

Engineering Bulletin 078

Issuing Ian Aldridge – Gas Distribution Network Strategy
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This bulletin is for anyone in the gas business who is involved in the purchase, installation or routine inspection of electrical power cables.

Background

The product in question is multi-core PVC sheathed XLPE insulated steel wire armoured cable, in various sizes, which is claimed to comply with BS 5467. The cables can be identified by the brand name Kaydour printed on the cable sheath.

Non Compliant Cable



Cable Marking Example



Independent testing of this brand of cable by BASEC (The British Approvals Service for Cables) has indicated a number of serious faults including excessive conductor resistance and excessive armour resistance. Conductors are up to two standard sizes smaller than that marked on the cables, which could result in overloading and overheating in use and the armour resistance may also result in ineffective earthing.

Jeremy Hodge, chief executive for BASEC said: "It is understood that the cables originate from India and have been distributed in the UK through at least one supplier." These cables are not BASEC approved or marked BASEC.

Action Required

All staff and contractors carrying out electrical equipment inspections shall be made aware of this warning and shall check to identify any "Kaydour" cables installed on National Grid installations. It is not known if all cable with the Kaydour marking is suspect, however any of this brand found should be immediately tested for capacity, performance and safety. If safety concerns are raised the affected cables should be removed and replaced by approved cables.

Staff involved in purchasing, installing or managing contractors who are installing cables must ensure that all cables fully comply with the appropriate British Standard i.e.

BS 5467 - Specification for cables with thermosetting insulation for electricity supply for rated voltages of up to and including 600/1000 V and up to and including 1900/3300 V

The company's requirements for cables can be found in T/PM/EL/5 Management Procedures For Installation Of Cables.

For further information regarding this Bulletin please contact your Line Manager or for Gas Distribution Graham Sims on 07767707154 or for Gas Transmission Steve Law 07767382862