

PUBLICLY AVAILABLE SPECIFICATION

PRE-STANDARD

Radio-frequency connectors –
Part 18: Sectional specification – Radio frequency coaxial connectors of
type SSMA

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INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

PRICE CODE

S

ICS 33.120.30

ISBN 978-2-88910-798-8

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RADIO-FREQUENCY CONNECTORS –

Part 18: Sectional specification –
Radio frequency coaxial connectors of type SSMA

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IEC-PAS 61169-18 has been processed by subcommittee 46F: RF and microwave passive components, of IEC technical committee 46: Cables, wires, waveguides, R.F. connectors, R.F. and microwave passive components and accessories.

The text of this PAS is based on the following document:

This PAS was approved for publication by the P-members of the committee concerned as indicated in the following document

Draft PAS	Report on voting
46F/94/PAS	46F/109/RVD

Following publication of this PAS, which is a pre-standard publication, the technical committee or subcommittee concerned may transform it into an International Standard.

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RADIO-FREQUENCY CONNECTORS –

Part 18: Sectional specification – Radio frequency coaxial connectors of type SSMA

1 Scope

This PAS is a sectional specification providing information and rules for preparation of detail specification of SSMA series R.F connectors together with the pro forma blank detail specification.

SSMA series connectors with characteristic impedance 50Ω are used for millimeter wave applications, connecting with RF cables or micro strips. The operating frequency limit is up to 35 GHz. The coupling thread is 10-36 UNS thread.

It also prescribes mating face dimensions for grade 1 high performance connectors, dimensional detail of grade 0 standard test connectors, gauging information and tests selected from IEC 61169-1 applicable to all detail specifications relating to SSMA series RF connectors.

This specification indicates recommended performance characteristics to be considered when writing a detail specification and it covers test schedules and inspection requirements for assessment levels M and H.

2 Normative references

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

IEC 61169-1:1992, *Radio-frequency connectors – Part 1: Generic specification – General requirements and measuring methods*¹⁾

Amendment 1(1996)
Amendment 2(1997)

3 Mating face and gauge information

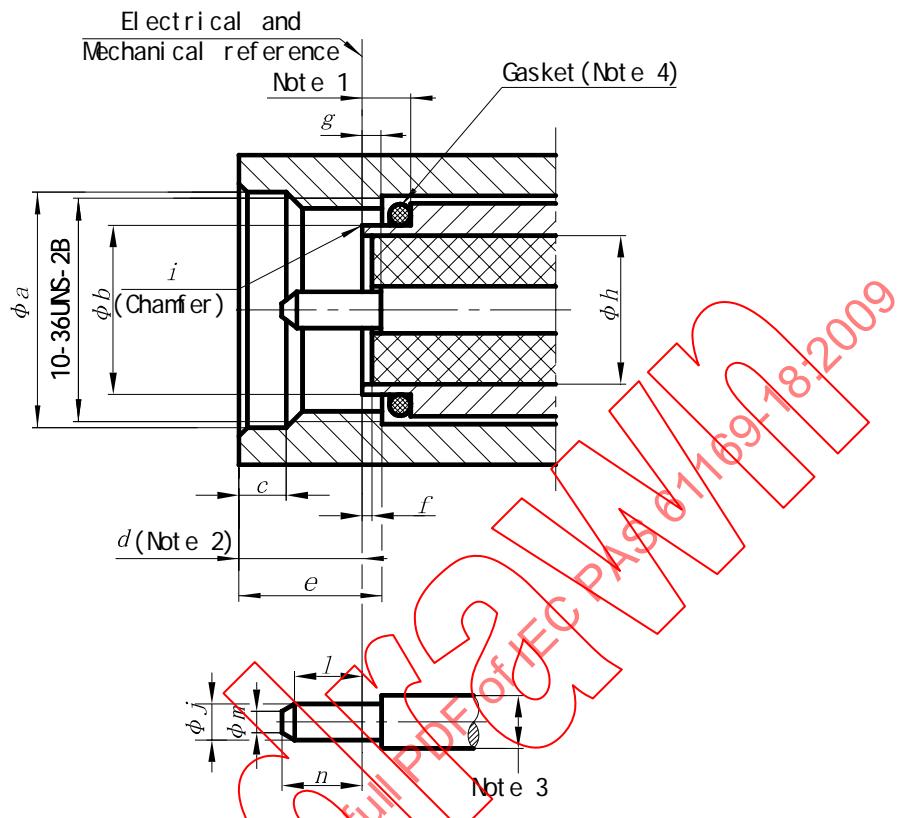
3.1 Dimensions – High performance connectors – Grade1

Inch dimensions are original dimensions.

All undimensioned pictorial configurations are for reference purpose only.

¹⁾ There exists a consolidated edition 1.2 (1998) that comprises IEC 61169-1, its Amendment 1 and its Amendment 2.

3.1.1 Connector with pin-centre contact



NOTE For dimensions and notes, see Table 1.

Figure 1 – Connector with pin- centre contact

Table 1 – Dimensions of connector with pin-centre contact

Ref.	mm		in	
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
a	4,98	-	0,196	-
b	3,15	3,22	0,124	0,126 8
c	0,38	1,14	0,015	0,045
d	-	3,43	-	0,135
e	2,54	-	0,100	-
f	0,00	0,18	0,000	0,007
g	0,00	0,25	0,000	0,010
h	2,79 nominal		0,110 nominal	
i	0,08 max × 45° or R0.08 max		0,003 max × 45° or R0.003 max	
j	0,495	0,528	0,019 5	0,020 8
l	1,00	-	0,039	-
m	-	0,25	-	0,010
n	-	1,65	-	0,065

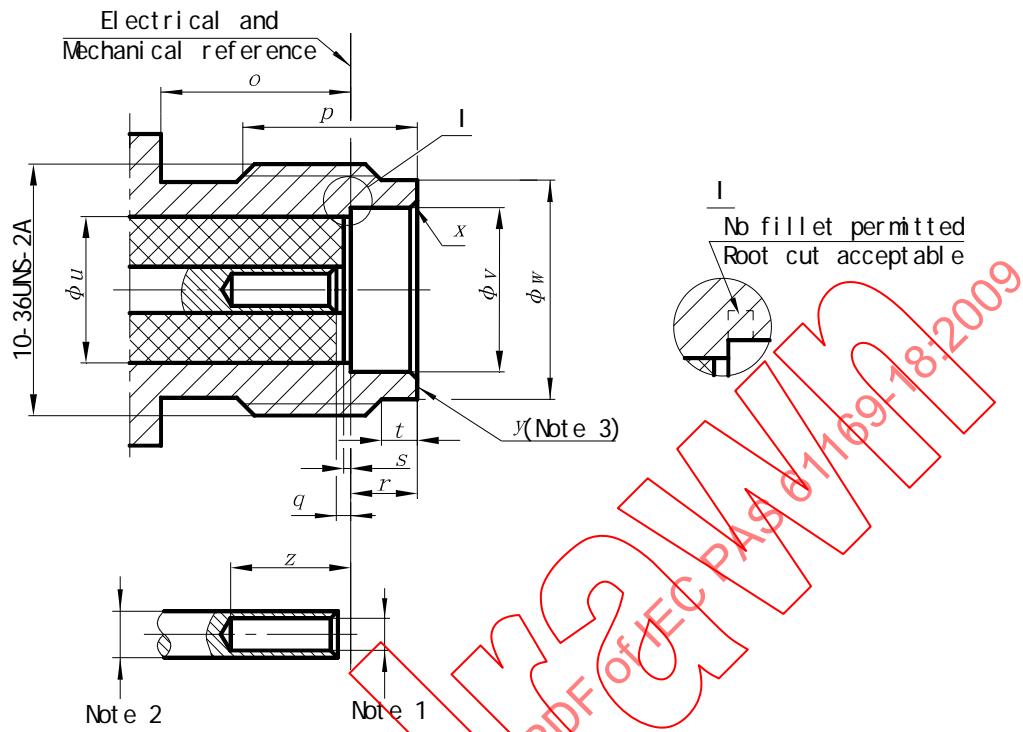
NOTE 1 Dimensions are such that the reference planes coincide and the connectors meet the required environmental performance.

NOTE 2 Dimension for coupling nut to screw forward.

NOTE 3 The diameters are chosen upon the assumption that the PTFE dielectric has a dielectric constant of 2,02 to give an impedance of 50 Ω.

NOTE 4 Gasket should be chosen in grade 1 connector, the design of the gasket is optional.

3.1.2 Connector with socket-centre contact



NOTE For dimensions and notes, see Table 2.

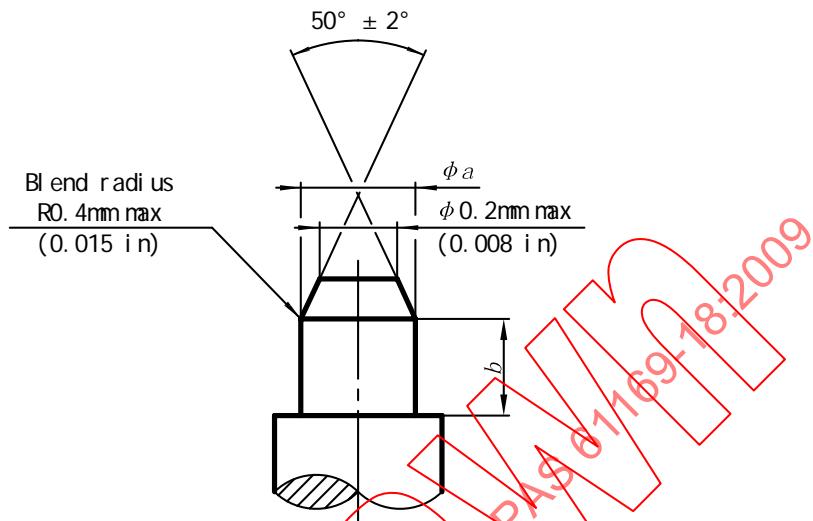
Figure 2 – Connector with socket-centre contact

Table 2 – Dimensions of connector with socket-centre contact

Ref.	mm		in	
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
<i>o</i>	3,91	-	0,154	-
<i>p</i>	4,32	-	0,170	-
<i>q</i>	0,00	0,25	0,000	0,016 0
<i>r</i>	1,88	1,98	0,074	0,078
<i>s</i>	0,00	0,18	0,000	0,007
<i>t</i>	0,38	1,14	0,015	0,045
<i>u</i>	2,79 nominal		0,110 nominal	
<i>v</i>	3,231	3,300	0,127 2	0,130 0
<i>w</i>	3,89	4,06	0,153	0,160
<i>x</i>	45°		45°	
<i>y</i>	0,25	-	0,010	-
<i>z</i>	2,92	-	0,115	-

3.2 Gauges

3.2.1 Gauge pins for socket-centre contact



NOTE For dimensions and notes, see Table 3.

Figure 3 – Gauge pins for socket-centre contact

Table 3 – Dimensions of gauge pins for socket-centre contact

Gauge A Maximum material for sizing purposes				Gauge B Minimum material for measurement of retention force Mass of gauge: 26 g ± 1 g				
Ref.	mm		in		mm		in	
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
a	0,528	0,533	0,0208	0,0210	0,492	0,495	0,0194	0,0195
b	1,25	1,35	0,0492	0,0531	1,25	1,35	0,0492	0,0531

Material: steel, polished, surface roughness: Ra=0,4 µm (16 µin) maximum.

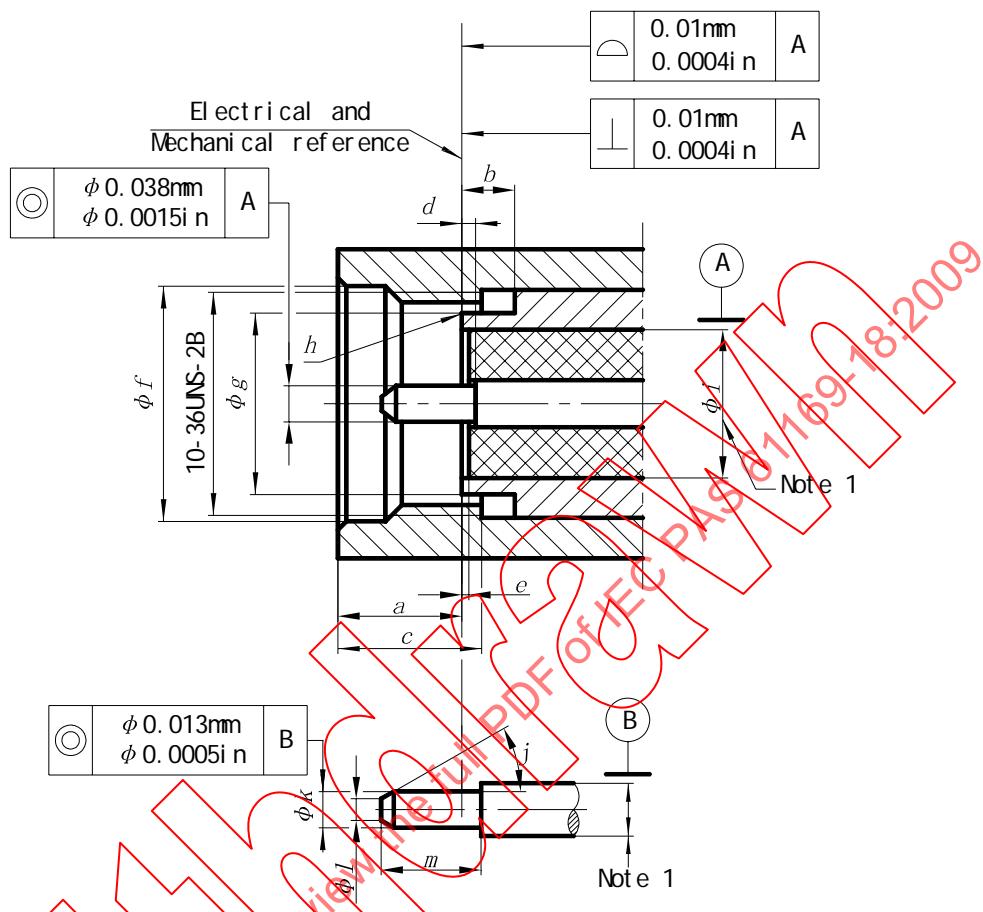
3.2.2 Test procedure

The gauge A shall be inserted into the socket-centre contact three times with a minimum depth of 1,25 mm (0,049 in). This is a sizing operation and should only be carried out when the socket-centre contact is removed from the connector.

After this, the gauge B shall have a withdrawal force of 0,25 N minimum after inserted into socket-centre contact. The contact shall retain the mass of the gauge in a vertical downward position. This test also shall be carried out on connector when the socket-centre contact is not removed.

3.3 Dimensions – Standard test connectors – Grade 0

3.3.1 Connector with pin-centre contact



NOTE For dimensions and notes, see Table 4.

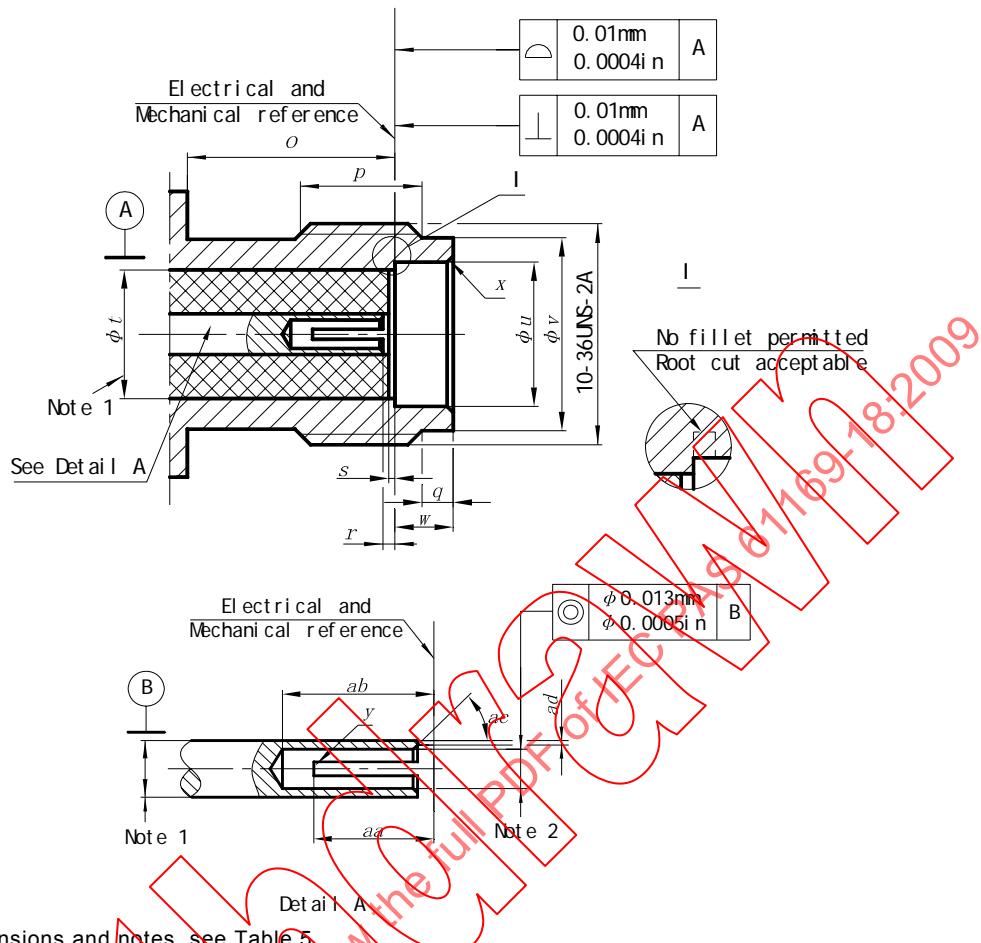
Figure 4 – Connector with pin-centre contact

Table 4 – Dimensions of connector with pin-centre contact

Ref.	mm		in	
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
a	2,54	3,40	0,100	0,134
b	2,03	-	0,080	-
c	2,54	4,32	0,100	0,170
d	0,000	0,076	0,000 0	0,003 0
e	0,000	0,050	0,000 0	0,002 0
f	4,98	5,21	0,196	0,205
g	3,17	3,22	0,125	0,127
h	0,08max × 45° or R0,08 max		0,003 max × 45° or 0,003 max	
i	2,79 nominal		0,110 nominal	
j	35°	48°	35°	48°
k	0,495	0,528	0,0195	0,020 8
l	-	0,25	-	0,010
m	1,40	1,65	0,055	0,065

NOTE 1 The diameters are chosen upon the assumption that the PTFE dielectric has a dielectric constant of 2,02 to give an impedance of $50 \Omega \pm 0,5 \Omega$.

3.3.2 Connector with socket-centre contact



NOTE For dimensions and notes, see Table 5.

Figure 5 – Connector with socket-centre contact

Table 5 – Dimensions of connector with socket-centre contact

Ref.	mm		in	
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
<i>o</i>	3,89	-	0,153	-
<i>p</i>	3,81	-	0,150	-
<i>q</i>	0,38	1,14	0,015	0,045
<i>r</i>	0,000	0,076	0,000 0	0,003 0
<i>s</i>	0,000	0,050	0,000 0	0,002 0
<i>t</i>	2,79 nominal		0,110 nominal	
<i>u</i>	3,23	3,28	0,127	0,129
<i>v</i>	3,89	4,04	0,153	0,159
<i>w</i>	1,88	1,98	0,074	0,078
<i>x</i>	0,13 max × 45°		0,005 max × 45°	
<i>y</i>	2 slots - 0,13/0,15 wide		2 slots - 0,005/0,006 wide	
<i>aa</i>	1,52	1,80	0,060	0,071
<i>ab</i>	2,92	3,30	0,115	0,130
<i>ac</i>	42°	48°	42°	48°
<i>ad</i>	0,05	-	0,002	-

NOTE 1 The diameters are chosen upon the assumption that the PTFE dielectric has a dielectric constant of 2,02 to give an impedance of $50 \Omega \pm 0,5 \Omega$.

NOTE 2 Design for slotting is optional, and should meet electrical and mechanical requirements, when mating with $\varnothing 0,495$ mm to $\varnothing 0,528$ mm ($\varnothing 0,0195$ in to $\varnothing 0,0208$ in) pin.

4 Quality assessment procedures

4.1 General

The following subclauses provide recommended rating, performance and test conditions to be considered when writing a detail specification. They also provide an appropriate schedule of tests with minimum levels of conformance inspection sampling, together with the pro forma blank detail specification (BDS) and instructions for the preparation of a detail specification.

4.2 Rating and characteristics (see Clause 6 of IEC 61169-1)

The values indicated below are recommended for SSMA series RF connectors and are given for the writer of the detail specification. They are applicable for the condition when the connectors are fully mated.

Certain tests are listed without any recommended values being given. These tests will usually not be required. When these tests are required, appropriate values shall be entered in the detail specification at the discretion of the specification writer.

Table 6 – Rating and characteristics

Rating and characteristics	Test method IEC 61169-1 subclause	Values	Remarks including any deviations from standard test method
Electrical			
Nominal impedance		50 Ω	
Frequency range		DC to 35GHz	
Grade 1 connectors			Or upper frequency limit of cable
Reflection factor ¹⁾	9.2.1		
Grade 1 connectors			
- For flexible cable			
- straight styles		$\leq 0,090+0,01f$	
- right-angle styles		$\leq 0,090+0,011f$	
- For semi-rigid and semi-flexible cable			
- straight styles		$\leq 0,034+0,004f$	
- right-angle styles		$\leq 0,048+0,004f$	
- Component mounting styles		See DS	
- Solder bucket and PCB mounting styles		See DS	
Centre contact resistance ²⁾	9.2.3		
- initial		$\leq 4,0 \text{ m}\Omega$	
- after conditioning		$\leq 10,0 \text{ m}\Omega$	
Outer conductor continuity ²⁾	9.2.3		
- initial		$\leq 2,5 \text{ m}\Omega$	
- after conditioning		$\leq 7,5 \text{ m}\Omega$	
Insulation resistance ²⁾	9.2.5		
- initial		$\geq 1\text{G}\Omega$	
- after conditioning		$\geq 200 \text{ M}\Omega$	
Proof voltage at sea –level ³⁾⁴⁾	9.2.6		
- non-cable styles		750 V	
- semi-rigid and semi-flexible 2,16 mm (0,086 in) diameter		750 V	
- semi-rigid and semi-flexible 1,19 mm (0,047 in) diameter		500 V	

Rating and characteristics	Test method IEC 61169-1 subclause	Values	Remarks including any deviations from standard test method
Proof voltage at 4,4 kPa ³⁾⁴⁾ - non-cable styles - semi-rigid and semi-flexible 2,16 mm (0,086 in) diameter - semi-rigid and semi-flexible 1,19 mm (0,047 in) diameter		150 V 150 V 100 V	4,4 kPa approximately equivalent to 20 km
Environmental test voltage at sea level ³⁾⁴⁾ - non-cable styles - semi-rigid and semi-flexible 2,16 mm (0,086 in) diameter - semi-rigid and Semi-flexible 1,19 mm (0,047 in) diameter	9.2.6	250 V 250 V 175 V 65 V 65 V 45 V	4,4 kPa approximately equivalent to 20 km
Environmental test voltage at 4,4 kPa ³⁾⁴⁾ - non-cable styles - semi-rigid and semi-flexible 2,16 mm (0,086 in) diameter - semi-rigid and semi-flexible 1,19 mm (0,047 in) diameter	9.2.6	65 V 65 V 45 V	4,4 kPa approximately equivalent to 20 km
Screening effectiveness (straight cables only) ⁷⁾	9.2.8	≥ 90 dB, at 1 GHz	
Discharge test (corona effect)	9.2.9	See DS	Extinction voltage
Mechanical			
Gauge retention force (resilient contacts) -centre contacts	9.3.4	≥ 0,25 N	
-outer contacts		na ⁶⁾	
Centre contact captivation -axial force	9.3.5	22 N	Maximum displacement 0,25 mm in each direction
-torque		≤ 0,018 N·m	
Engagement and separation - coupling nut friction	9.3.6	≤ 0,12 N·m	Can be carried out by hand
Coupling moment - normally moment - moment resistance	9.3.6	0,6 N·m to 0,8 N·m 1,1 N·m	
Mechanical tests on cable fixing			
- cable rotation (nutation)	9.3.7.2	See DS	
- cable pulling	9.3.8	See DS	
- cable bending	9.3.9	See DS	
- cable torsion	9.3.10	See DS	
Tensile strength of coupling mechanism	9.3.11	≥ 100 N	
Bending moment	9.3.12	0,15 N·m	
Vibration	9.3.3	100 m/s ² 10 Hz to 500 Hz	10 g _n
Impact	9.3.13	na ⁶⁾	

Rating and characteristics	Test method IEC 61169-1 subclause	Values	Remarks including any deviations from standard test method
Shock	9.3.14	500 m/s ² 1/2 sine wave 11 ms	50 g _n
Environmental			
Climatic category	9.4.2	A: 55/125/21 B: 40/085/21	
Sealing non-hermetic	9.4.5.1	≤100 kPa·cm ³ /h max	100 kPa to 110 kPa differential
Hermetic	9.4.5.2	≤10 ⁻³ Pa·cm ³ /s	100 kPa to 110 kPa differential
Salt mist	9.4.6	48 h spray	
Sulphur dioxide	9.4.8	na ⁶⁾	
Endurance			
Mechanical endurance	9.5	500 operations	
High temperature endurance ⁵⁾	9.6	Category A: 250 h at 125 °C Category A: 250 h at 85 °C	
<p>1) These values apply to basic connector. In practice, these may be influenced by the cable used and reference should always be made to the actual values given in the detail specification.</p> <p>2) Values for a single pair of connectors.</p> <p>3) Voltages are r.m.s. values of a.c. at 40 Hz to 65 Hz, unless otherwise specified.</p> <p>4) Some cables usable with these connectors have ratings lower than the values given here.</p> <p>5) For certain connectors, the upper temperature limit is restricted by the cable characteristics. Reference should be made to the relevant cable specification. When semi-rigid and semi-flexible cables are used, the upper temperature is limited to 115 °C maximum.</p> <p>6) na -not applicable.</p> <p>7) When interfaces are fully mated.</p>			

4.3 Test schedule and inspection requirements

4.3.1 Acceptance tests

Table 7 – Acceptance tests

	Test method IEC61169-1 subclause	Assessment level M (higher)				Assessment level H (lower)			
		Test required	IL	AQL %	Period	Test required	IL	AQL %	Period
Group A1					Lot By Lot	a	S-3	1,5	Lot By Lot
Visual examination	9.1.2	a	II	1.0		a	S-3	1,5	
Group B1						a	S-3	4,0	
Outline dimension	9.1.3.1	a	S-4	0,40		a	S-3	1,5	
Mechanical compatibility	9.1.3.3	a	II	1.0		a	S-3	1,5	
Engagement and separation	9.3.6	a	S-4	0,40		a	S-3	1,5	
Gauge retention (resilient contacts)	9.3.4	ia	II	1.0		ia	S-3	1,5	
Sealing						ia	S-3	1,0	
non-hermetic	9.4.5.1	ia	II	0,65		ia	II	0,025	
hermetic	9.4.5.2	ia	II	0,015					
Voltage proof	9.2.6	a	S-4	0,40					
Solderability (d)	9.3.2.1.1	ia	S-4	0,40					
Insulation resistance	9.2.5	a	S-4	0,40					

For the symbols, abbreviations and procedures, see the end of Table 8.

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4.3.2 Periodic tests

There are no group C tests for levels H and M.

Table 8 – Periodic tests

	Test method IEC61169-1 subclause	Assessment level M (higher)				Assessment level H (lower)			
		Test required	Number of specimens	Permitted failures per group ¹⁾	Period	Test required	Number of specimens	Permitted failures per group ¹⁾	Period
Group D1 (d)									
Solderability -connector assemblies	9.3.2.1.1	ia				ia			
Resistance to soldering heat	9.3.2.1.2	ia				ia			
Mechanical tests on cable fixing -cable rotation (nutation)	9.3.7.2	ia	6	1	3 years	ia	3	1	3 years
-cable pulling	9.3.8	ia				ia			
-cable bending	9.3.9	ia				ia			
-cable torsion	9.3.10	ia				ia			
Bending moment	9.3.12	a				a			
Strength of coupling mechanism	9.3.11	ia				ia			
Group D2 (d)									
Contact resistance	9.2.3	a				a			
Outer conductor and screen continuity	9.2.3								
Centre conductor continuity									
Bump	9.3.13	na				na			
Vibration	9.3.3	a				a			
Shock	9.3.14	a				a			
Damp heat, steady state	9.4.3	a				a			
Salt mist	9.4.6	a				a			
Group D3									
Dimensions piece part and materials	9.1.3.2	a	1 ²⁾	1	3 years	a	1 ²⁾	1	3 years

	Test method IEC61169-1 subclause	Assessment level M (higher)				Assessment level H (lower)									
		Test required	Number of specimens	Permitted failures per group ¹⁾	Period	Test required	Number of specimens	Permitted failures per group ¹⁾	Period						
Group D4 (d)															
Mechanical endurance	9.5	a	6	1	3 years	a	3	1	3 years						
High temperature endurance	9.6	a				a									
Sulphur dioxide	9.4.8	na				na									
Group D5 (d)															
Reflection factor	9.2.1	a	6	1	3 years	a	3	1	3 years						
Screening effectiveness	9.2.8	a				a									
Water Immersion	9.2.7	ia				ia									
Group D6 (d)															
Contact Captivation	9.3.5	ia	6	1	3 years	ia	3	1	3 years						
Discharge test (corona effect)	9.2.9	a				a									
Rapid change of temperature	9.4.4	a				a									
Climatic sequence	9.4.2	a	6	1	3 years	a	3	1	3 years						
Group D7 (d)															
Resistance to solvents and contaminating fluids	9.7	na				na									
<p>1) For qualification approval, a total of 2 failures only permitted for level H and 1 failure only permitted for level M from groups D1 to D7.</p> <p>2) One set of piece parts each style and variant unless using common piece parts.</p> <p>3) Group D7 -number of pairs for each solvent.</p>															
<p>ABBREVIATIONS:</p> <p>a - applicable.</p> <p>na - not applicable.</p> <p>ia - test required (if technically applicable).</p> <p>(d) - destructive test -specimens shall not be returned to stock.</p> <p>IL-inspection level.</p> <p>AQL- acceptable quality level.</p>															

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4.4 Procedures

4.4.1 Quality conformance inspection

This shall consist of test group A1 and B1 on a lot-by-lot basis and test group D1 to D7 on a periodic basis.

4.4.2 Qualification approval and its maintenance

This still consists of three consecutive lots passing test groups A1 and B1 followed by selection of specimens from the lots as appropriate. These specimens shall successfully pass the specified periodic D tests.

5 Instructions for preparation of detail specifications

5.1 General

Detail specifications (DS) writers shall use the appropriate BDS pro-forma. The following pages comprise the pro-forma BDS dedicated for use with 50 Ω type SSMA connectors. As such, it will already have entered on it information relating to

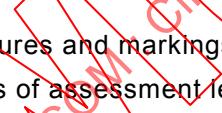
- the basic specification number applicable to all the detail specifications covering connector styles of the type covered by the sectional specification;
- the connector series designation.

The specification writer should enter the details relating to the connector style/variant(s) to be covered as indicated. The numbers in brackets on the BDS pro-forma correspond to the following indications which shall be given.

5.1 Identification of the component

(5) Enter the following details:

Style:  The style designation of the connector including type of fixing and sealing, if applicable.

Attachment:  By deletion of the inapplicable options of cable/wire: given for centre and outer conductors.

Special features and markings: As applicable.

(6) Enter details of assessment level and the climatic category.

(7) A reproduction of the outline drawing and details of the panel piercing, if applicable. It shall provide the maximum envelope dimensions, also the position of the reference plane and, in the case of a fixed connector, the position of the mounting plane(s) relative to the front face of the connector.

Any maximum panel thickness limitations for fixed connectors shall be stated.

(8) Particulars of all variants covered by the DS. As appropriate, the information shall include:

- cable types (or sizes) applicable to each variant;
- alternative plated or protective finishes;
- details of alternative mounting flanges having either tapped or plain mounting holes;
- details of alternative solder spills or solder buckets including, when applicable, those for use with microwave integrated circuit (MIC) components.

5.2 Performance

(9) Performance data listing the most important characteristics of the connector taking into account the recommended values in 4.2 of this specification. Deviations from the minimum requirements shall be clearly indicated. Non-applicable parameters shall be marked 'na'.

5.3 Marking, ordering information and related matters

(10) Insert marking and ordering information as appropriate, together with details of related documents and any invoked structural similarity.

5.4 Selection of tests, test conditions and severities

(11) 'na' shall be used to indicate non-applicable tests. All tests marked 'a' by the detail specification writer shall be mandatory.

When using the normal procedure with a dedicated BDS, the letter 'a' – for applicable – shall be entered in the 'Test required' column against each of the tests indicated as being mandatory in the test schedule as in 4.3 of this specification. Any additional tests required at the discretion of the specification writer shall also be indicated by an 'a'.

The specification writer shall also indicate, when necessary, details of deviations from the standard test methods and test conditions, including any relevant deviations given in the test schedule of the sectional specification.

The qualification approval and conformance inspection shall be such that the national supervising inspectorate (NSI) shall be satisfied that they are appropriate and in line with those for other connectors within the system providing a reasonably comparable service.

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5.5 Blank detail specification pro-forma for type SSMA connector

The following pages contain the complete BDS pro-forma.