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SERIES K: PROTECTION AGAINST INTERFERENCE

**Guide for the application of electromagnetic
security requirements – Overview**

Recommendation ITU-T K.87

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Guide for the application of electromagnetic security requirements – Overview

Summary

General guidelines of information security management for telecommunications organizations are presented in Recommendation ITU-T X.1051, which is based on ISO/IEC 27001 and ISO/IEC 27002. In an information security management system (ISMS) based on Recommendation X.1051, physical security is a key issue, as shown for example in the following text presented in Recommendation X.1051:

"a site whose environment is least susceptible to damage from strong electromagnetic field shall be selected for communication centres; where a site is chosen that is exposed to strong electromagnetic fields, appropriate measures should be taken to protect telecommunications equipment rooms with electromagnetic shields;"

"controls should be adopted to minimize the risk of potential physical threats, e.g., theft, fire, explosives, smoke, water (or water supply failure), dust, vibration, chemical effects, electrical supply interference, communications interference, electromagnetic radiation, and vandalism[.]"

When security is managed considering the quoted passages, the threat to equipment or site should be evaluated and mitigated. The threat is related to "vulnerability" and "confidentiality" in ISMS.

This Recommendation, Recommendation ITU-T K.87, outlines electromagnetic security risks of telecommunication equipment and illustrates how to assess and prevent those risks, in order to manage ISMS in accordance with Recommendation ITU-T X.1051. Major electromagnetic security risks addressed in this Recommendation are as follows:

- natural electromagnetic (EM) threats (e.g., lightning);
- unintentional interference (i.e., electromagnetic interference, EMI);
- intentional interference (i.e., intentional electromagnetic interference, IEMI);
- deliberate EM attacks via high-altitude electromagnetic pulse (HEMP);
- deliberate high-power electromagnetic (HPEM) attacks;
- information leakage from EM emanation (i.e., electromagnetic security, EMSEC).

History

Edition	Recommendation	Approval	Study Group
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Keywords

Electromagnetic emanation security (EMSEC), emanation, emission, high-altitude electromagnetic pulse (HEMP), high-power electromagnetic (HPEM), immunity, information security management system (ISMS), intentional electromagnetic interference (IEMI), security, shield, telecommunication equipment.

FOREWORD

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Recommendation ITU-T K.87

Guide for the application of electromagnetic security requirements – Overview

1 Scope

This basic Recommendation presents guidance on the management of physical security concerned with electromagnetic interference and/or emanation, for telecommunications centre managers to implement the information security management system (ISMS) requirements of Recommendation [ITU-T X.1051].

There are two primary categories on the electromagnetic security.

One is high-power electromagnetic interference, either natural (such as lightning) or deliberate (malicious EM attack) that causes damage and disruption for telecommunication centre equipment such as switching, transmission, radio and power.

Another is information leakage from unintentional emanations of telecommunication equipment such as servers, computers and transmission equipment, which process or carry information. There is the possibility that a malicious and sophisticated eavesdropper could reconstruct significant information from intercepted emanations.

Table 1 shows some EM security problems, categorized by EM phenomena, discussed in this Recommendation. Also shown are the relevant Recommendations for each security problem.

Table 1 – EM security problems considered in this Recommendation

Phenomena		Category of security problem	Relevant ITU-T Recommendation
EMI	Intentional EMI (IEMI)	HEMP	[ITU-T K.78]
		HPEM	[ITU-T K.81]
	Natural EMI	Immunity and emission	[ITU-T K.43], [ITU-T K.48], etc.
		Lightning protection	[ITU-T K.20], [ITU-T K.21], [ITU-T K.44], [ITU-T K.45], etc.
Information leakage		EMSEC	[ITU-T K.84]
EMI: Electromagnetic interference HEMP: High-altitude electromagnetic pulse HPEM: High-power electromagnetic EMSEC: Electromagnetic emanation security			

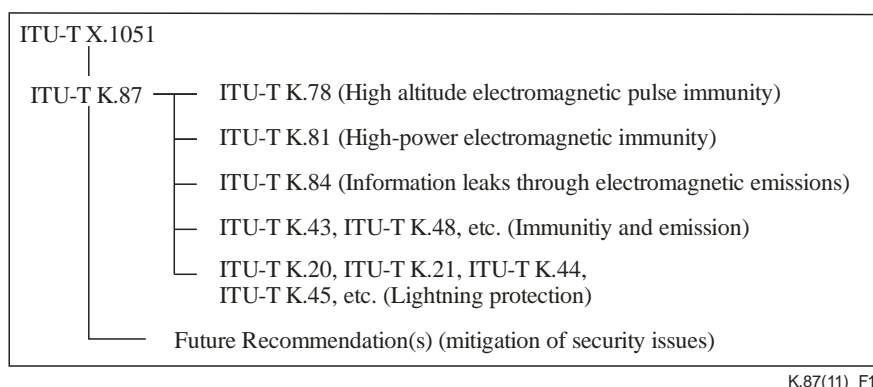


Figure 1 – The relationship between security Recommendations

This Recommendation is guide for application of [ITU-T K.78] (HEMP), [ITU-T K.81] (HPEM), [ITU-T K.84] (information leakage) and K series Recommendations on lightning protection. Figure 1 shows the relationship between relevant Recommendations. Countermeasure methods against the security problems shown in Table 1 are currently under study, as are their evaluation and measurement.

This Recommendation represents an overview of electromagnetic security; it classifies the environments where devices and equipment in need of protection are installed, and classifies predicted threats and vulnerabilities as well as countermeasures.

Details of these security problems and their management are presented in corresponding Recommendations ([ITU-T K.20], [ITU-T K.44], [ITU-T K.45], [ITU-T K.78], [ITU-T K.81], [ITU-T K.84], etc.).

2 References

The following ITU-T Recommendations and other references contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Recommendation. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All Recommendations and other references are subject to revision; users of this Recommendation are therefore encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent edition of the Recommendations and other references listed below. A list of the currently valid ITU-T Recommendations is regularly published. The reference to a document within this Recommendation does not give it, as a stand-alone document, the status of a Recommendation.

- [ITU-T K.20] Recommendation ITU-T K.20 (2008), *Resistibility of telecommunication equipment installed in a telecommunications centre to overvoltages and overcurrents*.
- [ITU-T K.21] Recommendation ITU-T K.21 (2008), *Resistibility of telecommunication equipment installed in customer premises to overvoltages and overcurrents*.
- [ITU-T K.40] Recommendation ITU-T K.40 (1996), *Protection against LEMP in telecommunications centres*.
- [ITU-T K.43] Recommendation ITU-T K.43 (2008), *Immunity requirements for telecommunication network equipment*.
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3 Definitions

3.1 Terms defined elsewhere

This Recommendation uses the following terms defined elsewhere:

3.1.1 antenna port [IEC 61000-6-6]: A port that is connected to an antenna, either directly or by a cable. The antenna may be external or internal to the building.

NOTE – Antenna ports connected to antennas internal to the building are covered by signal ports.

3.1.2 availability [IEC/ISO 27001] [IEC/ISO 27002]: Ensuring that authorized users have access to information and associated assets when required.

3.1.3 cable port [IEC 61000-6-6]: A port at which a conductor or cable is connected to the apparatus.

3.1.4 electrical fast transient/burst (EFT/B) [IEC 61000-4-4]: The 5/50 ns pulse defined in [IEC 61000-4-4].

3.1.5 emanation [b-IETF RFC 2828]: A signal (electromagnetic, acoustic, or other medium) that is emitted by a system (through radiation or conductance) as a consequence (i.e., by product) of its operation, and that may contain information. (See TEMPEST)

3.1.6 enclosure port [IEC 61000-6-6]: A physical boundary of the apparatus which electromagnetic fields may radiate through or impinge upon. The equipment case is normally considered the enclosure port.

3.1.7 functional earth port [IEC 61000-6-6]: A cable port other than a signal, control or power port, intended for connection to earth for purposes other than safety.

3.1.8 HEMP immunity test [ITU-T K.78] [IEC 61000-4-25]: The HEMP immunity test is made up of four types of tests. The radiated test is defined in clause 5 of [IEC 61000-4-25], and is used with a large HEMP simulator and a small radiated test facility. The other three types are the conducted tests along the HEMP waveforms; early-, intermediate- and late-HEMP. These are also defined in clause 5 of [IEC 61000 4-25].

3.1.9 high voltage (HV) transmission line [IEC 61000-4-25]: Power line with a nominal a.c. system voltage equal to or greater than 100 kV.

3.1.10 immunity (to a disturbance) [IEC 60050-161]: The ability of a device, equipment or system to perform without degradation in the presence of an electromagnetic disturbance.

3.1.11 integrity [IEC/ISO 27001] [IEC/ISO 27002]: Safeguarding the accuracy and completeness of information and processing methods.

3.1.12 large HEMP simulator [IEC 61000-6-6] [IEC 61000-4-25]: Transient electromagnetic pulse test facility with a test volume sufficiently large to test objects with cubical dimensions equal to or greater than 1 m × 1 m × 1 m.

3.1.13 low voltage (LV) power circuit [IEC 61000-6-6]: Power circuit with a nominal a.c. voltage equal to or less than 1.

3.1.14 medium voltage (MV) [b-IEC 60050-601]: Power circuit with a nominal a.c. voltage equal to or less than 1.

NOTE – The boundaries between medium and high voltage levels overlap and depend on local circumstances and history or common usage. Nevertheless, the band 30 kV to 100 kV frequently contains the accepted boundary.

3.1.15 minimum immunity requirement against HEMP [ITU-T K.78]: When the building concept level is 5 or 6, the equipment immunity level is at the minimum level.

NOTE – The levels are defined in clause 8 and Annex A of [ITU-T K.78], and a comparison of immunity levels is tabulated in Appendix I of [ITU-T K.78].

3.1.16 power port [IEC 61000-6-6]: Point at which a conductor or cable carrying the electrical power needed for operation of the equipment is connected to the apparatus.

3.1.17 signal port [IEC 61000-6-6]: A cable port at which there is a cable carrying information for transferring data to or from the apparatus. Examples are input/output (I/O) data ports and telecom ports, etc.

3.1.18 small radiated test facility [IEC 61000-6-6] [IEC 61000-4-25]: Laboratory transient electromagnetic pulse test facility such as a transverse electromagnetic (TEM) cell with a test volume sufficiently large to test objects with cubical dimensions of less than 1 m × 1 m × 1 m.

3.1.19 surge protection device (SPD) [b-IEC 61643-21]: A device to suppress line conducted overvoltages and currents, such as surge suppressors defined in [b-IEC 61643-21].

3.1.20 TEMPEST [b-IETF RFC 2828]: A nickname for specifications and standards for limiting the strength of electromagnetic emanations from electrical and electronic equipment and thus reducing vulnerability to eavesdropping.

3.1.21 time varying stripe [ITU-T K.84]: Vertical stripe pattern whose width of vertical lines vary. The number of stripes on the VSP increases from 1 to half number of horizontal pixels over time.

3.1.22 vertical stripe pattern [ITU-T K.84]: White vertical lines on a black screen on VDU of the EUT. The width of white and black lines are the same.

3.2 Terms defined in this Recommendation

This Recommendation defines the following terms:

3.2.1 confidentiality: Ensuring that information is accessible only to those authorized to have access. EMSEC deals with the risk of losing this confidentiality. In this Recommendation, if this risk cannot be mitigated at the equipment itself, the level of confidentiality is indicated based on the emission values of existing electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) requirements. Appendix II of Recommendation ITU-T K.84 provides further details.

3.2.2 electromagnetic emanations security (EMSEC): Physical constraints to prevent information compromised through signals emanated by a system, particularly by the application of TEMPEST technology to block electromagnetic radiation. In this Recommendation, the term EMSEC is used only for information leakage due to unintentional electromagnetic emission.

3.2.3 EM mitigation: The preparations made to avoid either a malfunction due to a vulnerability caused by high-altitude electromagnetic pulses (HEMPs), high-power electromagnetic (HPEM) emissions or the lack of confidentiality due to insufficient emanation security (EMSEC). The level of the EM mitigation of the equipment can be calculated from the threat level and the vulnerability level.

3.2.4 threat: A potential loss of functionality due to an intentional attack, including HEMP and HPEM, or the potential loss of confidentiality due to electromagnetic emanations. The level of the threat depends on the intrusion area and on the portability and availability of the source of threat.

3.2.5 vulnerability: A weakness that would cause equipment to malfunction due to electromagnetic emanations or as a result of HPEM or HEMP attacks.

4 Abbreviations and acronyms

This Recommendation uses the following abbreviations and acronyms:

CB	Citizen Band
CW	Continuous Wave
E1	Early time high-altitude electromagnetic pulse electric field
E2	Intermediate time high-altitude electromagnetic pulse electric field
E3	Late time high-altitude electromagnetic pulse electric field
EFT/B	Electrical Fast Transient/Burst
EM	ElectroMagnetic
EMC	ElectroMagnetic Compatibility
EMI	ElectroMagnetic Interference
EMSEC	ElectroMagnetic emanation SECurity

EUT	Equipment Under Test
HEMP	High-altitude ElectroMagnetic Pulse
HPEM	High-power ElectroMagnetic
HV	High Voltage
I/O	Input/Output
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IEMI	Intentional ElectroMagnetic Interference
IRA	Impulse Radiating Antenna
ISMS	Information Security Management System
LEMP	Lightning ElectroMagnetic Pulse
LV	Low Voltage
MV	Medium Voltage
NEBS	Network Equipment Building Systems
PC	Personal Computer
SPD	Surge Protective Device
TEM	Transverse ElectroMagnetic
TVS	Time Varying Stripe (pattern)
VDU	Video Display Unit/Visual Display Unit
VESA	Video Electronics Standards Association
VSP	Vertical Stripe Pattern

5 Conventions

None.

6 Protection from electromagnetic phenomena

6.1 Lightning

6.1.1 Introduction

Cloud to ground lightning strikes can inductively couple overvoltage surges into power and telecommunication lines. Lightning strikes to buildings or to ground near buildings or cables can conductively couple surges into power and telecommunication circuits. All of these surges can damage telecommunication equipment. To ensure a reliable telecommunication service it is necessary to guarantee that the equipment has an adequate level of resistibility to protect it from the majority of inductively coupled overvoltage surges, and protect it against the majority of higher energy overvoltage surges by the installation of lightning protection external to the equipment. Ensuring that the equipment complies with the appropriate resistibility Recommendation listed in clause 6.1.2 below will achieve this.

6.1.2 Reference documents

The three product resistibility Recommendations, [ITU-T K.20], [ITU-T K.21] and [ITU-T K.45], provide the requirements for lightning, power induction and power contact tests. Two requirements are provided: "basic" and "enhanced". Guidance on the use of the basic and enhanced requirements

is given in Recommendation [ITU-T K.44]. [ITU-T K.44] contains common information relevant to the three product recommendations including test methods and test schematics.

[ITU-T K.40] presents the guidelines for the design of an effective protective system for a telecom structure against lightning electromagnetic pulse (LEMP). The concept of lightning protection zones is introduced as a framework where the specific protective measures are merged: earthing, bonding, cable routing and shielding. Information about simulating the LEMP effects and the options for the protective measures in existing and new buildings is also given.

6.2 Intentional electromagnetic interference

6.2.1 General

As the value of information has increased in recent years, so too has the value and importance of information security. Information is increasingly being integrated into data strongholds, which require ever more formidable methods to resist attacks such as cyber terror.

When strong electromagnetic fields are induced intentionally at a distance to target electronic devices or systems, such as ICT equipment or transmission systems, malfunctions or more serious damages of the elements or circuits could result.

IEMI is the term applied to the strong electromagnetic environment created intentionally for interference of IT equipment. Lightning is not contained in IEMI, because it occurs unintentionally. The IEMI threat is divided into two main types: high-power electromagnetic (HPEM) and high-altitude electromagnetic pulse (HEMP) threats. HEMP is the term applied to the electromagnetic environment created at ground level by the high-altitude atmospheric detonation of a nuclear explosive. HPEM is the term applied to an intentional strong electromagnetic environment in the absence of HEMP. There are many kinds of devices that generate such strong intentional electromagnetic waves, including illegal devices, appearing on the market. For example, devices that radiate electromagnetic waves into the air include citizen band (CB) radio equipment, amateur radio equipment, navigation radars, microwave ovens, etc., and devices that create static electricity include stun guns, etc. Also, compact lightning-surge-generators used in field maintenance and continuous wave (CW) generators apply electromagnetic waves by way of metal wires. These threats are classified as radiated and conducted threats according to the propagation paths from HPEM sources for ICT equipment. Examples are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 – Examples of propagation paths and threat

Electromagnetic wave attack – radiated	Attack by applying strong electromagnetic waves using a strong wireless device, microwave generator, radar, etc.
Electromagnetic wave attack – conducted	Attack by applying electromagnetic waves directly to communication lines or power lines using a compact lightning-surge generator, CW generator, etc.

The threat of IEMI is evaluated by several factors, i.e., portability of an EMI generation device, location of an intrusion area and availability in terms of value and technical level. It is necessary to perform risk evaluation and classify the level of threat in order to determine adequate countermeasures against IEMI in each case.

6.3 High-altitude electromagnetic pulse

6.3.1 Introduction

HEMP is the term applied to the electromagnetic environment created at ground level by the high-altitude atmospheric detonation of a nuclear explosive. In this context, "high altitude" is generally agreed to be above 30 km, such that other physical effects associated with a nuclear detonation are not present at ground level.

HEMP generates an electromagnetic environment that contains both a radiated component (due to the detonation itself) and a conducted component (due to the coupling of the radiated environment with exposed, overhead cables and subsequent propagation along the cable).

A high-altitude nuclear detonation acts as a point source from which a spherical wave-front propagates, at the speed of light, from the point of detonation towards the surface of Earth. This wave-front is, depending upon altitude, able to illuminate a large section of the Earth's surface. This is illustrated on Figure 2, showing the ground level electromagnetic field levels produced by the detonation of a 200 kt nuclear explosive at an altitude of 300 km.



Figure 2 – Example of a HEMP event

HEMP consists of three separate and distinct pulses that are produced by different mechanisms (see Figure 3, originally from Figure 10 in [IEC 61000-2-9]).

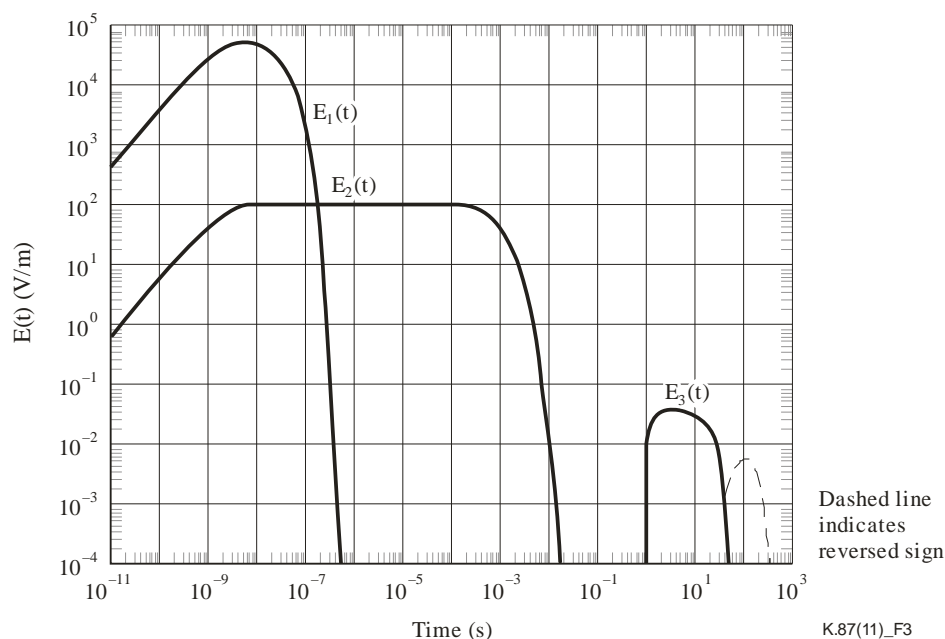


Figure 3 – Pulse characteristics

The first pulse, referred to as the "early-time" pulse (E1 in Figure 3), is generated by the high-energy gamma-rays produced during the detonation as they undergo Compton scattering by atmospheric atoms. This interaction ionizes the atmospheric atoms, producing a very large number of highly energetic electrons that experience the Lorentz force due to the terrestrial magnetic field. This force causes the high energy electrons to move in a "spiral" about the terrestrial magnetic field lines in the upper atmosphere and hence radiate electromagnetic energy. It is this radiation that arrives at ground-level as the "early time" pulse. This pulse has the following characteristics:

- a very rapid rise time (of the order of a few nanoseconds, i.e., $\sim 10^{-9}$ s);
- a ground-level electric field amplitude up to 50 kV/m directly beneath the detonation;
- a very short duration (of the order of hundreds of nanoseconds, i.e., $\sim 100 \times 10^{-9}$ s).

The second pulse, referred to as the "intermediate time" pulse (E2 on Figure 3), is again generated by the Compton scattering of gamma-rays by atmospheric atoms, but involves comparatively lower-energy interactions that take place after the initial, hugely energetic phase associated with the nuclear detonation. This pulse has the following characteristics:

- a much slower rise time (of the order of a few hundreds of nanoseconds, i.e., $\sim 100 \times 10^{-9}$ s);
- a ground-level electric field amplitude up to 100 V/m directly beneath the detonation;
- a much longer duration (of the order of tens of milliseconds, i.e., $\sim 10 \times 10^{-3}$ s).

The third pulse, referred to as the "late time" or "magnetohydrodynamic" pulse (E3 on Figure 3), is essentially similar to the phenomena that has been observed in the higher northern latitudes in response to geomagnetic storms in the upper atmosphere due to solar storm: the high-altitude detonation induces the upper atmosphere to behave in a manner similar to that witnessed during such a storm. This pulse has the following characteristics:

- a much slower rise time (of the order of a few seconds, i.e., ~ 1 s);
- a ground-level electric field amplitude up to 10 mV/m directly beneath the detonation;
- a much longer duration (of the order of hundreds of seconds, i.e., ~ 100 s).

Table 3 shows calculation examples of HEMP threat.

Table 3 – Example of threat related to HEMP

Threat type	Example of attack device	Strength	Frequency range
HEMP attack	Radiation	50 kV/m	1 MHz-200 MHz
	Conduction	8 kV	100 kHz-30 MHz
	Intermediate-time HEMP	20 kV	10/700 waveform

6.3.2 Reference documents

[ITU-T K.78] provides the radiated and conducted immunity requirements for telecommunication equipment such as switching, transmission, radio, and power installed in telecommunication centres against a high-altitude electromagnetic pulse (HEMP).

[ITU-T K.78] contains immunity test methods and levels for telecommunication equipment in each installation condition.

6.4 High-power electromagnetic

6.4.1 Introduction

HPEM is the term applied to the strong electromagnetic environment created by high-power electromagnetic (HPEM) sources. These sources are discussed in the IEC 61000 series standards listed in clause 2. Since February 2004 to the present, three standards have been proposed for HPEM, as shown in Table 4.

Table 4 – Standards and summaries related to HPEM of the IEC 61000 series

Standard number	Standard name	Description and summary
[IEC 61000-1-5]	High-power electromagnetic (HPEM) effects on civil systems	Example of the effects (HPEM) of high-power electromagnetic waves on civil systems, and a summary of test results.
[IEC 61000-2-13]	High-power electromagnetic (HPEM) environments – radiated and conducted	Description of HPEM environments, summary of generating devices, definition of waveforms, etc.
[IEC 61000-4-33]	Measurement methods for high power transient parameters	Measurement methods for the high-power transient phenomenon.

[IEC 61000-1-5] provides an example of HPEM and describes the background for research of HPEM, introduces HPEM generators and provides summaries of test results on devices such as PCs. In conduction, a lightning-surge generation is included as an HPEM generator. Further, Chapter 7 of [IEC 61000-1-5] touches on countermeasure concepts, and describes countermeasure methods such as shielding and surge-voltage protection, as well as the existence of alternative countermeasure methods such as active protection or system degeneration, error detection and error collection software.

In [IEC 61000-2-13] the importance of reviewing the HPEM process is clearly explained as follows:

"A threat environment is provided by an artificially caused high-power electromagnetic wave (HPEM). That kind of threat environment can give large damage to consumer electrical equipment and electronic devices as described in [IEC 61000-1-5]. In order to establish protection methods, it is necessary to define radiation and conduction environments."

Various kinds of radiation HPEM generators and examples of waveforms are also described in Chapter 5 of [IEC 61000-2-13], and the threat due to conduction is explained in Chapter 6 of [IEC 61000-2-13]. Examples of the electric field intensity of some types of HPEM generators are given in Annex B of [IEC 61000-2-13].

In [IEC 61000-4-33] general items related to the measurement methods for measuring impulses are described.

The IEC 61000 series documents listed in clause 2 and [ITU-T K.81] guide immunity requirements for telecommunication systems.

In [ITU-T K.81] HPEM threats are classified by particular factors, i.e., threat portability level, the intrusion area and availability levels; they are also defined in [ITU-T K.81]. Classifications of threat and associated examples are described in clause 5 of [ITU-T K.81]. Table 5 (originally from Table 5.4-1 in [ITU-T K.81]) shows calculation examples of HPEM threat.

Table 5 – Calculation examples of HPEM threat

Threat type	Example of attack device	Strength	Frequency range
Electromagnetic wave attack – radiated	IRA (hi-technology)	12.8 kV/m@100 m	300 MHz-10 GHz
	Commercial radar (mid-technology)	60 kV/m@100 m	1 GHz-10 GHz (1.285 GHz)
	Navigation radar	385 V/m@100 m	1 GHz-10 GHz (9.41 GHz)
	Magnetron generator	475 V/m@10 m	1 GHz-3 GHz
	Amateur wireless device	286 V/m@1 m	100 MHz-3 GHz
	Amateur wireless device	169 V/m@10 cm	100 MHz-3 GHz
	Illegal CB radio	573 V/m@10m	27 MHz
Electrostatic discharge attack	Stun gun	500 kV	100 MHz-3 GHz
Electromagnetic wave attack – conducted	Lightning-surge generator	50 kV (charging voltage)	1.2/50 μ s 10/700 μ s
	Compact lightning-surge generator	10 kV (charging voltage)	1.2/50 μ s 10/700 μ s
	CW generator	100 V~240 V/4 kV	1 Hz-10 MHz
	Commercial power supply	100 V~240 V	50/60 Hz

EM mitigation levels against HPEM attack are defined in clause 6 of [ITU-T K.81], considering both HPEM threat and vulnerability levels. Examples of mitigation levels for some HPEM devices are also presented.

Examples of HPEM threat and vulnerability that use impulse radiating antenna (IRA) with the repetitive high impulse generator discussed in [b-Baum 2004], are described in detail in Appendix I of [ITU-T K.81].

6.4.2 Reference documents

[ITU-T K.81] provides the radiated and conducted immunity requirements for telecommunication equipment such as switching, transmission, radio, and power installed in telecommunication centres against a high-power electromagnetic (HPEM).

[ITU-T K.81] contains immunity test methods and levels for telecommunication equipment in each installation condition.

6.5 Information leakage

6.5.1 Introduction

Working electronic equipment usually emits unintentional electromagnetic waves, and some of these emissions may carry important information processed inside the equipment. This hidden information can often be stolen by intercepting such emissions from a distance.

This Recommendation gives guidance to reduce the threats from such information leakage due to unintentional electromagnetic emanation from information equipment at telecommunication centres managed by ISMS.

EMSEC is the term applied to the information leakage due to unintentional electromagnetic emission in this Recommendation. Threat of EMSEC is considerable for many kinds of equipment such as personal computers, data servers, laser printers, keyboards and cryptographic modules. This Recommendation only treats information leakage from equipment that includes raster scan video signal. Further study is required of equipment involving other kinds of leaked signals.

Two approaches to protect against threats are given in this Recommendation:

1. emission requirements and methods of examining equipment are applied when the equipment cannot be installed in the shielding site (the shielding site should reduce the emissions of the equipment);
2. shielding requirements for sites such as buildings are applied when the equipment can be installed at secure sites.

EMSEC threats are determined according to comparisons of the confidentiality and threat levels as given in clause 5 of [ITU-T K.84]. The threat level is determined by intrusion range, portability and availability of the threat devices. The threat of EMSEC is described in Appendix I of [ITU-T K.84]. The confidentiality level of the equipment, which is evaluated with existing EMC standards, is presented in Appendix II of [ITU-T K.84]. Examples of threats against EMSEC are summarized in Table 6 (originally Table 5.1-1 of [ITU-T K.84]). Definitions of threats related to portability levels and threat availability levels are presented in Tables 7 and 8 (originally Tables 5.1-2 and 5.1-3 of [ITU-T K.84]). The availability level shall be thought of as a measure of both the cost and the technological sophistication of the threat devices such as receivers, antenna, etc.

Table 6 – Examples of threats related to information leakage

Types of threats	Examples of receiver	Possible distance for EMSEC		Threat level			Threat number
		Confidentiality level Class A	Confidentiality level Class B	Intrusion range on attack side	Portability	Availability	
EMSEC	Special receiver	330 m ^{a)}	105 m ^{a)}	Zone 0	PIII	AIV	K4-1
	Special receiver	330 m ^{a)}	105 m ^{a)}	Zone 1	PIII	AIV	K4-2
	General-purpose EMC receiver	59 m ^{a)} 263 m	19 m ^{a)} 83 m	Zone 1	PII	AIII	K4-3
	General-purpose EMC receiver	59 m ^{a)} 263 m	19 m ^{a)} 83 m	Zone 2	PII	AIII	K4-4
	Amateur receiver	33 m ^{a)} 148 m	11 m ^{a)} 47 m	Zone 1	PII	AII	K4-5
	Amateur receiver	33 m ^{a)} 148 m	11 m ^{a)} 47 m	Zone 2	PII	AII	K4-6
	Amateur receiver	33 m ^{a)} 148 m	11 m ^{a)} 47 m	Zone 3	PII	AII	K4-7
^{a)} Assumed to have reinforced concrete walls with 13 dB attenuation.							

Table 7 – Definitions of threat portability levels

Threat portability level	Definition
PI	Pocket-sized or body-worn (Note 1)
PII	Briefcase or back-pack sized (Note 2)
PIII	Motor-vehicle sized (Note 3)
PIV	Trailer-sized (Note 4)
<p>NOTE 1 – This portability level applies to threat devices that can be hidden in the human body and/or in the clothing.</p> <p>NOTE 2 – This portability level applies to threat devices that are too large to be hidden in the human body and/or in the clothing, but still small enough to be carried by a person (such as in a briefcase or a back-pack).</p> <p>NOTE 3 – This portability level applies to threat devices that are too large to be easily carried by a person, but small enough to be hidden in a typical consumer motor vehicle.</p> <p>NOTE 4 – This portability level applies to threat devices that are too large to be either easily carried by a person or hidden in a typical consumer motor vehicle. Such threat devices require transportation using a commercial/industrial transportation vehicle.</p>	

Table 8 – Definitions of threat availability levels

Availability level	Definition	Examples
AI	"Consumer"	
AII	"Hobbyist"	Amateur receiver
AIII	"Professional"	General-purpose EMC receiver
AIV	"Bespoke"	Special receiver

As shown in Table 6, when the threat level is assumed to be AII (amateur receiver level) and the confidentiality level is assumed to be Class B, for example, and the threat device never gets closer than 47 m, security is well managed. Therefore, no additional mitigation is necessary.

Where the possibility is high that the threat device will get closer, e.g., when the customer must operate the equipment near a window or it is installed near a window, the presence of information leakage due to unintentional electromagnetic radiation should be assessed. The security requirement level of equipment is described in clause 5.3 of [ITU-T K.84], and the test method is explained in Annex A of [ITU-T K.84].

Where the possibility is low that the threat device will get closer, e.g., the equipment is installed at a secure site and it is surrounded by walls, the walls separate the distance between the equipment and the threat device. Confidentiality can be maintained with a shield and the use of equipment, which is explained in existing EMC emission standards. The level of security requirements for shielding is described in clause 5.4 of [ITU-T K.84].

6.5.2 Reference documents

[ITU-T K.84] provides guidance to reduce the threats from information leakage due to EMSEC of information equipment at telecommunication centres.

[ITU-T K.84] describes threats and confidentiality related to EMSEC, and two approaches to mitigation methods. The first approach involves emission requirements for equipment and the second involves shielding requirements for sites, when equipment that is examined with existing EMC emission standards such as [ITU-T K.48] and [CISPR 22] is installed at a site.

[ITU-T K.84] also provides a method of testing EMSEC for radiation in its Annex A and for conductive coupling in its Annex B. Examples of measurement methods, wideband measurement and narrowband measurement, are presented in Appendix III and Appendix IV of [ITU-T K.84].

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