

BS 6396:2008+A1:2015



BSI Standards Publication

Electrical systems in office furniture and educational furniture – Specification

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Summary of pages

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Foreword

Publishing information

This British Standard is published by BSI Standards Limited, under licence from The British Standards Institution and came into effect on 30 November 2008. It was prepared by Subcommittee FW/0/3, *Office furniture*, under the authority of Technical Committee FW/0, *Furniture*. A list of organizations represented on these committees can be obtained on request to their secretary.

Supersession

BS 6396:2008+A1:2015 supersedes BS 6396:2008, which is withdrawn.

Information about this document

This new edition of BS 6396 incorporates technical changes only. It does not represent a full review or revision of the standard, which will be undertaken in due course.

Text introduced or altered by Amendment No. 1 is indicated in the text by tags  . Minor editorial changes are not tagged.

Presentational conventions

The provisions of this standard are presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Its requirements are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is “shall”.

Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.

Contractual and legal considerations

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

1 Scope

This British Standard specifies requirements for the safe provision and assembly of electrical power, data and telecommunications distribution systems in office furniture, educational furniture and office screens. Requirements are specified for furniture for general use and for furniture for use with specific equipment, parts of which may be built in during manufacture.

Appropriate tests are described for the installed power distribution system in the furniture. The standard applies to single-phase electrical power distribution systems operating at rated voltages up to 250 V a.c. that are connected to the fixed wiring of the permanent installation of the building by a 13 A fused plug and socket outlet arrangement conforming to BS 1363. The standard makes provision for the routing of cables through the furniture.

This standard does not apply to electrical appliances used with or within an article of office furniture or educational furniture, for which appropriate standards are available. The standard does not apply to power distribution systems that are permanently connected to the building installation. The standard also does not apply to special purpose workstations in laboratories or workshops.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

BS 1362, *Specification for general purpose fuse links for domestic and similar purposes (primarily for use in plugs)*

BS 1363-1, *13 A plugs, socket-outlets, adaptors and connection units – Part 1: Specification for rewireable and non-rewireable 13 A fused plugs*

BS 1363-2, *13 A plugs, socket-outlets, adaptors and connection units – Part 2: Specification for 13 A switched and unswitched socket-outlets*

BS 4727-1, *Glossary of electrotechnical, power, telecommunication, electronics, lighting and colour terms – Part 1: Terms common to power, telecommunications and electronics*

BS 5467, *Electric cables – Thermosetting insulated, armoured cables for voltages of 600/1 000 V and 1 900/3 300 V*

BS 5733, *Specification for general requirements for electrical accessories*

BS 6004, *Electric cables – PVC insulated, non-armoured cables for voltages up to and including 450/750 V, for electric power, lighting and internal wiring*

BS 6346, *Electric cables – PVC insulated, armoured cables for voltages of 600/1 000 V and 1 900/3 300 V*

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 6724, *Electric cables – Thermosetting insulated, armoured cables for voltages of 600/1 000 V and 1 900/3 300 V, having low emission of smoke and corrosive gases when affected by fire*



BS 7211, *Electric cables – Thermosetting insulated, non-armoured cables for voltages up to and including 450/750 V for electric power, lighting and internal wiring having low emission of smoke and corrosive gases when affected by fire*

BS 7671:2008, *Requirements for electrical installations – IEE Wiring Regulations – Seventeenth edition*

BS 7919, *Electric cables – Flexible cables rated up to 450/750 V, for use with appliances and equipment intended for industrial and similar environments*

BS EN 527-2, *Office furniture – Work tables and desks – Part 2: Mechanical safety requirements*

BS EN 527-3, *Office furniture – Work tables and desks – Part 3: Methods of test for the determination of the stability and the mechanical strength of the structure*

BS EN 1023-2, *Office furniture – Screens – Part 2: Mechanical safety requirements*

BS EN 1023-3, *Office furniture – Screens – Part 3: Test methods*

BS EN 1729-2, *Furniture – Chairs and tables for educational institutions – Part 2: Safety requirements and test methods*

BS EN 60127-2:2003, *Miniature fuses – Part 2: Cartridge fuse links*

BS EN 60320-1, *Appliance couplers for household and similar general purposes – Part 1: General requirements*

BS EN 60598-1, *Luminaires – Part 1: General requirements and tests*

BS EN 60669-1, *Switches for household and similar fixed-electrical installations – Part 1: General requirements*

BS EN 60730-2, *Automatic electrical controls for household and similar use*

BS EN 60950, *Information technology equipment – Safety*

BS EN 61032, *Protection of persons and equipment by enclosures – Probes for verification*

BS EN ISO 3675, *Methods of test for petroleum and its products – BS 2000-160: Crude petroleum and liquid petroleum products – Laboratory determination of density – Hydrometer method*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this British Standard, the definitions given in BS 4727-1 apply, together with the following.

3.1 appliance coupler

means of enabling the connection and disconnection at will of a flexible cable or cord to an appliance or other equipment. It consists of two parts:

- a) a connector, which is the part integral with, or intended to be attached to, the flexible cable or cord connected to the supply; and
- b) an appliance inlet, which is the part integrated in or incorporated in the appliance or equipment, or intended to be fixed to it