

OSM/IN DECISION

Standard:	EN 60670-1:05+A1:13	Sub clause:	7.7, 8.1, 10 - 3 th paragraph	Sheet N°:	OSM/IN 286
Subject:	Marking on boxes and enclosures	Key words:	Marking, box, enclosure, hollow wall	Meeting N°: Inquiry:	27 (2017) OSM/IN(Inq)-154_2016

Description of the problem:

There seems to be confusion about the marking of boxes for hollow wall with the higher degree of protection than IP20. There are several demands regarding the marking, which seems to be contradictory.



Picture 1

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Question:

- 1) The definition of box – what is box and what is enclosure?

EN 60670-1:05+A1:13 The cl.3 Definitions:

3.1

enclosure

combination of parts, such as boxes, covers, cover-plates, lids, box extensions, accessories, etc., providing after assembly and installation as in normal use, an appropriate protection against external influences, and a defined protection against contact with enclosed live parts from any accessible direction (see Annex A)

3.2

box

part of an enclosure provided with means for fixing a cover, cover-plate, accessory, etc., and intended to receive accessories (such as socket-outlets, switches, etc.)

on the contrary, there is a wording in the 3rd paragraph of chapter 10:

"Where enclosures are supplied without a cover, cover-plate or an accessory they are tested with the appropriate parts fitted according to the information given in the manufacturer's instructions."

Is the enclosure without accessory still enclosure or there should be written box instead of enclosure?

This is important to decide because:

- 2) Boxes and enclosures shall be marked with 8.1 a). In addition enclosures shall be marked with 8.1 b),c). When the enclosure described in the question 1 becomes box, is it possible to mark it with markings according to 8.1 b), c)? Or it is forbidden?
- 3) a) What does the “special cases” and “special parts” in last paragraph of cl. 8.1 means?
- b) What is the meaning of “the marking covers the initial degree”?

*"In **special cases**, in order to achieve a higher degree of protection by the use of **special parts** an instruction sheet should be provided and should indicate the higher degree of protection. In such a*

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case, the marking covers **the initial degree of protection.**"

4) Cl. 7.7:

Classification criteria		
7.7 Boxes and enclosures for hollow walls and the like according to 7.2.1.3 are classified as	7.7.1 Class Ha	
	7.7.2 Class Hb	7.7.2.1 Class Hb for walls
		7.7.2.2 Class Hb for ceilings
	7.7.3 According to the degree of protection of the part mounted in the hollow wall	7.7.3.1 IP2X
		7.7.3.2 >IP2X

Boxes and enclosures for hollow wall should be classified according to its IP code. How to classify boxes, when the testing of degree of protection in cl. 13.2 and 13.3 is intended only for enclosures?

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Proposal:

- 1) The 3rd paragraph of chapter 10 should be changed - enclosures replace with boxes. Contact relevant TC to make revision of standard EN 60670-1.
- 2) Box can be marked according to the 8.1 b), c) if the manufacturer gives information about accessory which fulfilled requirements of protection degree or there should be information that marking is intended only for part of the box mounted in the hollow wall.
- 3) a) “special cases” and “special parts” – everything used to achieve a higher degree of protection (including lids, covers, cover plates, accessories, etc.)
b) “the initial degree of protection” – degree of protection of the original box without special parts.
- 4) Cl. 13.2 and 13.3 shall be intended for:
 - enclosures
 - boxes with special parts
 - parts of boxes mounted in the hollow wall

Contact relevant TC to make revision of standard EN 60670-1.

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Explanatory Notes:

- 2) Boxes comply with IP marking only with additional covers and cover-plates. In case tests were performed with additional accessory there shall be information about accessory which fulfilled requirements of protection degree.
- 3) The degree of protection of the part mounted in the hollow wall can be different than the degree of protection of the special parts and accessories for box.