

Report on IEC TC87 WG15 – Underwater Acoustics

A meeting was held of this WG at the IEC TC87 meeting on 14th-19th May 2006 in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.

After the retirement of the current convenor (Joe Zalesak, USRD, USA), a new convenor has been appointed for WG15: Stephen Robinson, NPL (UK).

Progress has been made on the revision of IEC 60565 Ed 1, 1977: *Calibration of hydrophones*. This has been approved at the CDV stage and has now passed to FDIS stage. A vote on this document is due shortly. A shorter maintenance cycle has been recommended for this standard to facilitate the future division of this long standard into two.

Regarding the maintenance of IEC 60500 Ed 1, 1974: *IEC standard hydrophone*, it has been agreed to recommend a Maintenance Cycle Request to the officers. The goal is to replace this with a much more general standard along similar lines to that for higher frequency hydrophones produced by IEC TC87 WG8. The suggested title, "Underwater Acoustics – Hydrophones – Properties", and basic content of the revised standard have been the subject of discussion.

Future work under discussion within this working group include standards on the use of hydrophones to measure acoustic fields in the ocean, and standards for the measurement of underwater radiated noise.