

Global Reference Guide on the Marking of Electrical Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmospheres (EU/ATEX/IECEx/CSA)

Typical marking of electrical equipment for use in explosive gas atmospheres (EU/ATEX/IECEx):

Marking according to Directive 2014/34/EU (previously 94/9/EG) (ATEX)



II 2 G Ex db eb IIC T4 Gb

- CE** CE-marking and number of the notified (monitoring) body (0158 = DEKRA EXAM GmbH) (not for equipment category 3)
- Ex** Explosion protection symbol
- II** Equipment group (equipment for use in hazardous areas, other than mines susceptible to firedamp)
- 2** Equipment category (category 2)
- G** Explosive atmosphere (gas, vapour or mist)

Marking according to IEC/CENELEC/CSA standard 60079-0

- Ex** Explosion protection marking
- db** Type of protection (flameproof enclosure, level of protection „db“)
- eb** Type of protection (Increased safety, level of protection „eb“)
- IIC** Equipment group (Electrical equipment group II, subgroup IIC (typical gas: hydrogen), intended for use in areas where an explosive gas atmosphere is to be expected, other than mines susceptible to firedamp)
- T4** Temperature class (max. surface temperature 135 °C)
- Gb** Equipment protection level (EPL Gb; equipment with high protection level)

Typical marking of electrical equipment for use in explosive dust atmospheres (EU/ATEX/IECEx):

Marking according to Directive 2014/34/EU (previously 94/9/EG) (ATEX)



II 2 D Ex tb IIIC T80 °C Db

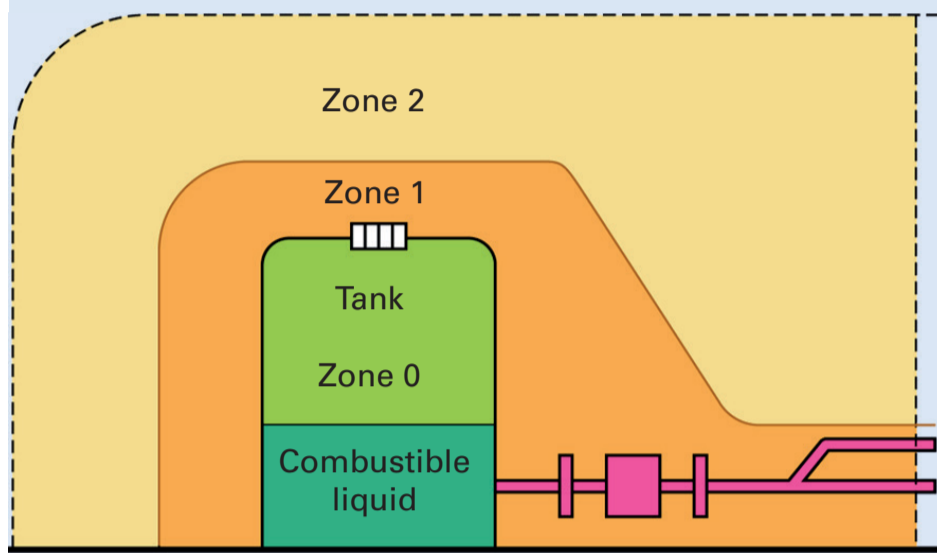
- CE** CE-marking and number of the notified (monitoring) body (0158 = DEKRA EXAM GmbH) (not for equipment category 3)
- Ex** Explosion protection symbol
- II** Equipment group (equipment for use in hazardous areas, other than mines susceptible to firedamp)
- 2** Equipment category (Category 2)
- D** Explosive atmosphere (dust)

Marking according to IEC/CENELEC/CSA standard 60079-0

- Ex** Explosion protection marking
- tb** Type of protection (protection by enclosure „tb“)
- IIIC** Equipment group (Electrical apparatus group III, subgroup IIIC (conductive dust), intended for use in areas where an explosive dust atmosphere is to be expected, other than mines susceptible to firedamp)
- T80 °C** Surface temperature (max. 80 °C)
- Db** Equipment protection level (EPL Db; equipment with high protection level)

Example of classification of explosive gas atmospheres into zones

Ex gas atmosphere according to IEC/EN 60079-10-1



Explosion group

Explosive Atmosphere	Typical combustible material	Group	
Gas, vapour or mist	Acetylene	IIC	
	Hydrogen	IIC / IIB+H2	
	Ethylene/Formaldehyde	IIB	
	Methane/Octane	IIA	
Dust	Conductive	Metal dust	IIIC
		Coal dust	IIIB
	Non-conductive	Grain dust	IIIB
		Fibres & Flyings	IIIA

Temperature class

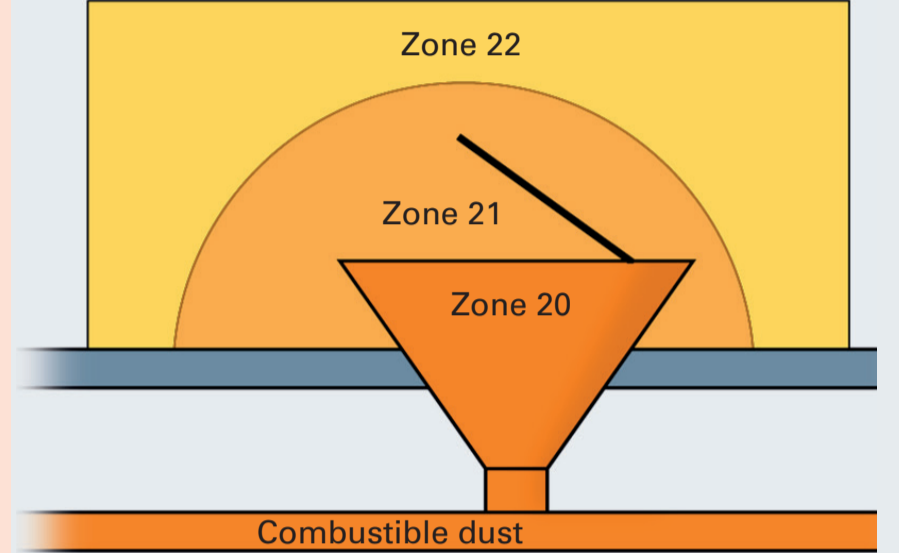
Maximum surface temperature	IEC/EN 60079-0
450 °C	T1
300 °C	T2
200 °C	T3
135 °C	T4
100 °C	T5
85 °C	T6

IP degree of protection to IEC 60529

First digit	Second digit
0 No protection	0 No protection
1 > 50 mm diameter	1 Vertically dripping water
2 > 12.5 mm diameter	2 15° angled dripping water
3 > 2.5 mm diameter	3 Spraying water
4 > 1.0 mm diameter	4 Splashing water
5 Dust protected	5 Water jets
6 Dust tight	6 Strong water jets
	7 Temporary submersion
	8 Permanent submersion
	9 High pressure, high temperature spray downs

Example of classification of explosive dust atmospheres into zones

Ex dust atmosphere according to IEC/EN 60079-10-2



Electrical types of protection for explosive atmospheres due to flammable gases, vapours and mists

Type	Protection level	Type of protection	Group	Equipment category	Equipment protection level (EPL)	CENELEC/IEC/CSA standard	Protection concept
d	da	Flameproof enclosure	II	1 G	Ga	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-1	Explosion containment, prevention of flame transmission
d	db	Flameproof enclosure	II	2 G	Gb	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-1	Explosion containment, prevention of flame transmission
d	dc	Flameproof enclosure	II	3 G	Gc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-1	Explosion containment, prevention of flame transmission
p	pxb pyb	Pressurized enclosure	II	2 G	Gb	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-2	Exclusion of Ex-atmosphere
p	pzc	Pressurized enclosure	II	3 G	Gc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-2	Exclusion of Ex-atmosphere
q		Powder filling	II	2 G	Gb	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-5	Prevention of explosion diffusion
o	ob	Liquid immersion	II	2 G	Gb	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-6	Exclusion of Ex-atmosphere
o	oc	Liquid immersion	II	3 G	Gc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-6	Exclusion of Ex-atmosphere
e	eb	Increased safety	II	2 G	Gb	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-7	No arcs, sparks or hot surfaces
e	ec	Increased safety	II	3 G	Gc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-7	No arcs, sparks or hot surfaces
i	ia	Intrinsic safety	II	1 G	Ga	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-11	Limitation of spark energy and surface temperature
i	ib	Intrinsic safety	II	2 G	Gb	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-11	Limitation of spark energy and surface temperature
i	ic	Intrinsic safety	II	3 G	Gc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-11	Limitation of spark energy and surface temperature
p/v		Pressurized enclosure / ventilation	II	2 G	Gb	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-13	Exclusion of Ex-atmosphere / dilution
nA		Non-sparking equipment	II	3 G	Gc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-15	No arcs, sparks or hot surfaces
nC		Enclosed equipment	II	3 G	Gc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-15	Explosion containment, prevention of flame transmission
nR		Restricted breathing enclosure	II	3 G	Gc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-15	Exclusion of Ex-atmosphere for a limited period
m	ma	Encapsulation	II	1 G	Ga	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-18	Exclusion of Ex-atmosphere
m	mb	Encapsulation	II	2 G	Gb	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-18	Exclusion of Ex-atmosphere
m	mc	Encapsulation	II	3 G	Gc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-18	Exclusion of Ex-atmosphere
i		Intrinsic system	II	2 G	Gb	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-25	Limitation of spark energy and surface temperature
		Equipment with protection level (EPL) Ga	II	1 G / 1 G/2 G	Ga / Ga/Gb	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-26	Double protection concept
op is		Inherent safe optical radiation	II	1 G	Ga	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-28	Limitation of radiation energy
op is		Inherent safe optical radiation	II	2 G	Gb	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-28	Limitation of radiation energy
op is		Inherent safe optical radiation	II	3 G	Gc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-28	Limitation of radiation energy
op pr op sh		Safe/interlocked optical radiation	II	2 G	Gb	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-28	Limitation or containment of radiation energy
op pr op sh		Safe/interlocked optical radiation	II	3 G	Gc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-28	Limitation or containment of radiation energy
s	sa	Special protection	n.a.	n.a.	Ga	IEC 60079-33	Special measures
s	sb	Special protection	n.a.	n.a.	Gb	IEC 60079-33	Special measures
s	sc	Special protection	n.a.	n.a.	Gc	IEC 60079-33	Special measures

Electrical types of protection for explosive atmospheres due to combustible dust

Type	Protection level	Type of protection	Group	Equipment category	Equipment protection level (EPL)	CENELEC/IEC/CSA standard	Protection concept
p	pxb	Pressurized enclosure	II	III	2 D	Db	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-2
p	pzc	Pressurized enclosure	II	III	3 D	Dc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-2
i	ia	Intrinsic safety	II	III	1 D	Da	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-11
i	ib	Intrinsic safety	II	III	2 D	Db	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-11
i	ic	Intrinsic safety	II	III	3 D	Dc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-11
m	ma	Encapsulation	II	III	1 D	Da	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-18
m	mb	Encapsulation	II	III	2 D	Db	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-18
m	mc	Encapsulation	II	III	3 D	Dc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-18
op is		Inherent safe optical radiation	II	III	1 D	Da	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-28
op is		Inherent safe optical radiation	II	III	2 D	Db	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-28
op is		Inherent safe optical radiation	II	III	3 D	Dc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-28
op pr op sh		Safe/interlocked optical radiation	II	III	2 D	Db	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-28
op pr op sh		Safe/interlocked optical radiation	II	III	3 D	Dc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-28
t	ta	Protection by enclosure	II	III	1 D	Da	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-31
t	tb	Protection by enclosure	II	III	2 D	Db	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-31
t	tc	Protection by enclosure	II	III	3 D	Dc	EN/IEC/CSA 60079-31
s	sa	Special protection			n.a.	Da	IEC 60079-33
s	sb	Special protection			n.a.	Db	IEC 60079-33
s	sc	Special protection			n.a.	Dc	IEC 60079-33

Zone classification / Equipment protection level

Substance	Period of presence of the combustible substances	Zone	Minimum requirements for equipment			Protection level
			Directive 2014/34/EU	Standard IEC/EN/CSA 60079-0	Equipment protection level EPL	
Gas, mist, vapour	Continuously for long periods or frequently	Zone 0	II	1 G	Ga	very high
	Occasional occurrence	Zone 1	II	2 G	Gb	high
	Not likely, but if it occurs only rarely and for a short period	Zone 2	II	3 G	Gc	enhanced
Dust	Continuously for long periods or frequently	Zone 20	II	1 D	III	Da
	Occasional occurrence	Zone 21	II	2 D	III	Db
	Not likely, but if it occurs only rarely and for a short period	Zone 22	II	3 D	III	Dc
Methane, coal dust		Mining	I	M1	I	Ma
		Mining	I	M2	I	Mb

Classification of explosion-protected equipment into equipment groups and categories in accordance with Directive 2014/34/EU

Equipment Group I for mines endangered by firedamp.

The equipment Group I is subdivided into the Categories M1 and M2:

M1	The equipment in this category is intended for use in both underground parts of mines and those parts of surface installations of such mines that are endangered by firedamp and/or combustible dust. The equipment shall continue to remain functional even in the event of rare incidents relating to the equipment with an explosive atmosphere present, and feature such protective measures that in the event of failure of one means of protection, at least an independent second means provides the requisite level of protection, or the requisite level of protection is assured in the event of two faults occurring independently of each other.
M2	The equipment in this category is intended for use in both underground parts of mines and those parts of surface installations of such mines that are endangered by firedamp and/or combustible dust. If an explosive atmosphere occurs, it must be possible to switch off the equipment. The constructional explosion-protection measures ensure the required degree of safety during normal operation, even under severe operating conditions and, in particular, in cases of rough handling and changing environmental influences.

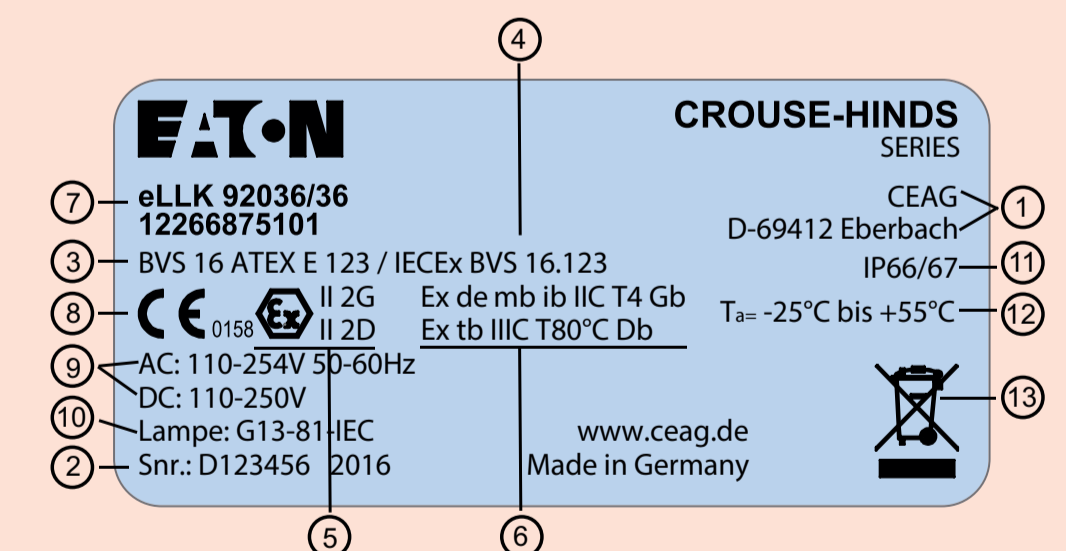
Equipment Group II for all other hazardous areas

The equipment Group II is subdivided into the Categories 1, 2 and 3:

1	The equipment in this category is intended for use in areas in which an explosive atmosphere is present continuously or for long periods or frequently. Even if equipment failures only occur infrequently, the equipment must ensure the required degree of safety and feature such explosion protection measures that — if one constructional protective measure fails, at least one other independent constructional protective measure ensures the required degree of safety, or — if two independent faults occur in combination, the required degree of safety is still ensured.
2	The equipment in this category is intended for use in areas in which an explosive atmosphere occurs occasionally. Even in the case of frequent equipment failures or faulty conditions that are normally to be expected, the constructional explosion-protection measures ensure the required degree of safety.
3	The equipment in this category is intended for use in areas in which no occurrence of an explosive atmosphere due to gases, vapours, mists or whirled-up dust is to be expected. If, however, it occurs, then in all probability only rarely or for a short period. During normal operation the equipment ensures the required degree of safety.

Example of type label: CEAG product

- Name or registered trade mark (CEAG) and address of the manufacturer
- Serial number including year of manufacture
- Certificate number, may end with "X" or "U" - "X" indicates that special conditions for safe use apply - "U" is used for component certificates
- Additional IECEx certification
- Marking according to directive: Equipment group (II) and equipment category (2); type of explosive atmosphere G (Gas, vapour or mist) - D (dust)
- Marking according to standard: IEC/EN
- Equipment name/type
- CE marking and number of the "notified body" responsible for monitoring the quality system (0158 = EXAM Germany)
- Electrical parameters
- Other essential information (depends on the standard, e.g. lamp)



- Other optional information (e.g. degree of protection)
- Permissible ambient temperature (-25°C to +55°C); no marking required for temperatures from -20°C to 40°C (standard values for all equipment)
- Marking according to EU-directive 2002/96/EC (WEEE-directive: Waste of Electrical and Electronic Equipment)

Colour legend

- Information relating to explosive gas atmospheres
- Information relating to explosive dust atmospheres
- Information relating to mines endangered by firedamp
- Information relating to all areas



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Global Reference Guide on the Marking of Electrical Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmospheres: NEC/CEC Reference

Typical NEC/CEC Class/Division marking of electrical apparatus in USA and Canada:
Marking according to NEC 500 / CEC J18

Marking according to NEC 505 (for marking according CEC 18 see Global Reference Guide EU/ATEX/IECEX/CSA)

Class I Division 1 Groups A, B, C & D T6 Class I Zone 1 AEx e IIC T6

Class IHazard category
Division 1Area classification
Groups A, B, C & D.....Hazardous atmosphere category (gas or dust grouping)
T6Temperature classification

Class IHazard category
Zone 1Area classification
AEx.....Explosion-protection standard
e.....Method of explosion protection
IICHazardous atmosphere category (gas or dust grouping)
T6Temperature classification

Method of explosion protection

Type of protection	Description of protection	Permitted for use in Canada				Protection concept
		Permitted for use in USA		Permitted for use in Canada		
		NEC 500	NEC 505	CEC J18	CEC 18	
e	Increased safety	2	1, 2	-	1, 2	No arcs, sparks or hot surfaces
n	Non-incendive	2	2	2	2	
d	Flameproof	2	1, 2	-	1, 2	Contain the explosion prevent the flame propagation
-	Explosion-proof	1, 2	1, 2	1, 2	-	
q	Powder filled	2	1, 2	-	1, 2	
ia	Intrinsic safety	1, 2	0, 1, 2	1, 2	0, 1, 2	
ib		2	1, 2	-	1, 2	
p	Pressurized (purged)	1, 2	1, 2	1, 2	1, 2	Keep the flammable gas out
pxb		1, 2	1, 2	-	1, 2	
pyb		1, 2	1, 2	-	1, 2	
m	Encapsulation	2	1, 2	-	1, 2	Enclosed in compound
ma		1, 2	0, 1, 2	-	0, 1, 2	
mb		2	1, 2	-	1, 2	
o	Oil immersion	2	1, 2	2	1, 2	Immersed in liquid

Area classification

	Continuous hazard	Intermittent hazard	Hazard under abnormal conditions
North America / NEC 500-503/CEC J18	Division 1	Division 1	Division 2
NEC 505-506/CEC 18	Zone 0 (Zone 20 dust)	Zone 1 (Zone 21 dust)	Zone 2 (Zone 22 dust)

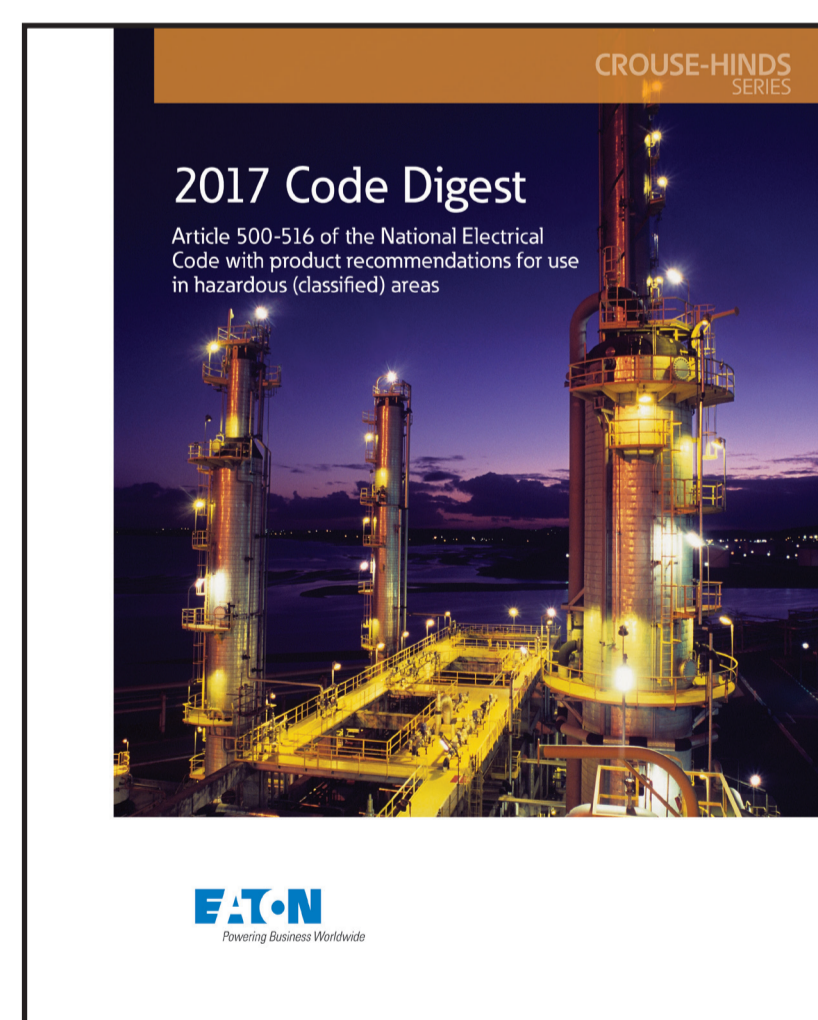
Temperature classification according to NEC/CEC

Maximum surface temperature	US Zone concept	US Division / Canada Zone and Division concept
450 °C (842 °F)	T1	T1
300 °C (572 °F)	T2	T2
280 °C (536 °F)		T2A
260 °C (500 °F)		T2B
230 °C (446 °F)		T2C
215 °C (419 °F)		T2D
200 °C (392 °F)	T3	T3
180 °C (356 °F)		T3A
165 °C (329 °F)		T3B
160 °C (320 °F)		T3C
135 °C (275 °F)	T4	T4
120 °C (248 °F)		T4A
100 °C (212 °F)	T5	T5
85 °C (185 °F)	T6	T6

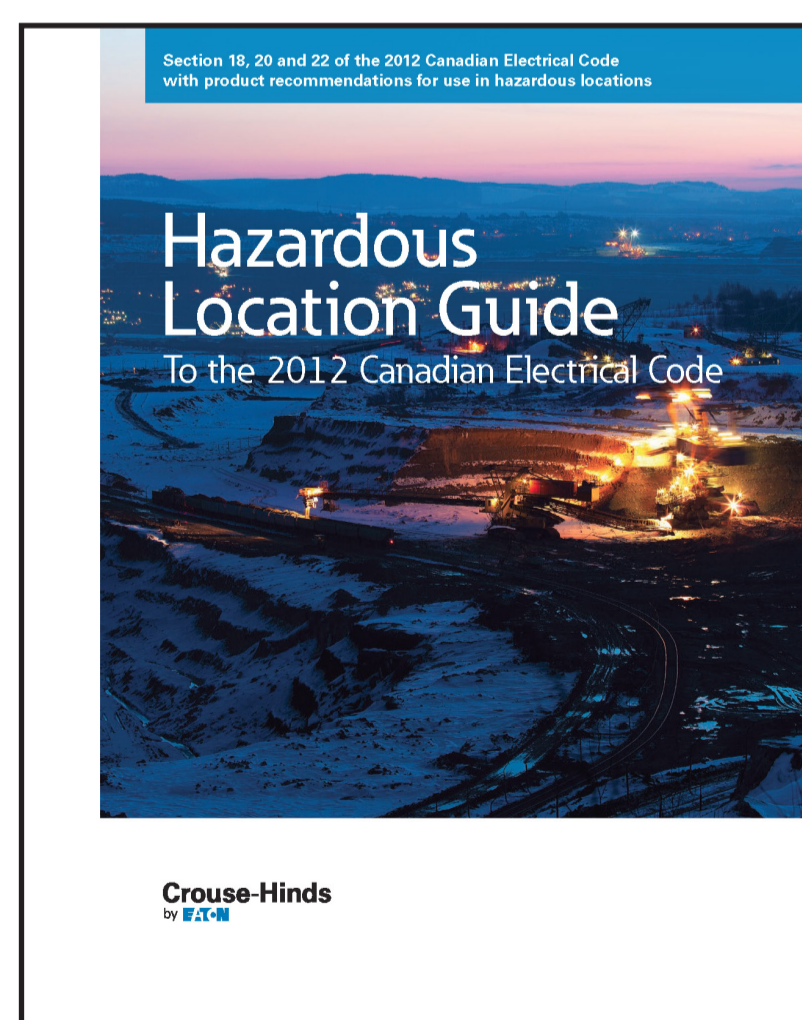
Committees and directives

NEMA (National Electrical Manufacturers Association) NEMA 250 series standards for enclosure types covers both hazardous areas (potentially explosive atmospheres) and non-hazardous areas.
NEC – National Electrical Code (USA)
CEC – Canadian Electrical Code (Canada)

NEC Code Digest



CEC Code Digest



Hazardous atmosphere category (gas or dust grouping)

Explosive atmosphere	Typical hazard material	North America NEC 500-503 / CEC J18		NEC 505 / CEC 18
		Hazard category	Grouping	Gas-grouping
Gases and vapours*	Acetylene	Class I	Group A	IIC
	Hydrogen	Class I	Group B	IIC or IIB+H2
	Ethylene/Formaldehyde	Class I	Group C	IIB
	Methane/Octane	Class I	Group D	IIA
Dust**	Metal dust	Class II	Group E	IIIC
	Coal dust	Class II	Group F	IIIC
	Grain dust	Class II	Group G	IIIB
Fibres & Flyings	Wood, paper or cotton processing	Class III	-	IIIA

* Equipment listed and marked in accordance with 505.9(C)(2) for use in Zone 0, 1, or 2 locations are permitted in Class I, Division 2 locations for the same gas and with a suitable temperature class, see article 501.5 of the National Electrical Code; in Canada equipment suitable for use in Zone 0, 1 or 2 are permitted to be used in Class I Division 2 locations and with a suitable temperature class per CE Code Rule J18-150

** Equipment listed and marked in accordance with 506.9(C)(2) for Zone 20, 21, or 22 locations are permitted in Class II, Division 2 locations for the same dust atmosphere and with a suitable temperature class. In Canada, for the same explosive dust atmosphere and with a suitable temperature class, equipment providing (i) EPL Da, Db or Dc can be used in Class II, Division 2 locations per CEC Rule J18-274 (ii) EPL Da can be used in Class II Div 1 locations per CEC Rule J18-224 Equipment providing (i) an EPL Da can be used in a Class III Division 1 location with a temperature class not greater than T120C for equipment that may be overloaded and not greater than T165 °C for equipment that can be overloaded per CEC J18-326 (ii) an EPL Da, Db or Dc can be used in a Class III Division 2 location with a temperature class not greater than T120C for equipment that may be overloaded and not greater than T165 °C for equipment that can be overloaded per CEC J18-376

NEMA enclosure types

Enclosure type	Intended use	Equivalent IP rating*
1	Indoor use, limited amounts of falling dirt	20
3	Outdoor use, rain, sleet, windblown dust, external formation of ice	55
3R	Outdoor use, rain, sleet, external formation of ice	24
3S	Outdoor use, rain, sleet, windblown dust, external mechanisms operable when ice laden	55
4	Indoor or outdoor use, windblown dust and rain, splashing water, hose directed water, external formation of ice	66
4X	Indoor or outdoor use, windblown dust and rain, splashing water, hose directed water, corrosion resistant, external formation of ice laden	66
5	Indoor use, settling airborne dust, falling dirt, non-corrosive liquids	53
6	Indoor or outdoor use, hose directed water, temporary submersion, external formation of ice	67
6P	Indoor or outdoor use, hose directed water, prolonged submersion, external formation of ice	68
7**	Indoor use, Class I, Division 1, Groups A, B, C, and D hazardous locations, air-break equipment	
8**	Indoor or outdoor use, Class I, Division 1, Groups A, B, C, and D hazardous locations, oil-immersed equipment	
9**	Indoor use, Class II, Division 1, Groups E, F, and G hazardous locations, air-break equipment	
10**	Mining applications	
12	Indoor use, circulating dust, falling dirt, dripping noncorrosive liquids	54
12K	Indoor use, circulating dust, falling dirt, dripping noncorrosive liquids, provided with knockouts	54
13	Indoor use, lint, dust, spraying of water, oil a noncorrosive coolant	54

* NEMA Enclosure Type can be converted to IP Code rating, but IP Codes cannot be converted to NEMA Enclosure Type (Ref. NEMA 250)
** Enclosure Types for U.S. only (Ref. NEMA 250)

You can find more information on the definition of hazardous areas according to NEC/CEC and the requirements of explosion-protected equipment for use in North America you will find in the 2017 Code Digest (NEC) and the Hazardous Location Guide (CEC).

These comprehensive basic guides and further information can be found on the net under:

http://www.cooperindustries.com/content/public/en/crouse-hinds/resources/Library/technical_documents.html

Using the following link you can download the PDF documents directly:

2017 Code Digest (NEC):

<http://www.cooperindustries.com/content/dam/public/crousehinds/resources/pdfs/literature/crouse-hinds-codedigest2017.pdf>

Hazardous Location Guide (CEC):

<http://www.cooperindustries.com/content/dam/public/crousehinds/resources/pdfs/literature/canadian-code-2012.pdf>



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