



IEEE Guide for Preparation Techniques of Shielded Cables Rated 2.5 kV through 46 kV and the Installation of Mating Accessories

IEEE Power and Energy Society

Developed by the
Insulated Conductors Committee

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STANDARDS

IEEE Guide for Preparation Techniques of Shielded Cables Rated 2.5 kV through 46 kV and the Installation of Mating Accessories

Developed by

**Insulated Conductors Committee
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Abstract: Accepted best industry practices for the preparation of shielded medium voltage cables rated 2.5 kV through 46 kV for the installation of mating accessories are defined in this guide. The information is intended to supplement cable accessory manufacturer installation instructions. The contents of the guide aim to provide a single source covering the proper methods to prepare cables for termination and jointing to maximize long-term, reliable operation of electrical power cable systems.

Keywords: accessory installation, cable, cable preparation, IEEE 1816™, PILC, separable connectors, system reliability, terminations

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of IEEE Std 1816-2023, IEEE Guide for Preparation Techniques of Shielded Cables Rated 2.5 kV through 46 kV and the Installation of Mating Accessories.

This IEEE guide addresses cable preparation and installation of cable accessories. This application guide is the product of close collaboration between representatives of both end users and manufacturers of cable accessories. Members of the B19 discussion and B19 working groups of the Insulated Conductors Committee provided valuable input and support.

This guide is intended to be used in concert with IEEE Std 48™, IEEE Std 386™, IEEE Std 404™, IEEE Std 592™, IEEE Std 1215™, and IEEE Std 1637™, which define the qualification tests, ratings, and service conditions for terminations, separable insulated connectors, and joints.

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IEEE Guide for Preparation Techniques of Shielded Cables Rated 2.5 kV through 46 kV and the Installation of Mating Accessories

1. Overview

1.1 Scope

This document defines accepted best industry practices for the preparation of shielded medium voltage cables rated 2.5 kV through 46 kV and the installation of mating accessories.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this guide is to provide general information on cable preparation for the installation of cable accessories. It is intended to be basic and to supplement the manufacturer's specific recommendations and established industry practices.

1.3 Word usage

The word *shall* indicates mandatory requirements strictly to be followed in order to conform to the standard and from which no deviation is permitted (*shall* equals *is required to*).^{6,7}

The word *should* indicates that among several possibilities one is recommended as particularly suitable, without mentioning or excluding others; or that a certain course of action is preferred but not necessarily required (*should* equals *is recommended that*).

The word *may* is used to indicate a course of action permissible within the limits of the standard (*may* equals *is permitted to*).

The word *can* is used for statements of possibility and capability, whether material, physical, or causal (*can* equals *is able to*).

⁶ The use of the word *must* is deprecated and cannot be used when stating mandatory requirements; *must* is used only to describe unavoidable situations.

⁷ The use of *will* is deprecated and cannot be used when stating mandatory requirements; *will* is only used in statements of fact.

2. Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document (i.e., they must be understood and used, so each referenced document is cited in text and its relationship to this document is explained). For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments or corrigenda) applies.

IEEE Std 48™-2020, IEEE Standard for Test Procedures and Requirements for AC Cable Terminations 2.5 kV through 765 kV.^{8,9}

IEEE Std 386™-2016, IEEE Standard for Separable Insulated Connector Systems for Power Distribution Systems Rated 2.5 kV through 35 kV.

IEEE Std 404™-2012, IEEE Standard for Extruded and Laminated Dielectric Shielded Cable Joints Rated 2.5 kV to 500 kV.

IEEE Std 592™-2018, IEEE Standard for Exposed Semiconducting Shields on High-Voltage Cable Joints and Separable Insulated Connectors.

IEEE Std 1215™-2013, IEEE Guide for the Application of Separable Insulated Connectors.

IEEE Std 1637™-2020, IEEE Guide for Selection and Application of Terminations for Shielded AC Power Cable Rated 5 kV to 46 kV.

3. Definitions, acronyms, and abbreviations

3.1 Definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply. The *IEEE Standards Dictionary Online* should be consulted for terms not defined in this clause.¹⁰

belted cable: A three-conductor cable having a conductor shield, insulation for each phase conductor, and an additional layer of insulation around all three phases. Belted cables employ a metallic sheath (often lead) and may have a jacket.

bi-metallic connector: A connector made from two different materials (usually copper and aluminum joined together).

cable adaptor: A component of a deadbreak or loadbreak connector kit that is used to adapt the diameter of various cable sizes to one standardized inside diameter of the deadbreak or loadbreak connector.

carbon black tapes (CBT): Typically, a 5-mil thick paper tape impregnated with enough carbon to make semi-conductive and used in PILC cables.

conductor strand sealant: A material that may be applied to a stranded conductor to impede longitudinal water flow down the conductor.

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¹⁰IEEE Standards Dictionary Online is available at: <http://dictionary.ieee.org>. An IEEE account is required for access to the dictionary, and one can be created at no charge on the dictionary sign-in page.

drain wire tab: A molded tab on a pre-molded rubber product that is intended to accept a small wire [e.g., a #14 American wire gauge (AWG) copper wire] to prevent the buildup of static charge due to capacitive coupling.

drain wire: A small wire (usually #14 AWG copper) that is used to connect a cable accessory to ground to prevent the buildup of static charge due to capacitive coupling. This wire is not intended to carry fault current.

dual-rated connector: A connector that is designed and tested to be used on both copper and aluminum conductors.

longitudinal cut: A cut made parallel to the conductor.

metallic shield water block: A material that is applied between the cable non-metallic insulation shield and jacket that impedes water migration longitudinally along the cable. The material may be tape, powder, or other similar material.

metalized paper tapes (MPT): Typically, a 3.5 mil thick paper tape with a metal on one side. First used in the 1930s but later were replaced with carbon black tapes beginning in the 1960s.

oxide inhibitor: A material that is used to coat a metallic conductor (usually aluminum) to prevent the buildup of surface oxides on the conductor. Some oxide inhibitors include abrasive particles to help break up oxides on oxidized conductors.

paper insulating tapes: Either 5 mil or 6.5 mil oil impregnated paper tapes used as insulation in PILC cables.

ring cut: A cut made around the circumference of a cable's non-metallic insulation shield for the purpose of stripping the insulation shield from the cable core. Ring cuts are also made on cable jackets to expose the metallic shield. Also referred to as a circumferential cut.

shield adaptor: A product used to adapt a metallic shield for connection to other components (e.g., the system neutral, ground, a shield/sheath voltage limiter).

3.2 Acronyms and abbreviations

AWG	American wire gauge
CB	carbon black
OD	outer diameter
OID	oil impregnated draining
PILC	paper insulated, lead covered
PPE	personal protective equipment

4. Extruded dielectric cable construction

4.1 General

Extruded dielectric cable construction is illustrated in [Figure 1](#).