

News from the British Cables Association

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New edition of BS 7540 aids selection of wiring and flexible cables

The new edition of BS 7540*, an essential for designers, specifiers, consultants and installers, has recently been published. This gives guidance on the use of electric cables of operating voltage up to 450/750V and replaces the 1994 version. The guide covers flexes and building and equipment wiring cables, including PVC, rubber and halogen free materials. Two sections of the standard give specific guidance on respectively harmonised and national cable types and a general section covers common elements, such as tables of bending radii and the spacing of cable supports.

BS 7540 does not replace the wiring regulations, but acts as a supplement to them, greatly aiding cable selection and handling. It is intended as a reference work for contractors as well as supervising engineers and specifiers and highlights best practices for a safe installation. Its aim is to ensure that the right cable is chosen for the application and correctly installed. As well as the materials used in its construction, the service life of a cable will be a function of the manner in which it is installed. BS 7540 gives advice on selection and identifying the factors which need to be taken into consideration, such as an elevated temperature environment or the presence of aggressive fluids. A comprehensive description of the cables and their intended use is strengthened by references to other standards.

Part 1 of this British Standard has already been taken as a model to produce a corresponding document at an international level in IEC.

**BS 7540 was prepared under the responsibility of committee GEL20/17. The membership of this committee comprises cable manufacturers, specifiers and users.*

Ends



For more information please call:

- For details about availability of BS 7540 Electric cables – Guide to use for cables with a rated voltage not exceeding 450/750 V, Part 1 – General guidance, Part 2 – Harmonized cable types and Part 3 – National standard cable types contact BSI on 020 8896 9000 or info@bsi-global.com;
- For information about the cables contact British Cables Association on 020 8941 4079 or techsec@bcauk.org

About BSI and the BS

British Standards have a reputation second to none. In today's world, quality (i.e. conformance to standard) is taken for granted. This will be to no avail unless the right cable is chosen for the application and correctly installed. As well as the materials used in its construction, the service life of a cable will be a function of the manner in which it is installed.