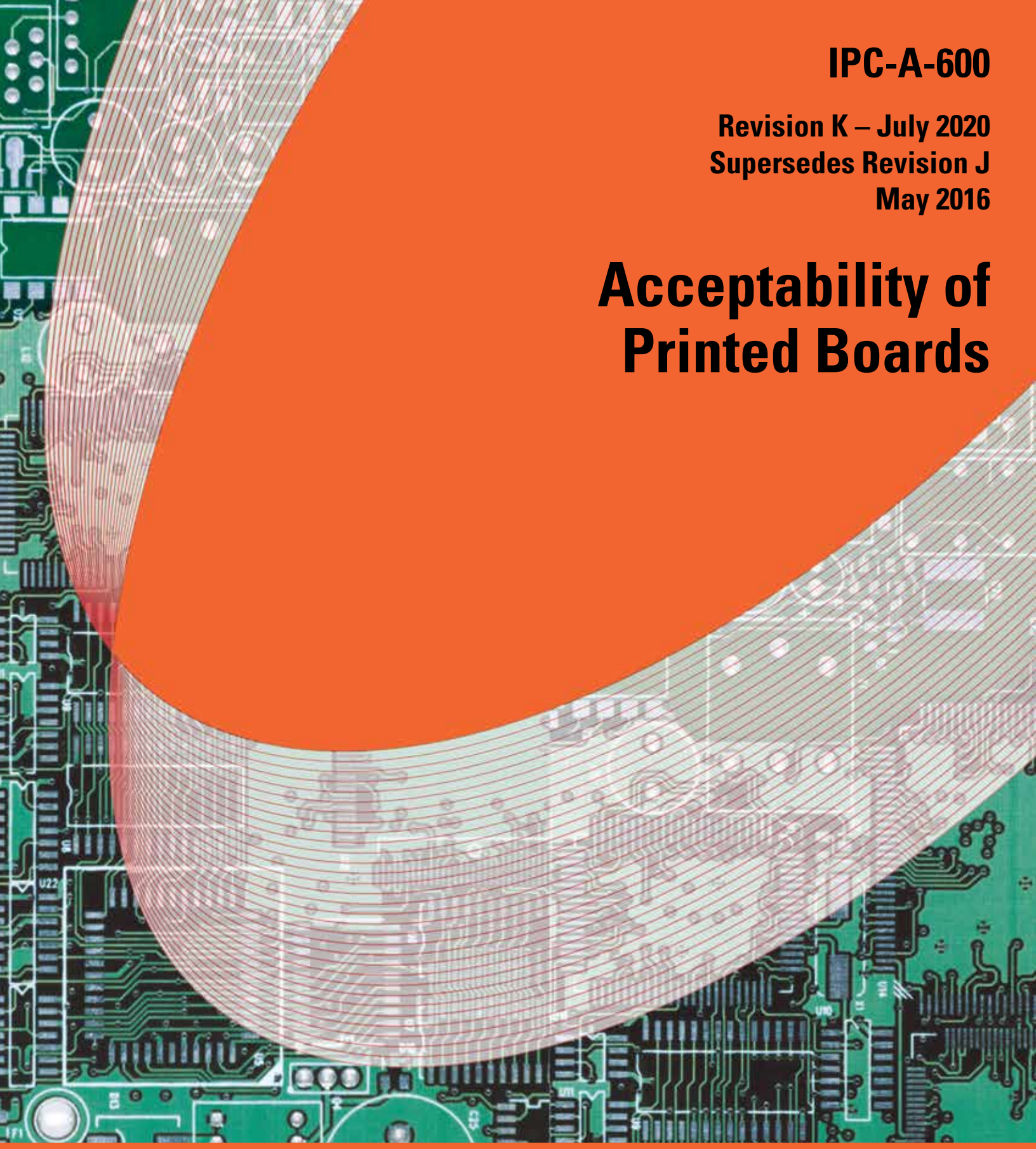
IPC-A-600

Revision K – July 2020
Supersedes Revision J
May 2016

Acceptability of Printed Boards



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participants from 14 countries contributed to this standard

The Principles of Standardization

In May 1995 the IPC's Technical Activities Executive Committee (TAEC) adopted Principles of Standardization as a guiding principle of IPC's standardization efforts.

Standards Should:

- Show relationship to Design for Manufacturability (DFM) and Design for the Environment (DFE)
- Minimize time to market
- Contain simple (simplified) language
- Just include spec information
- Focus on end product performance
- Include a feedback system on use and problems for future improvement

Standards Should Not:

- Inhibit innovation
- Increase time-to-market
- Keep people out
- Increase cycle time
- Tell you how to make something
- Contain anything that cannot be defended with data

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Thank you for your continued support.

IPC-A-600K

Acceptability of Printed Boards

If a conflict occurs between the English and translated versions of this document, the English version will take precedence.

Developed by the IPC-A-600 Task Group (7-31a) of the Product Assurance Committee (7-30) of IPC

Supersedes:
IPC-A-600J - May 2016
IPC-A-600H - April 2010
IPC-A-600G - July 2004
IPC-A-600F - November 1999

Users of this publication are encouraged to participate in the development of future revisions.

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Acknowledgment

Any document involving a complex technology draws material from a vast number of sources across many continents. While the principal members of the A-600 Task Group (7-31a) of the Product Assurance Committee (7-30) are shown below, it is not possible to include all of those who assisted in the evolution of this standard. To each of them, the members of IPC extend their gratitude. Special thanks goes to the members of the Rigid Printed Board Committee (D-30) for their efforts in establishing acceptance criteria for printed boards.

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Yogen Patel, Candor Industries Inc.
Jan Pedersen, Elmatica AS
Stephen Pierce, SGP Ventures, Inc.
John Potenza, Lockheed Martin Mission Systems & Training
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Acknowledgment (cont.)

Owen Reid, Lockheed Martin Missiles & Fire Control

Curtis Ricotta, Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company

Jose Rios, Raytheon

Nef Rios, Summit Interconnect - Anaheim

Kris Roberson, Bandjwet Enterprises, Inc. D/B/A BEST

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A special note of thanks goes to Curtis Ricotta of Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company and Denise Charest of Amphenol Printed Circuits, Inc. for supplying a significant amount of new photographs for this revision.

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Introduction

1.1 SCOPE

This document describes the target, acceptable, and nonconforming conditions that are either externally or internally observable on printed boards. It represents the visual interpretation of minimum requirements set forth in various printed board specifications, e.g.; IPC-6010 series, J-STD-003, etc.

1.2 PURPOSE

The visual illustrations in this document portray specific criteria of the requirements of current IPC specifications. In order to properly apply and use the content of this document, the printed board should comply with the design requirements of the applicable IPC-2220 series document and the performance requirements of the applicable IPC-6010 series document. In the event the printed board does not comply with these or equivalent requirements, then the acceptance criteria should be as agreed between user and supplier (AABUS).

1.3 APPROACH TO THIS DOCUMENT

Characteristics are divided into two general groups:

- Externally Observable (section 2)
- Internally Observable (section 3)

"Externally observable" conditions are those features or imperfections which can be seen and evaluated on or from the exterior surface of the board. In some cases, such as voids or blisters, the actual condition is an internal phenomenon and is detectable from the exterior.

"Internally observable" conditions are those features or imperfections that require microsectioning of the specimen or other forms of conditioning for detection and evaluation. In some cases, these features may be visible from the exterior and require microsectioning in order to assess acceptability requirements.

Specimens should be illuminated during evaluation to the extent needed for effective examination. The illumination should be such that no shadow falls on the area of interest except those shadows caused by the specimen itself. It is recommended that polarization and/or dark field illumination be employed to prevent glare during the examination of highly reflective materials.

The illustrations in this document portray specific criteria relating to the heading and subheading of each page, with brief descriptions of the acceptable and nonconforming conditions for each product class. (See 1.4.) The visual quality acceptance criteria are intended to provide proper tools for the evaluation of visual anomalies. The illustrations and photographs in each situation are related to specific requirements. The characteristics addressed are those that can be evaluated by visual observation and/or measurement of visually observable features.

Supported by appropriate user requirements, this document should provide effective visual criteria to quality assurance and manufacturing personnel.

This document cannot cover all of the reliability concerns encountered in the printed board industry; therefore, attributes not addressed in this issue **shall** be AABUS. The value of this document lies in its use as a baseline document that may be modified by expansions, exceptions, and variations which may be appropriate for specific applications.

When making accept and/or reject decisions, the awareness of documentation precedence must be maintained.

This document is a tool for observing how a product may deviate due to variation in processes. Refer to IPC-9191.

IPC-A-600 provides a useful tool for understanding and interpreting Automated Inspection Technology (AIT) results. AIT may be applicable to the evaluation of many of the dimensional characteristics illustrated in this document.

IPC-9121 is a useful troubleshooting guideline for problems, causes and possible corrective actions related to printed board manufacturing processes.

1.4 CLASSIFICATION

This standard recognizes that electrical and electronic products are subject to classifications by intended end-item use. Three general end-product classes have been established to reflect differences in producibility, complexity, functional performance requirements, and verification (inspection/test) frequency. It should be recognized that there may be overlaps of product between classes.