

IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group
Liaison Communication

Source: IEEE 802.3 Working Group¹

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From: David Law Chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group
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Subject: Potential revision of IEC 61140

Approval: Agreed at IEEE 802.3 interim meeting, Hamburg, Germany 19 September 2024

Dear Mr Jacques,

Further to our letter '[Potential scope and requirement overlap between IEC PT 63315 and IEC 60364](#)' dated 30 September 2021, we continue to be concerned with a potential lack of alignment between IEC 61140 and IEC 62368-1 'Audio/video, information and communication technology equipment - Part 1: Safety requirements' ES1 requirements applicable to information and communication (ICT) equipment, including equipment for DC power transfer between ICT ports at ≤ 60 Vd.c. using fixed ICT wiring (e.g., Power over Ethernet equipment).

Clause 1 'Scope' of IEC 61140 'Protection against electric shock – Common aspects for installation and equipment' says that 'According to IEC Guide 104, technical committees, when preparing, amending, or revising their publications, are required to make use of any basic safety publication such as IEC 61140.'. Subclause 6.1 'General' in Clause 6 'Protective

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measures' then says that 'The use of ELV other than that in accordance with 6.7 and 6.8 is not a protective measure'. Since subclause 6.7 is 'Protection by SELV system' and subclause 6.8 is 'Protection by a PELV system', IEC 61140 seems to exclude ES1.

Based on IEC TC 64 working document 64/2694/DC '[Maintenance of IEC 61140:2016 ED4 – Protection against electric shock – Common aspects for installations and equipment](#)', we understand that IEC TC 64 is seeking comments and proposals regarding a potential revision of IEC 61140. While IEEE 802.3 notes that 64/2694/DC was addressed to other IEC TCs, we nevertheless would like to request that IEC TC 64 consider if this revision could be an opportunity to achieve alignment across these IEC standards.

Sincerely,
David Law
Chair, IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group

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