

BCA – Technical Newsletter – Issue No. 44
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BCA Member Companies only

1 Construction Products Regulation (CPR)

Since the last Newsletter the following key things have progressed:

- a) Via the announcement in OJEU, the Date of Applicability (DoP) for EN 50575, including Amendment No 1, was listed as 10th June 2016, and the end of the co-existence period as 1st July 2017 (see C 3678).
- b) As agreed, BCA has issued a public statement. It can be found on our website at:

<http://bcauk.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/BCA-CPR-public-statement.pdf>

It has also been sent to various trade publications and to IET.

- c) Certification bodies and test houses have started to gain accreditation as Notified Bodies for cables under CPR.

The database of Notified Bodies for CPR (all products) is on the Commission website at:

http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/nando/index.cfm?fuseaction=directive.notifiedbody&dir_id=33

It is necessary to look under “Power, control and communications cables” for the EN 50575 entries. There are three possible listings, for system 3, system 1+ and for FPC bodies.

So far, for UK, BASEC and BRE are listed.

- d) ECBL has issued the updated version of the FAQs (C 3684). All members are asked to alert the office to any important unanswered questions that come to light.
- e) An amendment has been published to the well-known Bunsen burner test (BS EN 60332-1-2) such that it now exactly aligns with the requirements of Class E for Reaction to Fire.

A number of other matters remain on-going, including:

- Completion of the standards work for Resistance to Fire. Whilst test methods are now reaching a conclusion following recent publication of EN 50582 (optical fibre cables) and EN 50289-4-16 (metallic data cables), the creation of a product standard, which entails working with the EC’s consultant, awaits some final key input before a draft can be finalised;
- Development of an information manual by the ECBL communication group. This is to be made available to all ECBL members, including National Associations, as a means of using CPR to promote low fire hazard cables;
- Maintenance of the BCA members-only resumé. The current version is in C 3660. It will continue to be updated as necessary.

2 Low Voltage Directive and the UK Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations

Although draft updating of the Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations has taken place and, according to the timings of the revised LVD (2014/35/EU), should have come into force nationally by 20 April 2016, there remains no evidence that HMG has completed the task. Only the expected text can be found.

http://www.aci.org.uk/application/files/5714/4225/3769/The_Electrical_Equipment_Safety_Regulations_2016_2.pdf

There is no explanation beyond that reported in the previous Newsletter (C 3669).

At a European level the updated “Blue book” was noted previously, but this covers all New Approach Directives, not just LVD. The specific guidance document on LVD is under revision. The only draft so far seen comes via ORGALIME and is heavily annotated. A copy of this is available upon request.

3 “BREXIT” – Implications for technical standards work

The principal area where “BREXIT” could possibly affect the work of technical standardization is via the relationship of BSI to the European Standards Organisations (ESOs) CEN and CENELEC.

Membership of the EU is not a pre-requisite of membership of the ESOs, but there are uncorroborated reports that some in the European Commission who wish to “punish” UK could make things difficult.

The BSI Director of Standards (Dr Steedman) has emphasised that, for the moment, it is “Business as usual”. He has also written to all other CEN and CENELEC national standards bodies to affirm BSI’s intention to remain a full member, and has had extensive discussions throughout these countries. He reports a very strong wish amongst his peers for UK (BSI) to remain as a full and active member of the European standards bodies.

On the 24th of November BSI will host an event which will bring together experts from government, industry and standardization to discuss the role of standards in enabling market access and trade in Europe and beyond post Brexit. The office intends to be present. If members have any specific points that could be raised, either here, or at the previous week’s Standard Makers Forum (which has a wider agenda) they should advise the office.

4 Recent standards publications

Amongst recent standards publications have been the following:

- **IEC 60702-3**, being the Guide to Use for mineral-insulated cables. This completes the series, which has been adopted by CENELEC and hence BSI. The series BS EN 60702 supersedes BS 6207;
- **BS 8492**, being a new edition of the Code of Practice for fire performance of telecommunication equipment and cabling. It includes informative material in respect of cables and the CPR;
- **BS 5467 and BS 6724** (1 kV armoured cables), for which new editions were published earlier in 2016, had minor errors which have been corrected via Corrigenda. These have been consolidated into re-published versions;

- **IEC 60092-353**, being the 4th edition of the product standard for 1 kV and 3 kV ships cables. BS 6883 is not affected;
- **IEC TR 61901**, being a 2nd edition of the tests recommended on cables (above 30 kV up to 500 kV) with a longitudinally applied metal foil.

5 BS 7671 – Wiring Regulations

The existing edition of BS 7671 includes Amendment No 3 and was issued in January 2015. It came into effect in July of that year.

Work is now underway for a complete revision, leading to the 18th Edition in July 2018. If all goes to plan there will be the usual Draft for Public Comment (DPC), probably in May 2017.

Whilst there is much work to be done before a clear picture emerges, the following aspects that relate to cables are the subject of detailed consideration:

- Escape routes – cable types and usage and especially supporting structures;
- CPR – it is proposed that only informative notes be added about cable classes for reaction to fire under CPR. This would reflect the absence of specific UK legislation governing the use of specific classes within buildings and construction works;
- Conditions applicable to equipment and products not to a designated British, European or International public standard.

Expert review of these and other matters is due to be completed by January 2017.

6 Electric vehicles

Despite a slow start, the growth of electric vehicles and supporting infrastructure continues to grow. In UK the move is very strongly supported via the Office for Low Emission Vehicles, being a combined BEIS and DfT body.

Apart from the internal wiring used by the vehicle builders, the major cable contributions are related to the connecting cables for charging. In this respect a new CENELEC EN is undergoing final administrative attention before publication early in 2017, when it will be adopted in UK as BS EN 50620 *Electric cables - Charging cables for electric vehicles*. A near-equivalent IEC document, IEC 62983, which will allow for more advanced modes of charging, is under development and may eventually become the only worldwide standard.

The other cable-related aspect is the network supply for public charging points, for instance at motorway service stations or in parking lots. Here there is some concern amongst DNOs that significant new infrastructure cabling will be required to supply banks of high current-using charging points. One estimate foresees more such public sites in 5 years' time than petrol filling stations.

7 IET workshop

The pressure to ensure that younger people are well versed in the process of standards development continues at many levels. Once again the IET, in conjunction with the electrotechnical industry, will run a Workshop event for Young Engineers and Professionals. It is scheduled for Wednesday 26 April 2017 at the IET building in London (Savoy Place).

BCA members have supported this in previous years. It is a free event, and provides a good introduction to the world of standards and standards-making. Full details are awaited.

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Previous Newsletters- **Restricted to BCA members only**

All back numbers of the Technical Newsletter are available on the restricted (Members-only) section of the BCA website (www.bcauk.org). Please ask Paul Sweet for username and password for the Members-only section if you do not already have them. Please note that the username and password were last updated in February 2016.

- 1 May 2001 (C/2851);
- 2 September 2001 (C/2872);
- 3 February 2002 (C/2910);
- 4 June 2002 (C/2925);
- 5 September 2002 (C/2938);
- 6 March 2003 (C/2974);
- 7 July 2003 (C/3003);
- 8 November 2003 (C/3026);
- 9 March 2004 (C/3039);
- 10 September 2004 (C/3055);
- 11 February 2005 (C/3067);
- 12 May 2005 (C/3094);
- 13 October 2005 (C/3121);
- 14 February 2006 (C/3135);
- 15 May 2006 (C/3160)
- 16 October 2006 (C/3177);
- 17 Special CPD issue –December 2006 (C/3197)
- 18 March 2007 (C/3202)
- 19 June 2007 (C/3220)
- 20 October 2007 (C/3231)
- 21 March 2008 (C/3247)
- 22 May 2008 (C/3269)
- 23 September 2008 (C/3286)
- 24 January 2009 (C/3320)
- 25 June 2009 (C/3352)
- 26 Autumn 2009 (C/3396)
- 27 February 2010 (C/3407)
- 28 April 2010 (C/3420)
- 29 October 2010 (C/3468)
- Special issue – Standards – January 2011 (C/3473)
- 30 April 2011 (C/3480)
- Special issue – EN 50525 – June 2011 (C/3487)
- 31 September 2011 (C/3493)
- 32 December 2011 (C/3497)
- Special issue – IEC 60811 – June 2012 (C/3517)
- 33 September 2012 (C/3528)
- 34 Spring 2013 (C/3540)
- 35 June 2013 (C/3552)
- 36 November 2013 (C/3574)
- 37 Spring 2014 (C/3587)

- 38 Summer 2014 (C/3600)
- 39 February 2015 (C/3619)
- 40 Summer 2015 (C/3635)
- 41 Autumn 2015 (C/3649)
- 42 March 2016 (C/3661)
- 43 June 2016 (C/3669)