



BSI Standards Publication

**Ultrasonics — Field
characterization —
Specification and
measurement of field
parameters for high
intensity therapeutic
ultrasound (HITU)
transducers and systems**

National foreword

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**ULTRASONICS – FIELD CHARACTERIZATION – SPECIFICATION
AND MEASUREMENT OF FIELD PARAMETERS FOR HIGH INTENSITY
THERAPEUTIC ULTRASOUND (HITU) TRANSDUCERS AND SYSTEMS****FOREWORD**

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Technical specifications are subject to review within three years of publication to decide whether they can be transformed into International Standards.

IEC/TS 62556, which is a technical specification, has been prepared by IEC technical committee 87: Ultrasonics

The text of this technical specification is based on the following documents:

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
87/521/DTS	87/545/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this technical specification can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

NOTE 1 The following point types are used:

- Requirements: in roman type
- Notes: small roman type
- Words in **bold** in the text are defined in Clause 3
- Symbols and formulae: in *Times New Roman + Italic*.

NOTE 2 There are some inconsistencies in font type for symbols and formulae between some of the normative references and this technical specification. They will be resolved in a future revision of the normative references.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- transformed into an International standard,
- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

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INTRODUCTION

The use of **high intensity therapeutic ultrasound (HITU)** has advanced to the point where systems have achieved clinical approval for general use in numerous countries. Medical applications and product development are continuing rapidly. Fast development in preclinical medicine, clinical medicine, and product manufacture has created an urgent need to standardize measurements of the basic acoustic parameters and the field characteristics of HITU. In order to promote the further development of HITU and to ensure its safe and effective use, common technical Specifications are required.

This technical specification is relevant to the measurement and specification of ultrasound fields intended for medical therapeutic purposes. It addresses the requirements for **high intensity therapeutic ultrasound (HITU)** fields, including those generally referred to as **high intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU)**. Lithotripsy and physiotherapy are excluded, since there are existing International Standards for these applications.

As described in Annex A, because measurement at full output power from HITU systems still presents technical challenges, this standard specifies measurement methods at relatively low output levels and methodology for extrapolating these to higher therapeutic level fields.

ULTRASONICS – FIELD CHARACTERIZATION – SPECIFICATION AND MEASUREMENT OF FIELD PARAMETERS FOR HIGH INTENSITY THERAPEUTIC ULTRASOUND (HITU) TRANSDUCERS AND SYSTEMS

1 Scope

This technical specification is applicable to **high intensity therapeutic ultrasound (HITU)** devices, specifying:

- relevant parameters for quantifying the field;
- measurement methods at relatively low output levels and methodology for extrapolating these to higher therapeutic level fields;
- consideration of sidelobes and pre-focal maxima;
- parameters relevant to HITU transducers of different construction and geometry, including non-focusing, focusing with or without lenses, collimated, diverging and convergent transducers, multi-element transducers, scanning transducers and multiple sources.

This technical specification is intended to support the ultrasonic measurement requirements given in IEC 60601-2-62.

These specifications would have use in quality assurance, safety testing, and the standardization of communications regarding the clinical performance of HITU systems. Where possible, this technical specification incorporates specifications from other related standards.

This technical specification does *not* apply to the following types of devices, which are covered by other standards:

- lithotripters (see IEC 61846);
- surgical equipment (see IEC 61847);
- physiotherapy devices (see IEC 61689).

Throughout this technical specification SI units are used. In the specification of certain parameters, such as beam-areas and intensities, it may be convenient to use decimal multiples or sub-multiples. For example, beam-area may be specified in cm^2 and intensities in W/cm^2 or mW/cm^2 .

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60050 (all parts), *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary* (available at <http://www.electropedia.org>)

IEC 60601-2-62, *Medical electrical equipment – Particular requirements for the basic safety and essential performance of high intensity therapeutic ultrasound (HITU) equipment*

IEC 61161, *Ultrasonics – Power measurement – Radiation force balances and performance requirements*