



Approved as an American National Standard  
ANSI Approval Date: 2/2/2021  
National adoption of IEC 60974-5  
with modifications and revision of  
ANSI/NEMA/IEC 60974-5-2008

**ANSI/NEMA/IEC 60974-5-2021**  
*Arc Welding Equipment Part 5: Wire feeders*  
*(Adoption with Modifications and Revision)*

*Published by*

**National Electrical Manufacturers Association**

1300 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 900

Rosslyn, Virginia 22209

[www.nema.org](http://www.nema.org)

© 2021 National Electrical Manufacturers Association. All rights including translation into other languages, reserved under the Universal Copyright Convention, the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, and the International and Pan American Copyright Conventions.

## **Notice and Disclaimer (ANSI Adoption of IEC Standards)**

The information in this publication was considered technically sound by the consensus of persons engaged in the development and approval of the document at the time it was developed. Consensus does not necessarily mean that there is unanimous agreement among every person participating in the development of this document.

The National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) Standards and guideline publications, of which the document contained herein is one, are developed through a voluntary consensus Standards development process. This process brings together volunteers and/or seeks out the views of persons who have an interest in the topic covered by this publication. NEMA does not write the document and it does not independently test, evaluate, or verify the accuracy or completeness of any information or the soundness of any judgments contained in its Standards and guideline publications.

NEMA disclaims liability for any personal injury, property, or other damages of any nature whatsoever, whether special, indirect, consequential, or compensatory, directly or indirectly resulting from the publication, use of, application, or reliance on this document. NEMA disclaims and makes no guaranty or warranty, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy or completeness of any information published herein, and disclaims and makes no warranty that the information in this document will fulfill any of your particular purposes or needs. NEMA does not undertake to guarantee the performance of any individual manufacturer or seller's products or services by virtue of this Standard or guide.

In publishing and making this document available, NEMA is not undertaking to render professional or other services for or on behalf of any person or entity, nor is NEMA undertaking to perform any duty owed by any person or entity to someone else. Anyone using this document should rely on his or her own independent judgment or, as appropriate, seek the advice of a competent professional in determining the exercise of reasonable care in any given circumstances. Information and other Standards on the topic covered by this publication may be available from other sources, which the user may wish to consult for additional views or information not covered by this publication.

NEMA has no power, nor does it undertake to police or enforce compliance with the contents of this document. NEMA does not certify, test, or inspect products, designs, or installations for safety or health purposes. Any certification or other statement of compliance with any health or safety-related information in this document shall not be attributable to NEMA and is solely the responsibility of the certifier or maker of the statement.

## FOREWORD FOR U.S. ADOPTION

This American National Standard is an adoption of IEC 60974-5, edition 4, *Arc Welding Equipment – Part 5: Wire feeders*, and was developed and approved in accordance with procedures set forth by the American National Standards Institute. It is the intention that this American National Standard be a standalone document, replacing the use of IEC 60974-5 in the U.S. As such, any reference in this Standard to an IEC 60974 part is understood to mean a reference to the equivalent ANSI/IEC 60974 part, where it exists.

This Standard contains all the original text as-is from IEC 60974-5, edition 4, in addition to a number of U.S. Differences to the IEC Standard that were identified by Accredited Standards Committee W1, *Requirements for Apparatus Designed for Use in Arc Welding, Plasma Arc Cutting, and Allied Processes*. Each U.S. Difference is found both in a compilation of U.S. Differences following this foreword and inserted in the appropriate place(s) in the Standard relating to the difference. Each insertion is in red text and is marked by three lines on its left (two thin, one thick). Each difference is identified with the following format:

[Clause/Subclause Number]DV.[Number of Difference for the Given Clause/Subclause]

Following this format, the example 17.1DV.3 signifies that it is the third U.S. Difference to subclause 17.1.

Suggestions for the improvement of this Standard are welcome and should be submitted to the Secretariat of Accredited Standards Committee W1 as follows:

Khaled Masri, AStd Program Manager  
c/o National Electrical Manufacturers Association  
1300 North 17th Street, Suite 900  
Rosslyn, VA 22209  
Email: [Khaled.Masri@nema.org](mailto:Khaled.Masri@nema.org)

This Standard was processed and approved by the Accredited Standards Committee W1. Committee approval does not necessarily imply that all Committee members voted for its approval. At the time this Standard was published, Accredited Standards Committee W1 consisted of the following members:

Greg Corban, Chair  
 Mike Madsen, Vice-Chair  
 Khaled Masri, Secretary

<b>Name</b>		<b>Organization</b>	<b>Voting Status</b>	<b>Interest Category</b>
Andrew	Davis	American Welding Society	Alt. Voting	ANSI - GEN INTEREST
David	Werba	American Welding Society	Voting	ANSI - GEN INTEREST
David	Beneteau	CenterLine (Windsor) Limited	Voting	ANSI - GEN INTEREST
Jean-Pierre	Boivin	CSA Group - Certification	Voting	ANSI - USER
Ramana	Tangirala	CSA Group - Standards	Alt. Voting	ANSI - USER
Sam	Zaffino	CSA Group - Certification	Alt. Voting	ANSI - USER
Lorenzo	Tiracchia	CSA Group - Standards	Voting	ANSI - GEN INTEREST
Carlos	De Lima	ESAB Welding & Cutting Products	Voting	ANSI - PRODUCER
Gregory	Corban	Hypertherm Incorporated	Voting	ANSI - PRODUCER
Patrick	Salas	Hypertherm Incorporated	Alt. Voting	ANSI - PRODUCER
Tak Ming	Liu	Hypertherm Incorporated	Alt. Voting	ANSI - PRODUCER
Amanda	Dotten	Intertek	Alt. Voting	ANSI - USER
Peter	Sedor	Intertek	Voting	ANSI - USER
Samir	Farah	Lincoln Electric	Voting	ANSI - PRODUCER
Frank	Stupczy	Lincoln Electric	Alt. Voting	ANSI - PRODUCER
Terry	Christianson-Plato	Miller Electric Mfg. LLC An ITW Welding Company	Alt. Voting	ANSI - PRODUCER
Joe	Krueger	Miller Electric Mfg. LLC An ITW Welding Company	Alt. Voting	ANSI - PRODUCER
Michael	Madsen	Miller Electric Mfg. LLC An ITW Welding Company	Voting	ANSI - PRODUCER
John	Freudenberg	Northeast Product Safety Society	Voting	ANSI - GEN INTEREST
Christopher	Doty	UL LLC	Voting	ANSI - USER

## COMPILATION OF U.S. DIFFERENCES

NOTE This section is an integral part of American National Standard ANSI/NEMA/IEC 60974-5. See the section "Foreword for U.S. Adoption" for an explanation of the format used to identify U.S. Differences.

ForewordDV.1 Modify the foreword by adding the following:

The numbering system in this Standard uses a space instead of a comma to indicate thousands and uses a comma instead of a period to indicate a decimal point. For example, 1 000 means 1,000 and 1,01 means 1.01.

GlobalDV.1 Throughout this document, replace the phrase "this part of IEC 60974" with "this part of ANSI/NEMA/IEC 60974"

GlobalDV.2 Throughout this document, the following IEC and U.S. terms are equivalent:

- a) "MIG" and "GMAW"
- b) "MAG" and "GMAW"
- c) "MIG/MAG" and "GMAW"
- d) "TIG" and "GTAW"
- e) "metal inert gas arc welding" and "gas metal arc welding"
- f) "metal active gas arc welding" and "gas metal arc welding"
- g) "tungsten inert gas" and "gas tungsten arc welding"
- h) "tungsten inert gas arc welding" and "gas tungsten arc welding"

2DV.1 Modify clause 2 by replacing the IEC 60974-1 reference with a reference to ANSI/NEMA/IEC 60974-1 and adding the following text and note:

All subsequent references in this Standard to IEC 60974-1 shall be a reference to ANSI/NEMA/IEC 60974-1.

NOTE ANSI/NEMA/IEC 60974-1-2019 contains the entire original text from IEC 60974-1:2017 plus U.S. Differences.

2DV.2 Modify clause 2 by replacing the IEC 60974-7 reference with a reference to ANSI/NEMA/IEC 60974-7 and adding the following text and note:

All subsequent references in this Standard to IEC 60974-7 shall be a reference to ANSI/NEMA/IEC 60974-7.

NOTE ANSI/NEMA/IEC 60974-7-2021 contains the entire original text from IEC 60974-7:2021 plus U.S. Differences.

2DV.3 Modify clause 2 by deleting the reference to IEC 60974-10.

9DV.1 Modify Clause 9 by replacing the seventh paragraph with the following:

Current-carrying components shall be capable of carrying the rated welding current without causing the external surface temperatures of the WIRE FEEDER specified in Table 7 of ANSI/NEMA/IEC 60974-1:2019 to be exceeded. External surface temperatures in restricted access areas, e.g. robotic applications, or covered areas in normal use, e.g. welding circuit, may exceed the limits of Table 7 of ANSI/NEMA/IEC 60974-1:2019 if marked with the following symbol IEC 60417-5041:2002-10:



14.1DV.1 Modify Clause 14.1 by deleting list item p).

## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	7
1 Scope.....	9
2 Normative references .....	9
3 Terms and definitions .....	10
4 Environmental conditions.....	11
5 Tests .....	11
5.1 Test conditions .....	11
5.2 Measuring instruments.....	11
5.3 Conformity of components .....	12
5.4 Type tests.....	12
5.5 Routine tests.....	12
6 Protection against electric shock .....	12
6.1 Insulation.....	12
6.2 Protection against electric shock in normal service (direct contact).....	12
6.2.1 Protection provided by the enclosure .....	12
6.2.2 Capacitors .....	13
6.2.3 Automatic discharge of supply circuit capacitors .....	13
6.2.4 Isolation of the welding circuit.....	13
6.2.5 Welding circuit touch current.....	13
6.2.6 Touch current in normal condition .....	13
6.3 Protection against electric shock in case of a fault condition (indirect contact) .....	14
6.3.1 Protective provisions.....	14
6.3.2 Isolation between windings of the supply circuit and the welding circuit .....	14
6.3.3 Internal conductors and connections .....	14
6.3.4 Isolation of the welding circuit from the frame .....	14
6.3.5 Touch current in fault condition .....	14
6.4 Power supply to external devices connected to the welding circuit .....	15
6.5 Overcurrent protection of the supply circuit.....	15
6.6 Cable anchorage.....	15
6.7 Auxiliary power supply .....	15
6.8 Inlet openings .....	15
6.9 Welding circuit connections.....	15
6.10 Control circuits.....	16
6.11 Isolation of hanging means .....	16
7 Liquid cooling system .....	16
8 Shielding gas supply.....	16
9 Thermal requirements.....	17
10 Abnormal operation .....	18
10.1 General requirements .....	18
10.2 Stalled fan test.....	18
11 Mechanical provisions .....	18
11.1 Wire feeder .....	18
11.2 Enclosure .....	18
11.3 Handling means .....	19

- 11.4 Drop withstand..... 19
- 11.5 Tilting stability..... 19
- 11.6 Filler wire supply..... 19
  - 11.6.1 Filler wire supply mounting ..... 19
  - 11.6.2 Wire spool retaining device ..... 19
  - 11.6.3 Filler wire overrun ..... 19
- 11.7 Feeding ..... 20
- 11.8 Protection against mechanical hazards ..... 20
- 12 Rating plate ..... 21
  - 12.1 General..... 21
  - 12.2 Description ..... 21
  - 12.3 Contents ..... 21
- 13 Indication of wire-feed speed ..... 23
- 14 Instructions and markings ..... 23
  - 14.1 Instructions ..... 23
  - 14.2 Markings ..... 24
- Annex A (normative) Determination of the variation in wire-feed speed ..... 25
  - A.1 With respect to load change..... 25
  - A.2 With respect to supply voltage change ..... 25
  - A.3 With respect to temperature rise ..... 26
- Annex B (informative) Example of a rating plate of a stand-alone wire feeder ..... 27
- Bibliography..... 28
  
- Figure 1 – Principle of the rating plate of stand-alone wire feeder ..... 21
- Figure B.1 – Stand-alone wire feeder ..... 27
  
- Table 1 – Minimum degree of protection ..... 13

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

---

**ARC WELDING EQUIPMENT –****Part 5: Wire feeders****FOREWORD**

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
- 2) The formal decisions or agreements of IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard IEC 60974-5 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 26: Electric welding.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2013 and constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- changes induced by the publication of IEC 60974-1:2017;
- addition of requirements for welding circuit connections in 6.9;
- clarification of requirements and conformity in 6.3.1;
- clarification of thermal requirements in Clause 9;



- addition of requirements in relation to abnormal operation in Clause 10.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
26/672/FDIS	26/677/RVD

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

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

In this document, the following print types are used:

- conformity statements: in *italic* type.
- terms used throughout this document which have been defined in Clause 3: in SMALL CAPITALS.

This International Standard is to be used in conjunction with IEC 60974-1:2017.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60974 series, published under the general title *Arc welding equipment*, can be found on the IEC website.

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

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

**ForewordDV.1 Modify the foreword by adding the following:**

The numbering system in this Standard uses a space instead of a comma to indicate thousands and uses a comma instead of a period to indicate a decimal point. For example, 1 000 means 1,000 and 1,01 means 1.01.

## ARC WELDING EQUIPMENT –

### Part 5: Wire feeders

GlobalDV.1 Throughout this document, replace the phrase "this part of IEC 60974" with "this part of ANSI/NEMA/IEC 60974"

GlobalDV.2 Throughout this document, the following IEC and U.S. terms are equivalent:

- a) "MIG" and "GMAW"
- b) "MAG" and "GMAW"
- c) "MIG/MAG" and "GMAW"
- d) "TIG" and "GTAW"
- e) "metal inert gas arc welding" and "gas metal arc welding"
- f) "metal active gas arc welding" and "gas metal arc welding"
- g) "tungsten inert gas" and "gas tungsten arc welding"
- h) "tungsten inert gas arc welding" and "gas tungsten arc welding"

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 60974 specifies safety and performance requirements for industrial and professional equipment used in arc welding and allied processes to feed filler wire.

This document is applicable to WIRE FEEDERS and to WIRE-FEED CONTROLS that are stand-alone (separate from the welding equipment), housed together in a single enclosure or housed in a single enclosure with other welding equipment. The WIRE FEEDER can be suitable for manually or mechanically guided torches.

This document is not applicable to spool-on torches, which are covered by IEC 60974-7.

NOTE 1 Typical allied processes are electric arc cutting and arc spraying.

NOTE 2 This document does not include electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) requirements, which are given in IEC 60974-10.