

275 (a) **To allow egress prior to the presence of a hazardous situation inside**
276 **the passenger compartment; or**

277 (b) **5 minutes prior to the presence of a hazardous situation inside the**
278 **passenger compartment.**

279 ~~in the vehicle to allow egress or 5 minutes prior to the presence of a hazardous~~
280 ~~situation inside the passenger compartment caused by thermal propagation~~

³ The manufacturer will be accountable for the verity and integrity of documentation submitted, and assume full responsibility for the safety of occupants against adverse effects arising from thermal propagation caused by internal short circuit.

281 ~~which is triggered by an internal short circuit leading to a single cell thermal~~
282 ~~runaway such as fire, explosion or smoke. This requirement is deemed to be~~
283 ~~satisfied if the thermal propagation does not lead to a hazardous situation for~~
284 ~~the vehicle occupants or if the single cell thermal runaway does not lead to~~
285 ~~thermal propagation in the REESS. REESS or vehicle manufacturer shall~~
286 ~~make available, at the request of the Technical Service with its necessity, the~~
287 ~~following documentation explaining safety performance of the system level or~~
288 ~~sub-system level of the vehicle:~~

289 **6.15.1.1. REESS or vehicle manufacturer shall make available the following**
290 **documentation:**

291 6.15.1.1.1. The parameters (for example, temperature, voltage or electrical current) which
292 trigger the warning indication.

293 6.15.1.1.2. Description of the warning system.

294 6.15.2. The REESS or vehicle system shall have functions or characteristics in the cell,
295 ~~or REESS or vehicle~~ intended to protect vehicle occupants (as described in
296 paragraph 6.15.) in conditions caused by thermal propagation which is
297 triggered by an internal short circuit leading to a single cell thermal runaway.
298 ~~REESS or vehicle manufacturers shall make available, at the request of the~~
299 ~~Technical Service with its necessity, the following documentation explaining~~
300 ~~safety performance of the system level or sub-system level of the vehicle:~~

301 **6.15.3. Thermal propagation verification process**

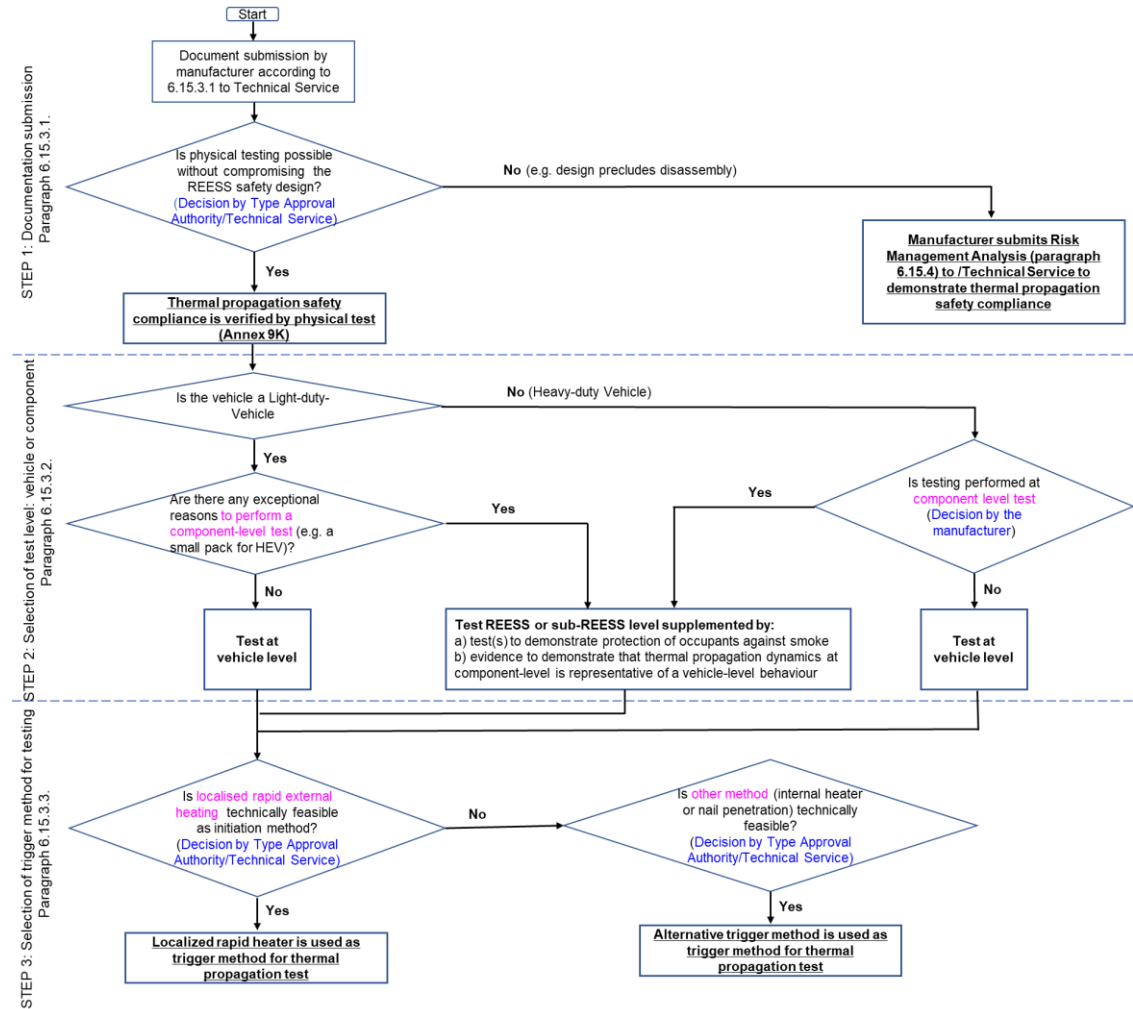
302 **Recognizing that there are different REESS and vehicle designs on the**
303 **market, and to ensure the technical neutrality of this requirement, the**
304 **thermal propagation verification process follows a multi-step approach**
305 **described in the flowchart in Figure 3.**

306 **Conformance with thermal propagation safety is either demonstrated by**
307 **physical testing (as described in Annex 9K) or, when it is deemed that**
308 **physical testing is not plausible, e.g. because REESS design precludes**
309 **disassembly, by a systematic risk management analysis method**
310 **(paragraph 6.15.4.). The steps in the thermal propagation safety**
311 **verification process are described in paragraphs 6.15.3.1, 6.15.3.2 and**
312 **6.15.3.3.**

313 **The Type Approval Authority and the Technical Services shall determine**
314 **if physical testing is possible without compromising the safety**
315 **functionality and design of the vehicle/REESS, which can result in**
316 **unrepresentative safety behaviour of the vehicle/REESS, based on**
317 **documentation provided by the vehicle/REESS manufacturer.**

318
319
320

Figure 3
Flow-chart for the verification of thermal propagation safety compliance



321
322
323
324

6.15.3.1. Step 1: Documentation submission requirements for the assessment of testing feasibility

325
326
327
328

The manufacturer shall provide technical documentation to enable the Type Approval Authority and Technical Services to judge if physical testing is feasible and to inform about instrumentation needed of the Tested-Device as well as the vehicle, if applicable, for testing.

329

(a) A system diagram of all relevant physical systems and components;

330

(b) A diagram showing the functional operation of the relevant systems and components, identifying all risk mitigation functions or characteristics;

331

332

333

(c) For each identified risk mitigation function of characteristic implemented, the physical system or component which implements the function shall be identified and the operating strategy described; and

334

335

336

337

(d) If applicable, recommendations on how to prepare and instrument the Tested-Device and the vehicle.

338

339

Relevant systems and components are those which contribute to protection of vehicle occupants from hazardous effects caused by thermal propagation triggered by a single cell thermal runaway.

340

341

342 If the Type Approval Authority and Technical Services judges that
343 physical testing is not feasible based on the technical information provided
344 by the manufacturer, Risk management analysis according to paragraph
345 6.15.4. shall be performed.

346 **6.15.3.2. Step 2: Selection of test level**

347 For light duty vehicles, vehicle testing is preferred. Component based test
348 can only be selected if there are extraordinary circumstances that makes
349 vehicle testing inappropriate. The appropriate test level is determined by
350 the Type Approval Authority and Technical Services.

351 For heavy duty vehicles, the manufacturer determines if testing shall be
352 performed on vehicle or component level.

353 Thermal propagation testing on component level shall be supplemented
354 by:

355 (a) Additional test(s) to demonstrate that vehicle occupants are
356 protected against emissions from the REESS; or

357 (b) Evidence to demonstrate that thermal propagation dynamics at
358 component-level is representative of a vehicle-level behaviour.

359 The placement of the REESS in relation to the passenger compartment
360 and its effect on the risk of occupant exposure to the emissions shall be
361 considered.

362 **6.15.3.3. Step 3: Selection of trigger method**

363 Physical testing shall be performed when deemed possible by the Type
364 Approval Authority and Technical Services.

365 Localized fast external heater is the preferred trigger method for physical
366 testing of thermal propagation safety performance. Alternative methods:
367 localized internal heater or nail penetration, may be used if the localized
368 fast heater trigger method is deemed inappropriate for the REESS design
369 by the Type Approval Authority and Technical Services.

370 Test method descriptions for the respective trigger methods are found in
371 paragraphs 6.4.1, 6.4.2 and 6.4.3.

372 **6.15.3.4 Acceptance criteria for physical thermal propagation test**

373 During the test there shall be no evidence of:

374 (a) Fire

375 (b) Explosion

376 (c) Hazardous conditions inside the passenger compartment during
377 egress or 5 minutes after the activation of the warning indication

378 The evidence of hazardous condition inside the occupant compartment
379 shall be verified by visual inspection without disassembling any part of the
380 Tested-Device or the vehicle.

381 **6.15.4. Risk management analysis method**

382 The manufacturer shall perform and document a risk assessment and risk
383 reduction analysis for all operational modes (e.g. active drive possible,
384 parking and external charging modes). The risk analysis shall be holistic
385 and follow a systematic work process, taking on a top-down approach
386 from vehicle to battery system and/or subsystem level(s), including both
387 hardware and software aspects, (see for example ISO 6469-1:2019/AMD
388 2022 and ISO 26262 or equivalent standards for additional guidance). The
389 work product shall be comprehensive and transparent documentation
390 explaining the safety performance of the vehicle systems in conditions

391 caused by thermal propagation which is triggered by an internal short
392 circuit leading to a single cell thermal runaway.

393 The manufacturer shall make available, at the request of the regulatory
394 or testing entity as applicable with its necessity, a high-level report
395 including essential data and a summary of important information from
396 the risk assessment and the risk reduction activities. The report structure
397 shall comprise a four-part structure with the elements described in
398 paragraphs 6.15.4.1., 6.15.4.2., 6.15.4.3. and 6.15.4.4. below.

399 **6.15.4.1. System analysis**

400 The system analysis includes:

- 401 (a) A system diagram of all relevant physical systems and components;
- 402 (b) Description of systems/components relevant to single-cell thermal
403 runaway and thermal propagation due to internal short circuit and
404 their interoperability. Relevant systems and components are those
405 which contribute to protection of vehicle occupants from hazardous
406 effects caused by thermal propagation triggered by a single cell
407 thermal runaway include but are not limited to REESS, sensors,
408 thermal management system, battery management system, etc.;
- 409 (c) Description of advanced warning indication and operating logic;
410 and
- 411 (d) Functional analyses identifying the conditions leading to single cell
412 thermal runaway, i.e. internal short circuit of the cell, and
413 allocating them to the corresponding components or functional
414 units or subsystems;

415 **6.15.4.2. Risk identification and mitigation**

416 A risk reduction analysis using appropriate industry standard
417 methodology (for guidance, see for example, IEC 61508, MIL-STD 882E,
418 ISO 26262, AIAG & VDA FMEA Handbook, fault analysis as in SAE
419 J2929, or similar), which documents the risk to vehicle occupants caused
420 by thermal propagation triggered by an internal short circuit leading to a
421 single cell thermal runaway and documents the reduction of risk resulting
422 from implementation of the identified risk mitigation functions or
423 characteristics. The severity of the thermal event and the risk of
424 propagation to adjacent cells in the battery pack shall be determined.

425 The risk identification and mitigation analysis shall include:

- 426 (a) Risk mitigation by design;
- 427 (b) Risk mitigation by manufacturing control; and
- 428 (c) Risk mitigation by other means;

429 The risk analysis shall also include information about and justify any
430 assumptions made on system performance characteristics and properties,
431 model behaviour or relative relevance and likelihood of specified risk
432 scenarios.

433 The risk assessment is limited to the operational design domain of the
434 REESS.

435 **6.15.4.3. Risk mitigation effectiveness – validation & verification**

436 The effectiveness of each of the risk reduction measure shall be analysed
437 and evaluated. Effectiveness may be analysed by testing, analysis,
438 simulation, models, reference to scientific papers, field data and/or other
439 appropriate methods, either singly or in combination. Effectiveness
440 assessments shall fulfil the requirements of paragraphs 6.15.4.1. and
441 6.15.4.2., as appropriate.

442 **6.15.4.3.1. Tests and verification methods**

443 Test and verification methods used for unit testing, implementation

444 testing and validation shall be documented, clearly identifying which

445 safety functionalities are addressed with the respective methods.

446 Recognized industry standard tests, for example ISO, IEC, SAE or

447 equivalent, should be used when available and appropriate for the testing

448 purposes. In the absence of appropriate industry standard methods and

449 tests, the manufacturer shall design test methods and verification

450 techniques that are feasible to verify component and/or system

451 performance as required to verify and validate the effectiveness of the risk

452 mitigation strategy. Any such methods used shall be explicitly documented,

453 including an explanation of what property, capability or attribute that is

454 tested and the suitability of the method to generate the data required, as

455 well as the rationale for why the method is appropriate.

456 **6.15.4.3.2. Data sources and quality requirements**

457 The data set shall evaluate performance of the components and functional

458 units that have been identified in the allocation process. The relevance and

459 appropriateness of the data shall be described and justified. Major

460 uncertainty factors shall be identified and quantified as far as possible.

461 Data can comprise of technical specifications and verifying test reports

462 from suppliers and/or manufacturers, mathematical simulations from

463 theoretical or empirical system models, scientific reports and publications,

464 as well as field data.

465 All relevant results available shall be gathered and consolidated to verify

466 consistency of the results from different data sources and to establish the

467 reliability of the results obtained. The sources of externally derived data

468 shall be identified.

469 A completeness check shall be conducted so as to ensure that all relevant

470 information and data needed for the interpretation are available and

471 complete.

472 A sensitivity check shall be conducted to evaluate the reliability of the final

473 results and the conclusions by determining how they are affected by

474 uncertainties in the data, allocation methods or assumptions made about

475 the REESS.

476 **6.15.4.4. Conclusions**

477 (a) The concluding part of the report shall comprise a brief summary

478 of the major results of the risk reduction analysis and a statement

479 that the requirements in paragraphs 6.15.1. and 6.15.2. are satisfied,

480 including: The methods used are scientifically and technically valid

481 for the scope of the risk reduction analysis;

482 (b) The data used are appropriate and reasonable in relation to the

483 intention of the risk reduction analysis;

484 (c) The interpretations are relevant and reflect the assumptions made

485 and the limitations identified for the study;

486 This part may be in the form of an internal or external critical review

487 report, if the manufacturer has such a process in place.

488 **6.15.5. REESS/Vehicle family for verification of thermal propagation**

489 REESS/vehicles having the same characteristics with respect to their

490 evaluation on the criteria below may be grouped into REESS/vehicle

491 families for the purpose of compliance verification of the thermal

492 propagation protection.

493 **6.15.5.1. REESS family criteria**

494 REESSs that are substantially similar with respect to the following
495 elements may consist of the same REESS family:

- 496 (a) The chemistry, capacity and physical dimensions of its cells;
- 497 (b) REESS design influencing the thermal propagation protection;
- 498 (c) Battery Management System (BMS) (with regards to thermal
499 propagation protection);
- 500 (d) Operation strategy of all components influencing the thermal
501 propagation protection;
- 502 (e) Venting strategy

503 At the request of the manufacturer, with appropriate technical
504 justification, and, with the approval of the technical service, if applicable,
505 the manufacturer may deviate from the above criteria for families.

506 **6.15.5.2. Vehicle family criteria for vehicles of categories M₁ and N₁**

507 Vehicles that are substantially similar with respect to the following
508 elements may consist of the same family:

- 509 (a) REESS mounting method and position;
- 510 (b) REESS mechanical protection, such as REESS casing and/or
511 chassis structures around the REESS
- 512 (c) REESS venting strategy;
- 513 (d) REESS clearance with vehicle body and floor;
- 514 (e) REESS family

515 At the request of the manufacturer, with appropriate technical
516 justification, and, with the approval of the technical service, if applicable,
517 the manufacturer may deviate from the above criteria for families.

518 **6.15.5.3. Vehicle family criteria or vehicles of categories M₂, M₃, N₂ and N₃**

519 "Vehicle family" means a category of power-driven vehicles which do not
520 differ in such essential respects, in so far as they have an adverse effect on
521 the result of the thermal propagation test prescribed in this Regulation:

- 522 (a) REESS location in a truck, regardless of application fall broadly
523 into the following;
 - 524 (i) Under body: outside and/or inside frame rails, left or right
525 hand side
 - 526 (ii) Under cab
 - 527 (iii) Behind cab
 - 528 (iv) Any combination of the above

529 or

- 530 (b) REESS location in a bus, regardless of application fall broadly into
531 the following;
 - 532 (i) Under floor
 - 533 (ii) On roof
 - 534 (iii) "Engine" compartment
 - 535 (iv) Any combination of the above

536 At the request of the manufacturer, with appropriate technical
537 justification, and, with the approval of the technical service, if applicable,
538 the manufacturer may deviate from the above criteria for families.

- 539 ~~6.15.2.1. A risk reduction analysis using appropriate industry standard methodology (for~~
540 ~~example, IEC 61508, MIL STD 882E, ISO 26262, AIAG DFMEA, fault~~
541 ~~analysis as in SAE J2929, or similar), which documents the risk to vehicle~~
542 ~~occupants caused by thermal propagation which is triggered by an internal~~
543 ~~short circuit leading to a single cell thermal runaway and documents the~~
544 ~~reduction of risk resulting from implementation of the identified risk mitigation~~
545 ~~functions or characteristics.~~
- 546 ~~6.15.2.2. A system diagram of all relevant physical systems and components. Relevant~~
547 ~~systems and components are those which contribute to protection of vehicle~~
548 ~~occupants from hazardous effects caused by thermal propagation triggered by~~
549 ~~a single cell thermal runaway.~~
- 550 ~~6.15.2.3. A diagram showing the functional operation of the relevant systems and~~
551 ~~components, identifying all risk mitigation functions or characteristics.~~
- 552 ~~6.15.2.4. For each identified risk mitigation function or characteristic:~~
- 553 ~~6.15.2.4.1. A description of its operation strategy;~~
- 554 ~~6.15.2.4.2. Identification of the physical system or component which implements the~~
555 ~~function;~~
- 556 ~~6.15.2.4.3. One or more of the following engineering documents relevant to the~~
557 ~~manufacturers design which demonstrates the effectiveness of the risk~~
558 ~~mitigation function:~~
- 559 ~~(a) Tests performed including procedure used and conditions and resulting~~
560 ~~data;~~
- 561 ~~(b) Analysis or validated simulation methodology and resulting data.~~
- 562

563 **Annex 9**

564 **REESS test procedures**

565

566 **Annex 9 - Appendix 1**

567 **Procedure for conducting a standard cycle**

568 A standard cycle shall start with a standard discharge followed by a standard charge. The
569 standard cycle shall be conducted at an ambient temperature of 20 ± 10 °C.

570 Standard discharge:

571 Discharge rate: The discharge procedure including termination criteria
572 shall be defined by the manufacturer. If not specified,
573 then it shall be a discharge with 1C current for a complete
574 REESS and REESS subsystems.

575 Discharge limit (end voltage): Specified by the manufacturer

576 For a complete vehicle, discharge procedure using a dynamometer shall be defined by the
577 manufacturer. Discharge termination will be according to vehicle controls.

578 Rest period after discharge: Minimum 15 min

579 Standard charge:

580 The charge procedure shall be defined by the manufacturer. If not specified, then it shall be
581 a charge with C/3 current. Charging is continued until normally terminated. Charge
582 termination shall be according to paragraph 2. of Annex 9, Appendix 2 for REESS or REESS
583 subsystem.

584 For a complete vehicle that can be charged by an external source, charge procedure using an
585 external electric power supply shall be defined by the manufacturer. For a complete vehicle
586 that can be charged by on-board energy sources, a charge procedure using a dynamometer
587 shall be defined by the manufacturer. Charge termination will be according to vehicle
588 controls.

589

590

592 **Procedure for SOC adjustment**

- 593 1. The adjustment of SOC shall be conducted at an ambient temperature of $20 \pm$
594 $10 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for vehicle-based tests and $22 \pm 5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for component-based tests.
- 595 2. The SOC of the Tested-Device shall be adjusted according to one of the
596 following procedures as applicable. Where different charging procedures are
597 possible, the REESS shall be charged using the procedure which yields the
598 highest SOC:
- 599 (a) For a vehicle with a REESS designed to be externally charged, the
600 REESS shall be charged to the highest SOC in accordance with the
601 procedure specified by the manufacturer for normal operation until the
602 charging process is normally terminated;
- 603 (b) For a vehicle with a REESS designed to be charged only by an energy
604 source on the vehicle, the REESS shall be charged to the highest SOC
605 which is achievable with normal operation of the vehicle. The
606 manufacturer shall advise on the vehicle operation mode to achieve this
607 SOC;
- 608 (c) In case that the REESS or REESS subsystem is used as the Tested-
609 Device, the Tested-Device shall be charged to the highest SOC in
610 accordance with the procedure specified by the manufacturer for normal
611 use operation until the charging process is normally terminated.
612 Procedures specified by the manufacturer for manufacturing, service or
613 maintenance may be considered as appropriate if they achieve an
614 equivalent SOC as for that under normal operating conditions. In case
615 the Tested-Device does not control SOC by itself, the SOC shall be
616 charged to not less than 95 per cent of the maximum normal operating
617 SOC defined by the manufacturer for the specific configuration of the
618 Tested-Device.
- 619 3. When the vehicle or REESS subsystem is tested, the SOC shall be no less than
620 95 per cent of the SOC according to paragraphs 1. and 2. above for REESS
621 designed to be externally charged and shall be no less than 90 per cent of SOC
622 according to paragraphs 1. and 2. above for REESS designed to be charged
623 only by an energy source on the vehicle. The SOC will be confirmed by a
624 method provided by the manufacturer.

627 **Thermal propagation test**628 **1. Purpose**

629 The purpose of the thermal propagation test is to ensure the occupant
630 safety in a vehicle in case an internal short circuit leading to a single-cell
631 thermal runaway occurs in the battery system.

632 **2. Installations**

633 This test shall be conducted at the vehicle level or using the complete
634 REESS or REESS subsystem(s). The appropriate test level is determined
635 by the Type Approval Authority and Technical Services based on the
636 outcome of the thermal propagation verification process described in
637 paragraph 6.15.3.

638 **3. General test conditions**

639 The following conditions shall apply to the test

640 **3.1. Environmental conditions**

641 (a) At the beginning of the test, the REESS temperature shall be
642 maintained between 18 °C to maximum permissible operating
643 temperature, defined by the manufacturer;

644 (b) The test shall be conducted either indoors or outdoors. In case of
645 outdoor testing there shall be no precipitation for the duration of
646 the test. Immediately prior to the test commencing, wind speed
647 shall be measured at a location which is no more than 5 m from the
648 Tested-Device and the average wind speed over 10 min shall be less
649 than 28 km/h. It shall be ensured that the results are not affected
650 by gusts of wind. Gusts shall not exceed 36 km/h when measured
651 over a period of 20 s. Test set up should consider the impact of
652 features such as shielding screens or walls which may create
653 excessive funneling affects during test execution;

654 (c) The test shall be carried out at a relative humidity of 10% to 90%.

655 **3.2. Tested-Device**

656 (a) Required modifications shall be kept to a minimum compared to
657 the original un-modified Tested-Device. Any manipulation of
658 REESS components, such as mechanical and thermal barriers,
659 cooling plates/channels, electrical connections, and cell to cell
660 spacing shall be documented and rationalized as to why such
661 changes do not result in significant change to performance. The
662 original sealing capability of the REESS shall not be compromised
663 through instrumentation and any venting shall be through pre-
664 existing seals. All components and features that are required for
665 the functioning of the Tested-Device and safety related features e.g.
666 cell connecting busbars, tab welding, BMS software shall be
667 according to their production specification;

668 (b) At the beginning of the test, the state of charge (SOC) shall be
669 adjusted according to the procedure defined in Annex 9- Appendix
670 1 to this Regulation;

671 (c) At the beginning of and, as long as possible, during the test, all
672 necessary function of the Tested-Device shall be operational. The
673 Tested-Device shall be representative of the REESS when installed
674 in a vehicle that is "on" and set in "parked" mode. The defined
675 thermal management/safety strategy and the battery management

676 system used within the REESS shall be fully operational. The
677 coolant flow could be null or active depending on the BMS. The
678 native cooling strategy (if installed), BMS and any other battery
679 control systems, which are necessary for the test, shall be
680 operational for as long as possible during the test.

681 **3.3. Initiation cell**

682 In the field, a single cell thermal runaway may occur in any cell location
683 within the REESS. For the test, the initiation cell selection shall consider
684 the number of adjacent cells, cell packaging, and the distance between
685 cells in proximity to the potential initiation cell as well as the practicality
686 of initiation.

687 Any cell that meets the requirements of paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 above can
688 be selected as the target cell.

689 **3.3.1. Installation of test equipment shall not compromise the functionality of**
690 **the REESS. The installation shall minimize modification to thermal**
691 **insulators and structure and shall not:**

- 692 (a) Disable or modify the thermal management system;
- 693 (b) Disable or affect the functionality of the BMS;
- 694 (c) Change pack gas flow and permeability, both internal and exit
695 paths.

696 **3.3.2. A cell shall be selected that represents severe conditions for generating a**
697 **potentially hazardous condition in case of a thermal runaway:**

- 698 (a) A high level of heat transfer to at least one adjacent cell (e.g.
699 thinnest spacers/gaps/barriers or vent direction towards an
700 adjacent cell);
- 701 (b) Subject to (a), few heat sinks and non-productive thermal pathways
702 (e.g. edge cell with few adjacent cells and/or with large adjacent air
703 space);
- 704 (c) Other criteria known to the manufacturer to reflect a
705 condition/location which may have greater potential to lead to a
706 hazardous condition.

707 **4. Recorded data and measurements**

708 **4.1. The following information shall be recorded during the test and during**
709 **the observation period. All data measurement systems shall be referenced**
710 **to the same starting time.**

- 711 (a) Identification of the test method, including the trigger method, and
712 a description of the test set-up;
- 713 (b) Test conditions (e.g. environmental conditions, SOC, and other pre-
714 conditioning parameters);
- 715 (c) Temperature of the initiation cell;
- 716 (d) Voltage of the initiation cell during the thermal runaway triggering
717 procedure;
- 718 (e) Temperature of one adjacent cell (if possible);
- 719 (f) Independent voltage measurement of the Tested-Device as a
720 function of time and, if possible, include the BMS pack voltage for
721 comparison;
- 722 (g) Video and audio recording, including indication of a time stamp of
723 any observable system state change during the test (e.g, initiation

724		cell thermal runaway/venting, thermal propagation to adjacent
725		cell(s), smoke, fire/flame, explosion, etc);
726	(h)	Condition of the Tested-Device and/or vehicle at the end of the test,
727		supported by video or photographs (before and after test);
728	(i)	If possible, surface temperature of an adjacent module, if
729		applicable, to observe propagation between modules;
730	(j)	If the test is performed on vehicle level, the time stamp of warning
731		indications or alarms to occupants.
732	5	Detection of thermal runaway
733	5.1.	Main Criteria
734		Thermal runaway can be detected by the following conditions (The energy
735		density of a cell is calculated according to IEC 62660-1:2018, clause
736		7.6.3.1):
737	5.1.1.	For battery cells with an energy density of less than 130 Wh/kg, evidence
738		of occurrence for thermal runaway during propagation test is provided if
739		one of the following sets of criteria is met and last more than 3 s:
740	(a)	temperature rise $dT/dt > 1$ K/s and temperature exceeding the
741		thermal runaway onset temperature determined by the cell
742		manufacturer; or
743	(b)	temperature exceeding the thermal runaway onset temperature
744		determined by the cell manufacturer with a rapid and distinct
745		voltage drop; or
746	(c)	temperature exceeding the thermal runaway onset temperature
747		determined by the cell manufacturer with venting gas or smoke
748		release and at least one of supplementary criteria listed in
749		paragraph 5.2. below; or
750	(d)	temperature rise $dT/dt > 1$ K/s and venting gas or smoke release
751		and rapid and distinct voltage drop.
752	5.1.2.	For battery cells with an energy density equal to or greater than 130
753		Wh/kg, evidence of occurrence for thermal runaway during propagation
754		test is provided if one of the following sets of criteria is met and last more
755		than 0,5 s:
756	(a)	temperature rise $dT/dt > 15$ K/s and temperature exceeding the
757		thermal runaway onset temperature determined by the cell
758		manufacturer; or
759	(b)	temperature exceeding the thermal runaway onset temperature
760		determined by the cell manufacturer with a rapid and distinct
761		voltage drop; or
762	(c)	temperature exceeding the thermal runaway onset temperature
763		determined by the cell manufacturer and at least one of the
764		supplementary criteria below; or
765	(d)	temperature rise $dT/dt > 15$ K/s with venting gas or smoke release
766		and a rapid and distinct voltage drop.
767	5.2.	Supplementary criteria
768		The following indicators can be considered as supportive evidence of the
769		occurrence of thermal runaway due to the test trigger method:
770	(a)	$dP/dT \geq 0.01$ bar/s of the measured pressure in the battery pack for
771		at least 1 s;
772	(b)	Occurrence of ejected solid material outside of the battery pack;

773 (c) Failure of the BMS or signal faults (if the BMS is still active).
774 Logged faults in the BMS shall be analysed.

775 5.3. (Placeholder) Criteria for determining no thermal runaway

776 *In the case a cell within the REESS cannot be brought to thermal runaway,*
777 *either because the cell chemistry is intrinsically safe or the REESS design*
778 *effectively prevents single-cell thermal runaway to occur, the thermal*
779 *propagation test shall be considered valid provided that the two consecutive*
780 *tests using at least two alternative cell trigger methods in section 6.4 has*
781 *failed to initiate thermal runaway in the initiation cell.*

782 4. Trigger methods to initiate thermal runaway

783 The appropriate trigger method to initiate thermal runaway in the
784 initiation cell is determined by the Type Approval Authority and
785 Technical Services based on the outcome of the thermal propagation
786 verification process described in paragraph 6.15.3.

787 The initiation method shall not affect the adjacent cell(s) such that they
788 exceed the extremities of their operating or storage specifications
789 (whichever is the more extreme) for the cell. Appropriate methods may be
790 used to isolate the adjacent cell(s), provided that the REESS original
791 functionality is not impeded.

792 Localized fast external heater (Annex 9K, Appendix 1) is the preferred
793 trigger method. If this method is not suitable, optional trigger methods
794 that can be selected are:

795 (a) Internal localized heater (Annex 9K, Appendix 2);

796 (b) Nail penetration (Annex 9K, Appendix 3).

797 Pre-testing procedures, for example to identify appropriate thermal
798 runaway initiation trigger parameters for the Tested-Device, are not part
799 of the homologation process and may be provided by the manufacturer
800 upon request and subject to availability.

801

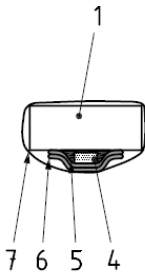
802 **Annex 9K – Appendix 1**

803 **Thermal runaway initiation method with localized fast external heater**

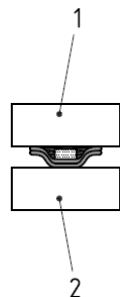
- 804 **1. Preparation of Tested-Device**
- 805 **1.1.** The feedthrough installation of the chosen heating element should only
806 modify the REESS by permitting electrical and thermocouple connections
807 to the heating element. These connections shall provide greater seal
808 integrity than the other connectors in the REESS.
- 809 **1.2.** The chosen heating element shall be set to avoid contact to any REESS
810 assembly surface except for the initiation cell. Intimate thermal contact
811 between the heating element and the initiation cell surface is important
812 for the successful application of this method. Thermal contact between the
813 heating element and initiation cell may be improved through various
814 methods (avoiding air gaps, addition of a heat transfer paste and applying
815 pressure, which should be maintained throughout the test).
- 816 **1.3.** A sample of potential heater application methods are shown in Figure 1
817 and the applied method is dependent on the REESS or REESS subsystem
818 design. Maintain a contact pressure for the heating element on the
819 initiation cell during the test to ensure contact and optimal heat transfer,
820 see Figure 1.

821 Figure 1
822 Methods to apply pressure on the heating element to maintain heating element contact
823 to initiation cell throughout the test for different cell types.

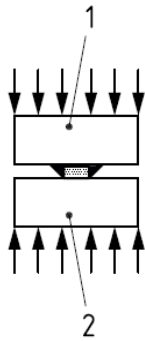
824 (a) REESS with large spacing between cells



825
826 (b) center cell fixed spacing (e.g. prismatic cells)



827
828 (c) center cell compressed modules (e.g. pouch cells)



829

830

831

832

833

834

835

836

- 1 target cell
- 2 adjacent cell
- 4 heating element
- 5 heat transfer paste
- 6 ceramic paper
- 7 wire or high-temperature tape

837

1.5. For implementation in vehicle level tests, the vehicle should be agnostic to the insertion of this initiation method into the REESS, any pass required through the vehicle body should be minimized.

838

839

840

2. Heater element selection guide

841

2.1. The trigger method applies a high-powered heat pulse, locally, to the external surface of the initiation cell. The successful implementation of the method requires the application of sufficient power to the chosen heating element but it shall also not apply so much power that there is a premature heating element failure nor a side wall failure of the initiation cell prior to thermal runaway.

842

843

844

845

846

847

2.2. The heating device should be a resistive heating element, or other suitable heating device/technology capable of delivering the target parameters. Target parameters for the heating element are listed in Table 1.

848

849

850

**Table 1
Heater device selection guide: Target parameters**

851

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Rationale</i>
Heater device material	Nickel-chrome with an isolating barrier or another suitable resistive heating material	Achieve high temperatures and prevent element failures. Isolating materials may include alumina, ceramic, or fiberglass.
Thickness	<5 mm	Minimize effect of heater on REESS. Some REESS designs may require a thinner heating element.
Area	As small as possible, but no larger than 20 % of the surface area of the targeted face of the initiation cell	Concentrate heat to the smallest feasible area on the cell surface. Largest cell surface should be used, if possible
Heating rate	15 °C/s	Similar to heating rates observed within thermal runaway conditions. ^a

Maximum temperature	100 °C larger than the chosen setpoint temperature	Heater shall maintain integrity at the chosen operating temperature and take into account temperature deviations from heater element to thermocouple. ^b
Control method	Thermostatic closed loop	Avoids undesirable test results, such as heating element burnout, elevated heating element temperature, battery cell sidewall ruptures due to high element temperature. ^c
<p>^a Ideally the heating rate is measured directly by a thermocouple on the chosen heater.</p> <p>^b This temperature may need adjustment for other chemistries and potentially other cell types to avoid cell sidewall ruptures.</p> <p>^c Using a low voltage power source for the heating element will require higher currents (thicker wires), while a higher voltage source will require more resistant isolating material and higher levels of user safety while implementing the test.</p>		

852

853

3. Test procedure for vehicle level test

854

The general conditions in Annex 9K, paragraph 3. shall be satisfied when the method is implemented at the vehicle level.

855

856

(a) Instrument the REESS as outlined above and connect all cooling/communication and high voltage lines and reinstall REESS into vehicle.

857

858

859

(b) Connect to CAN-bus or other vehicle monitoring system to collect data about battery management system.

860

861

(c) Install video camera inside vehicle cabin to record video (dashboard/information screen) and audio (warnings) from vehicle during test if applicable.

862

863

864

(d) Perform multi-gas measurement according to “Recorded data and measurements” paragraph if applicable.

865

866

(e) Turn vehicle “on” and set it in the “parked” mode.

867

(f) Verify there are no warning indications related to REESS or powertrain failure before proceeding.

868

869

(g) Begin recording temperature and battery management system data.

870

(h) Begin sending power to the heating element.

871

(i) Open relay to heater after:

872

(i) a predetermined maximum heating period, or

873

(ii) a total energy input to the heater that is > 20 % of initiation cell energy, or

874

875

(iii) earlier, based on thermal runaway detection criteria in the initiation cell given in Annex 9K, paragraph 5.

876

877

(j) Discontinue the heating when the thermal runaway of the initiation cell is confirmed by fulfilment of one of the main criteria in Annex 9K, paragraph 5.1.

878

879

880

4. (Placeholder) Test procedure for REESS or REESS subsystem test

881

Annex 9K – Appendix 2

882

Thermal runaway initiation method with internal heater

883

This test method is similar with the external heating method except it relies on an internal, localized short circuit inside the cell created by a local heater. The purpose of this test is to create a thermal runaway through the creation of a hole in the separator of the triggered cell. The hole comes from the local melting of the separator induced by the local heater.

884

885

886

887

888

889

1. Trigger method description

890

The heater is a resistor made of a tungsten flat spiral (Figure 3). The coil is wrapped in one layer of separator with similar melting temperature as the cell separator.

891

892

893

The important parameters of the resistor heater are:

894

(a) thickness of heating filament: see Figure 1,

895

(b) resistance: $(200 \pm 5) \text{ m}\Omega$,

896

(c) heating power: from 50 watts to 200 watts between 10 s and 120 s to the cell,

897

898

(d) the entire heating area shall be located on the separator.

899

The resistance, power and duration shall be adjusted according to the electrochemistry and the size of the cell.

900

901

The energy is only released in the tungsten portion of the device since the external leads do not generate significant heat and, therefore, this additional energy does not influence the outcome of the test.

902

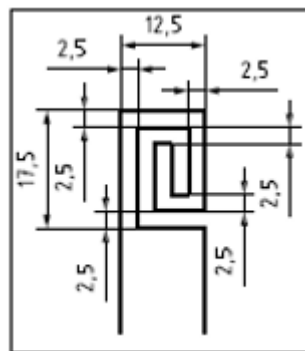
903

904

Figure 1

905

Example of an internal heater flat spiral of tungsten



(mm)

906

NOTE: The wire diameter is usually 0.1 mm to 0.3 mm

907

908

909

2. Initiation cell preparation

910

The heater is inserted in the connected electrode stack or jelly roll before cell sealing with the following steps. These steps are adapted for cylindrical and prismatic cells. A similar internal heater can be used for pouch cells with an adapted sealing principle.

911

912

913

914

2.1. Step 1: Two holes are drilled into the cover to allow the electrical feedthrough of the heater from inside the cell to the outside (Figure 4).

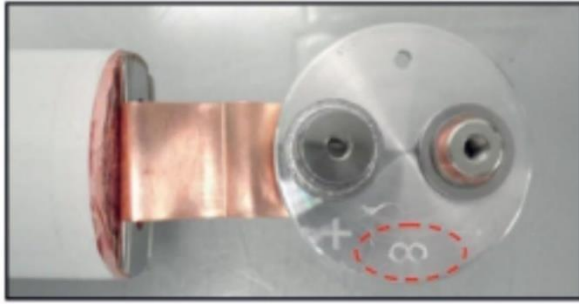
915

916

917

918
919

Figure 2
Example of specific holes in cover for heater connection



920

921

2.2. Step 2: Unroll the separators and the electrodes to insert the heater.

922

2.3. Step 3: Locate the heater on the last wrap of electrode (Figure 4). The heater should be placed between the outermost negative and positive electrodes for the cell, if possible (see Figures 3, 4 and 5). The location should be determined between the manufacturer and Technical Services.

923

924

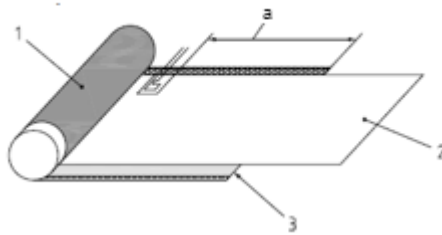
925

Avoid unrolling a larger part of the jelly roll, since this can lead to damage of the jelly roll. Use an outer stack in case of stacked layers.

926

927

Figure 3
Example of heater location inside the cylindrical cell.



930

931

932

933

934

935

936

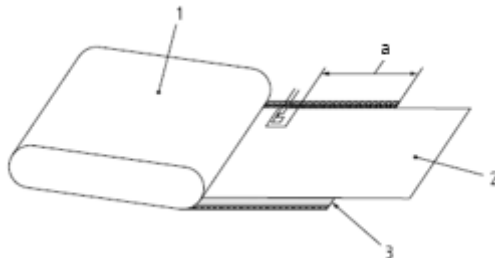
937

938

Key

- 1 positive electrode**
- 2 separator**
- 3 negative electrode**
- a 180mm from end of positive electrode and 15mm from end of negative electrode, tolerance ± 5 mm.**

Figure 4
Example of heater location inside the prismatic cell.



941

942

943

944

945

946

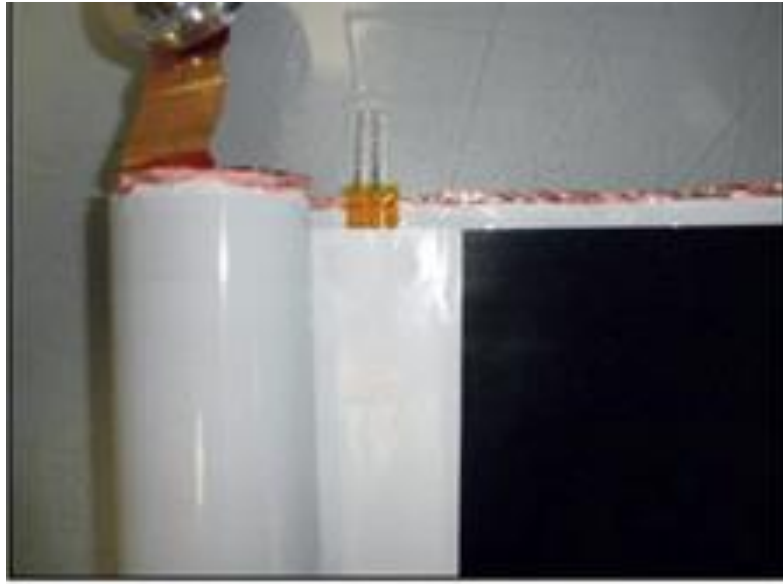
947

Key

- 1 positive electrode**
- 2 separator**
- 3 negative electrode**
- a 180mm from end of positive electrode and 15mm from end of negative electrode, tolerance ± 5 mm.**

948
949
950

Figure 5
Example of heater located on the last lap of negative electrode



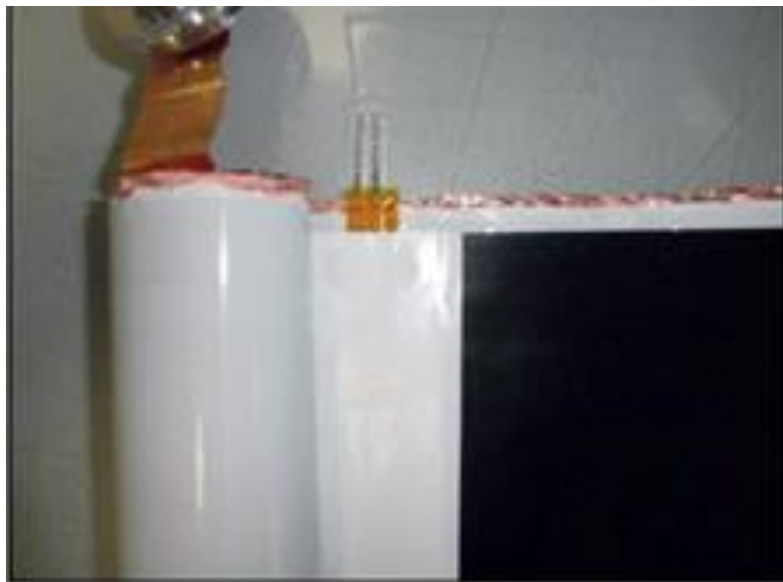
951
952
953

Figure 6
Example of jelly roll equipped with heater



954
955
956

2.4. Step 4: Wind the jelly roll with the heater (see Figure 6).



957
958

959
960
961

Figure 6
Example of jelly roll equipped with heater



962
963
964
965
966

2.5. Step 5: Insulate the heater supply wires from the other parts of the cell. They are directed through the specific holes in the cover (see Figure 7). Assemble the lithium-ion cell according to standard manufacturing processes (e.g. electrolyte filling, cover welding).

967
968
969
970

All wires used in the REESS or REESS subsystem shall be electrically isolated. Furthermore, it should be ensured that no electrolyte or gases can leak out through the space between the wire strand and the wire insulator.

971
972
973
974

Selection of resin is critical as the strength of seal shall be greater than any installed vent of the cell. Furthermore, it should be ensured that no electrolyte or gases can leak out through the space between the wire strand and the wire insulator.

975
976
977
978
979
980

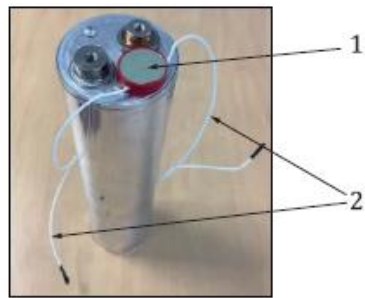
After cell cover welding, obtain the final sealing of the cell by adding a resin (e.g. epoxy glue). at the interface of the heater supply wires terminals and the cover. Perform the formation of the prepared cell in a designated chamber for that particular purpose. After it is completely dry, carry out a helium test to check the sealing before filling the cell with electrolyte (see Figure 8).

981
982

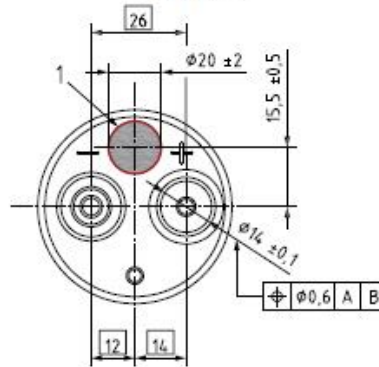
When the helium test is successful, the cell is ready to be filled and formed.

983
984

Figure 7
Example of finished cell with heater.



a) picture



b) illustration

Key

- 1 resin for sealing of the heater supply
- 2 supply wires of the heater

985
986
987
988

Figure 8
Example of cell before filling with electrolyte.



3. Assemble the prepared cell inside the REESS or REESS subsystem according to the standard configuration.

989
990
991

If the modified cell is integrated into a REESS subsystem, without connecting wires (temperature sensor and internal power supply), some module modification may be necessary. Create a hole with sufficient diameter on the REESS or REESS subsystem case for all wires, thermocouple, voltage sensor, and so on. Fill in the hole of an initiation module with heat-resistant resin to prevent the inflow of oxygen or flame to escape from the hole during the test.

992
993
994
995
996
997
998

999
1000
1001
1002
1003
1004
1005
1006
1007
1008
1009
1010
1011
1012
1013
1014
1015
1016
1017
1018
1019
1020

Connect the heater terminals by a dedicated connection box to the power supply.

Re-assemble and seal the Tested-Device. Connect all wires of the heater, thermocouples and voltage sensors to the outside of the REESS or REESS subsystem through a hole in the REESS casing and seal the holes with heat-resistant resin.

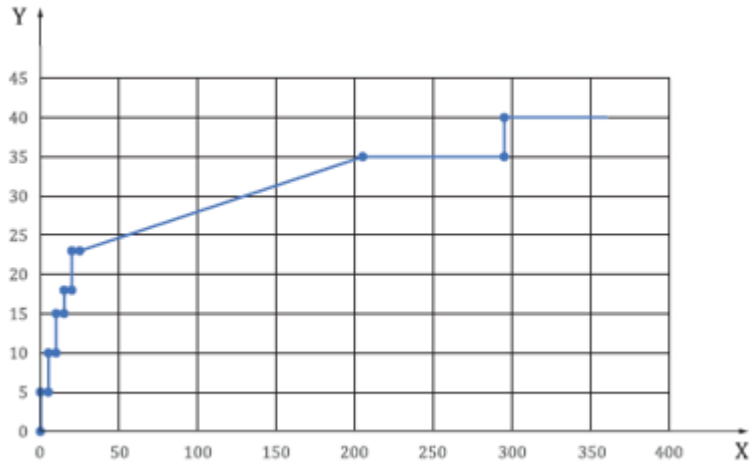
For a vehicle level test, mount the REESS on the vehicle, according to manufacturer's specifications.

4. Internal heater test procedure

The test procedure consists of the following steps:

- (a) checking and connecting the heater;
- (b) checking heater resistance;
- (c) applying the heater current profile specified in Table 1 and Figure 9 until thermal runaway;
- (d) discontinue the heating sequence when thermal runaway when the thermal runaway of the initiation cell is confirmed by fulfilment of one of the main criteria in paragraph 6.3.5.1
- (e) continue the measurements until the cell temperature decreases to 60 °C.

Figure 9
Current profile for heater



Key
X time (s)
Y current (A)

1021
1022
1023
1024
1025
1026

1027
1028

Table 1
Current profile for heater

<i>Time (s)</i>	<i>Current (A)</i>
0	0
0	5
5	5
5	10
10	10
10	15
15	15
15	18
20	18
20	23
25	23
205	35
295	35
295	40
360	40

1029
1030

1031 **Annex 9K – Appendix 3**

1032 **Thermal runaway initiation method with nail penetration trigger**

1033

1034 (Placeholder)

1035

1036
