

# IEEE Standard for Testing and Performance for All-Dielectric Self-Supporting (ADSS) Fiber Optic Cable for Use on Electric Utility Power Lines

IEEE Power and Energy Society

Developed by the  
Power System Communications and Cybersecurity Committee

**IEEE Std 1222™-2019**  
(Revision to IEEE Std 1222-2011)

**IEEE Std 1222™-2019**  
(Revision of IEEE Std 1222-2011)

# **IEEE Standard for Testing and Performance for All-Dielectric Self-Supporting (ADSS) Fiber Optic Cable for Use on Electric Utility Power Lines**

Developed by the

**Power System Communications and Cybersecurity Committee**  
of the  
**IEEE Power and Energy Society**

Approved 7 November 2019

**IEEE-SA Standards Board**

**Abstract:** The construction, mechanical, electrical, and optical performance, installation guidelines, acceptance criteria, test requirements, environmental considerations, and accessories for a nonmetallic, all-dielectric self-supporting (ADSS) fiber optic cable are covered by this standard. The ADSS cable is designed to be located primarily on overhead utility facilities.

**Keywords:** ADSS, all-dielectric self-supporting fiber optic cable, IEEE 1222™, overhead utility

---

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.  
3 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016-5997, USA

Copyright © 2020 by The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.  
All rights reserved. Published 31 March 2020. Printed in the United States of America.

IEEE is a registered trademark in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, owned by The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Incorporated.

PDF: ISBN 978-1-5044-6333-1      STD23992  
Print: ISBN 978-1-5044-6334-8      STDPD23992

*IEEE prohibits discrimination, harassment, and bullying.  
For more information, visit <http://www.ieee.org/web/aboutus/whatis/policies/p9-26.html>.  
No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form, in an electronic retrieval system or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the publisher.*

## **Important Notices and Disclaimers Concerning IEEE Standards Documents**

IEEE documents are made available for use subject to important notices and legal disclaimers. These notices and disclaimers, or a reference to this page, appear in all standards and may be found under the heading “Important Notices and Disclaimers Concerning IEEE Standards Documents.” They can also be obtained on request from IEEE or viewed at <http://standards.ieee.org/ipr/disclaimers.html>.

### **Notice and Disclaimer of Liability Concerning the Use of IEEE Standards Documents**

IEEE Standards documents (standards, recommended practices, and guides), both full-use and trial-use, are developed within IEEE Societies and the Standards Coordinating Committees of the IEEE Standards Association (“IEEE SA”) Standards Board. IEEE (“the Institute”) develops its standards through a consensus development process, approved by the American National Standards Institute (“ANSI”), which brings together volunteers representing varied viewpoints and interests to achieve the final product. IEEE Standards are documents developed through scientific, academic, and industry-based technical working groups. Volunteers in IEEE working groups are not necessarily members of the Institute and participate without compensation from IEEE. While IEEE administers the process and establishes rules to promote fairness in the consensus development process, IEEE does not independently evaluate, test, or verify the accuracy of any of the information or the soundness of any judgments contained in its standards.

IEEE Standards do not guarantee or ensure safety, security, health, or environmental protection, or ensure against interference with or from other devices or networks. Implementers and users of IEEE Standards documents are responsible for determining and complying with all appropriate safety, security, environmental, health, and interference protection practices and all applicable laws and regulations.

IEEE does not warrant or represent the accuracy or content of the material contained in its standards, and expressly disclaims all warranties (express, implied and statutory) not included in this or any other document relating to the standard, including, but not limited to, the warranties of: merchantability; fitness for a particular purpose; non-infringement; and quality, accuracy, effectiveness, currency, or completeness of material. In addition, IEEE disclaims any and all conditions relating to: results; and workmanlike effort. IEEE standards documents are supplied “AS IS” and “WITH ALL FAULTS.”

Use of an IEEE standard is wholly voluntary. The existence of an IEEE standard does not imply that there are no other ways to produce, test, measure, purchase, market, or provide other goods and services related to the scope of the IEEE standard. Furthermore, the viewpoint expressed at the time a standard is approved and issued is subject to change brought about through developments in the state of the art and comments received from users of the standard.

In publishing and making its standards available, IEEE is not suggesting or rendering professional or other services for, or on behalf of, any person or entity nor is IEEE undertaking to perform any duty owed by any other person or entity to another. Any person utilizing any IEEE Standards document, should rely upon his or her own independent judgment in the exercise of reasonable care in any given circumstances or, as appropriate, seek the advice of a competent professional in determining the appropriateness of a given IEEE standard.

IN NO EVENT SHALL IEEE BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, EXEMPLARY, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS; OR BUSINESS INTERRUPTION) HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) ARISING IN ANY WAY OUT OF THE PUBLICATION, USE OF, OR RELIANCE UPON ANY STANDARD, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE AND REGARDLESS OF WHETHER SUCH DAMAGE WAS FORESEEABLE.

## **Translations**

The IEEE consensus development process involves the review of documents in English only. In the event that an IEEE standard is translated, only the English version published by IEEE should be considered the approved IEEE standard.

## **Official statements**

A statement, written or oral, that is not processed in accordance with the IEEE SA Standards Board Operations Manual shall not be considered or inferred to be the official position of IEEE or any of its committees and shall not be considered to be, or be relied upon as, a formal position of IEEE. At lectures, symposia, seminars, or educational courses, an individual presenting information on IEEE standards shall make it clear that his or her views should be considered the personal views of that individual rather than the formal position of IEEE.

## **Comments on standards**

Comments for revision of IEEE Standards documents are welcome from any interested party, regardless of membership affiliation with IEEE. However, IEEE does not provide consulting information or advice pertaining to IEEE Standards documents. Suggestions for changes in documents should be in the form of a proposed change of text, together with appropriate supporting comments. Since IEEE standards represent a consensus of concerned interests, it is important that any responses to comments and questions also receive the concurrence of a balance of interests. For this reason, IEEE and the members of its societies and Standards Coordinating Committees are not able to provide an instant response to comments or questions except in those cases where the matter has previously been addressed. For the same reason, IEEE does not respond to interpretation requests. Any person who would like to participate in revisions to an IEEE standard is welcome to join the relevant IEEE working group.

Comments on standards should be submitted to the following address:

Secretary, IEEE SA Standards Board  
445 Hoes Lane  
Piscataway, NJ 08854 USA

## **Laws and regulations**

Users of IEEE Standards documents should consult all applicable laws and regulations. Compliance with the provisions of any IEEE Standards document does not imply compliance to any applicable regulatory requirements. Implementers of the standard are responsible for observing or referring to the applicable regulatory requirements. IEEE does not, by the publication of its standards, intend to urge action that is not in compliance with applicable laws, and these documents may not be construed as doing so.

## **Copyrights**

IEEE draft and approved standards are copyrighted by IEEE under US and international copyright laws. They are made available by IEEE and are adopted for a wide variety of both public and private uses. These include both use, by reference, in laws and regulations, and use in private self-regulation, standardization, and the promotion of engineering practices and methods. By making these documents available for use and adoption by public authorities and private users, IEEE does not waive any rights in copyright to the documents.

## Photocopies

Subject to payment of the appropriate fee, IEEE will grant users a limited, non-exclusive license to photocopy portions of any individual standard for company or organizational internal use or individual, non-commercial use only. To arrange for payment of licensing fees, please contact Copyright Clearance Center, Customer Service, 222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA 01923 USA; +1 978 750 8400. Permission to photocopy portions of any individual standard for educational classroom use can also be obtained through the Copyright Clearance Center.

## Updating of IEEE Standards documents

Users of IEEE Standards documents should be aware that these documents may be superseded at any time by the issuance of new editions or may be amended from time to time through the issuance of amendments, corrigenda, or errata. An official IEEE document at any point in time consists of the current edition of the document together with any amendments, corrigenda, or errata then in effect.

Every IEEE standard is subjected to review at least every 10 years. When a document is more than 10 years old and has not undergone a revision process, it is reasonable to conclude that its contents, although still of some value, do not wholly reflect the present state of the art. Users are cautioned to check to determine that they have the latest edition of any IEEE standard.

In order to determine whether a given document is the current edition and whether it has been amended through the issuance of amendments, corrigenda, or errata, visit IEEE Xplore at <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/> or contact IEEE at the address listed previously. For more information about the IEEE SA or IEEE's standards development process, visit the IEEE SA Website at <http://standards.ieee.org>.

## Errata

Errata, if any, for IEEE standards can be accessed via <https://standards.ieee.org/standard/index.html>. Search for standard number and year of approval to access the web page of the published standard. Errata links are located under the Additional Resources Details section. Errata are also available in IEEE Xplore: <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/browse/standards/collection/ieee/>. Users are encouraged to periodically check for errata.

## Patents

Attention is called to the possibility that implementation of this standard may require use of subject matter covered by patent rights. By publication of this standard, no position is taken by the IEEE with respect to the existence or validity of any patent rights in connection therewith. If a patent holder or patent applicant has filed a statement of assurance via an Accepted Letter of Assurance, then the statement is listed on the IEEE SA Website at <https://standards.ieee.org/about/sasb/patcom/patents.html>. Letters of Assurance may indicate whether the Submitter is willing or unwilling to grant licenses under patent rights without compensation or under reasonable rates, with reasonable terms and conditions that are demonstrably free of any unfair discrimination to applicants desiring to obtain such licenses.

Essential Patent Claims may exist for which a Letter of Assurance has not been received. The IEEE is not responsible for identifying Essential Patent Claims for which a license may be required, for conducting inquiries into the legal validity or scope of Patents Claims, or determining whether any licensing terms or conditions provided in connection with submission of a Letter of Assurance, if any, or in any licensing agreements are reasonable or non-discriminatory. Users of this standard are expressly advised that determination of the validity of any patent rights, and the risk of infringement of such rights, is entirely their own responsibility. Further information may be obtained from the IEEE Standards Association.

## Participants

At the time this IEEE standard was completed, the Fiber Optics Standards Working Group had the following membership:

**William Byrd, *Chair***  
**Corrine Dimnik, *Vice Chair***

Gregory Bennett  
Chitrangad Bhatnagar  
Mark Boxer  
Brett Boles  
Jon Brasher  
Jianfei Chen  
Airbar Claudio  
Trisha Crawford  
Patrick Dobbins  
Jim Hartpence  
Austin Farmer  
Bruce Freimark  
Denise Frey  
Rabih Ghossein

Zeya Huang  
John Jones  
Delavar Khomarlou  
Mike Kinard  
Bob Kluge  
Khoa Lu  
Josep Martin-Regalado  
Sarah Mazzotta  
D. J. Moreau  
Mark Naylor  
John Olenik  
Kunhal Parikh  
John Potter

Mike Riddle  
James Ryan  
Bret Sanders  
Tewfik Schehade  
Tarlochan Singh  
Dan Stanton  
Monty Tuominen  
Nathan Wallace  
Dong Wang  
Jeff Wang  
Mike Warntjes  
Jaclyn Whitehead  
Juan Zhou  
Tao Zhou

The following members of the individual balloting committee voted on this standard. Balloters may have voted for approval, disapproval, or abstention.

Michael Bayer  
Gregory Bennett  
Robert Bratton  
Gustavo Brunello  
Demetrio Bucaneg Jr.  
William Byrd  
Robert Christman  
Corrine Dimnik  
Michael Dood  
Ernest Duckworth  
Donald Dunn  
Kenneth Fodero  
Denise Frey  
Michael Garrels  
George Gela  
Rabih Ghossein  
Waymon Goch

Jalal Gohari  
Edwin Goodwin  
Randall Groves  
Jeffrey Helzer  
Jay Herman  
Werner Hoelzl  
Magdi Ishac  
Delavar Khomarlou  
Paul Knapp  
Jim Kulchisky  
Chung-Yiu Lam  
Lawrenc Long  
Arturo Maldonado  
Josep Martin-Regalado  
William McBride  
Jerry Murphy  
R. Murphy

Mark Naylor  
Paul Neveux  
Lorraine Padden  
Bansi Patel  
Christopher Petrola  
Percy Pool  
Charles Rogers  
James Ryan  
Bartien Sayogo  
Dennis Schlender  
Jerry Smith  
Gary Stoedter  
David Tepen  
Mark Tirio  
John Vergis  
Kenneth White  
Jaclyn Whitehead

When the IEEE-SA Standards Board approved this standard on 7 November 2019, it had the following membership:

**Gary Hoffman**, *Chair*  
**Ted Burse**, *Vice Chair*  
**Jean-Philippe Faure**, *Past Chair*  
**Konstantinos Karachalios**, *Secretary*

Masayuki Ariyoshi  
Stephen D. Dukes  
J. Travis Griffith  
Guido Hiertz  
Christel Hunter  
Joseph L. Koepfinger\*  
Thomas Koshy  
John D. Kulick

David J. Law  
Joseph Levy  
Howard Li  
Xiaohui Liu  
Kevin Lu  
Daleep Mohla  
Andrew Myles

Annette D. Reilly  
Dorothy Stanley  
Sha Wei  
Phil Wennblom  
Philip Winston  
Howard Wolfman  
Feng Wu  
Jingyi Zhou

\*Member Emeritus

## Introduction

This introduction is not part of IEEE Std 1222-2019, IEEE Standard for Testing and Performance for All-Dielectric Self-Supporting (ADSS) Fiber Optic Cable for Use on Electric Utility Power Lines.

This standard was first published in 2004 and updated in 2011. It is used worldwide to purchase and specify the performance of all-dielectric self-supporting (ADSS) cables. The original purpose of the standard was written to fill a need for standardization of terminology, performance, and test requirements for ADSS cables.

The original title was “IEEE Standard for All-Dielectric Self-Supporting Fiber Optic Cable.” Over the years, the document has been used primarily as a test standard. To better reflect how the standard is presently used, the title previously changed to “IEEE Standard for Testing and Performance for All-Dielectric Self-Supporting Fiber Optic (ADSS) Cable for Use on Electric Utility Power Lines.”

This revised standard documents the collective experience gained by the industry since the updated publication of the standard in 2011. Changes have been made in the following areas:

- Functional requirements
- Test requirements

Additional requirements related to ADSS Cable Hardware and Cable/Hardware Compatibility are addressed in IEEE Std 1591.2 [B10].<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> The numbers in brackets correspond to those of the bibliography in Annex F.

# Contents

1. Overview .....	10
1.1 Scope .....	10
1.2 Purpose .....	10
2. Normative references.....	10
3. Definitions, acronyms, and abbreviations .....	12
3.1 General definitions .....	12
3.2 Electrical definitions.....	12
3.3 Acronyms and abbreviations .....	13
4. ADSS cable and components .....	14
4.1 Descriptions.....	14
4.2 Fiber optic cable core.....	14
4.3 Optical fibers .....	15
4.4 Buffer construction .....	15
4.5 Color coding and performance .....	15
4.6 Jackets.....	15
5. ADSS application requirements and recommendations .....	16
5.1 Cable design characteristics.....	16
5.2 Mechanical requirements.....	17
5.3 On-site optical acceptance testing.....	17
5.4 Environmental pollution .....	18
5.5 Low-pollution installation sites .....	18
5.6 Installation .....	19
5.7 Hardware .....	19
5.8 Packaging .....	19
5.9 Electrical requirements (electric fields, corona, pollution).....	20
6. Test and requirements.....	21
6.1 Classification of tests.....	21
6.2 Procedure for optical measurements and fiber preparation.....	22
6.3 Retesting.....	24
6.4 Optical acceptance test .....	24
6.5 Qualification tests.....	24
Annex A (informative) Comments on electrical revision.....	37
Annex B (informative) Space potential and electrical fields.....	38
B.1 Minimizing electric fields using space potential calculations (parallel case).....	38
B.2 Electric fields in non-parallel cases.....	39
Annex C (informative) Corona.....	42
Annex D (informative) An overview of pollution model and electrical tests.....	43
Annex E (informative) Dry band arcing test procedure.....	47
Annex F (informative) Bibliography .....	49

# IEEE Standard for Testing and Performance for All-Dielectric Self-Supporting (ADSS) Fiber Optic Cable for Use on Electric Utility Power Lines

## 1. Overview

### 1.1 Scope

This standard covers the construction, mechanical, electrical, and optical performance, installation guidelines, acceptance criteria, test requirements, environmental considerations, and accessories for a nonmetallic, all-dielectric self-supporting (ADSS) fiber optic cable. The ADSS cable is designed to be located primarily on overhead utility facilities.

### 1.2 Purpose

This standard provides both construction and performance requirements for maintenance of the proper optical fiber integrity and optical transmission capabilities of ADSS cable.

This standard may involve hazardous materials, operations, and equipment. This standard does not purport to address all of the safety issues associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

## 2. Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document (i.e., they must be understood and used, so each referenced document is cited in text and its relationship to this document is explained). For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments or corrigenda) applies.