

New numbering for UK standards for LV wiring and flexible cables

Introduction

This document provides a brief explanation of the changes following the issue of the BS EN 50525 series of standards, for wiring and flexible cables up to and including 450/750 V. The full series was published on 30 September 2011.

This publication, which is in 18 parts, does not require any change to UK manufacturing and market practice. In fact, products remain unchanged – only some reference standard numbers are different. There is a permitted transition period. BSI has agreed with industry that a date of 1st January 2013 will apply for full changeover.

Existing British Standards involved in the transition are:

Those to be withdrawn on 31st December 2012

- BS 638-4 *Arc welding power sources, equipment and accessories. Specification for welding cables*
- BS 6007 *Electric cables — Single core unsheathed heat-resisting cables for voltages up to and including 450/750 V, for internal wiring*
- BS 6500 *Electric cables — Flexible cords rated up to 300/500 V, for use with appliances and equipment intended for domestic, office and similar environments*
- BS 7919 *Electric cables — Flexible cables rated up to 450/750 V, for use with appliances and equipment intended for industrial and similar environments*

Modified editions to be effective from 1st January 2013

- BS 6004 *Electric cables — PVC insulated, non armoured cables for voltages up to and including 300/500 V, for electric power and lighting*
(This will contain only the national sheathed fixed wiring cables (6181Y, 6242Y etc) and the arctic grade cables for construction sites and similar applications (for instance 3183A))
- BS 7211 *Electric cables — Thermosetting insulated, non-armoured cables for voltages up to and including 450/750 V for electric power and lighting and having low emission of smoke and corrosive gases when affected by fire*
(This will contain only the national sheathed fixed wiring cables (6181B, 6242B etc))

Details of specific cable types in BS EN 50525

The principal UK cable types transferred to the BS EN 50525 series of standards are summarised in the attached annex.

(NOTE: Part 1 of BS EN 50525 contains further details in two informative national annexes.)

Key dates

30th September 2011 - BS EN 50525 (18 parts) published by BSI. From this date manufacturers may choose to declare conformity to this standard in place of the pre-existing British Standards, but it is not mandatory.

October 2012 - Target date for publication of new editions of BS 6004 and BS 7211.

31st December 2012 - Withdrawal of BS 638-4, BS 6007, BS 6500 and BS 7919.

1st January 2013 - BS EN 50525 (18 parts) comes into effect fully, plus the new editions of BS 6004 and BS 7211.

Further information

For further information about any of these changes please contact:

- BSI for availability of published standards - www.bsigroup.co.uk or www.bsi-publications.com
- BCA for details of UK manufacturers www.bcauk.org
- BASEC for details of voluntary 3rd party approvals relating to all cable types www.basec.org.uk

Notes to editors

The British Cables Association (BCA) is the trade association for British manufacturers of insulated cables and wires and associated products.

For further information contact:

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BCA is the Trade Association of CMPS Ltd

ENDS

Annex – Principal UK cable types now in the BS EN 50525 series of standards

Cable type	United Kingdom cable code	Harmonized cable code	New cable standard
300/500V PVC Insulated only	2491X	H05V-U	BS EN 50525-2-31
	2491X	H05V-K	BS EN 50525-2-31
450/750V PVC Insulated only	6491X	H07V-U	BS EN 50525-2-31
	6491X	H07V-R	BS EN 50525-2-31
	6491X	H07V-K	BS EN 50525-2-31
300/300 V PVC flexible	2182/3/4 Y (circular)	H03VV-F 2/3/4	BS EN 50525-2-11
	2192 Y (flat)	H03VVH2-F	BS EN 50525-2-11
300/500 V PVC flexible	3182/3/4/5 Y (circular)	H05VV-F 2/3/4/5	BS EN 50525-2-11
	3192 Y (flat)	H05VVH2-F	BS EN 50525-2-11
300/500V Low smoke Insulated only	2491B	H05Z-U	BS EN 50525-3-41
	2491B	H05Z-K	BS EN 50525-3-41
450/750V Low smoke Insulated only	6491B	H07Z-U	BS EN 50525-3-41
	6491B	H07Z-R	BS EN 50525-3-41
	6491B	H07Z-K	BS EN 50525-3-41
300/300 V Low Smoke flexible	2182/3/4 B (circular)	H03Z1Z1-F 2/3/4	BS EN 50525-3-11
	2192 B (flat)	H03Z1Z1H2-F	BS EN 50525-3-11
300/500 V Low Smoke flexible	3182/3/4/5 B (circular)	H05Z1Z1-F 2/3/4/5	BS EN 50525-3-11
	3192 B (flat)	H05Z1Z1-H2-F	BS EN 50525-3-11