

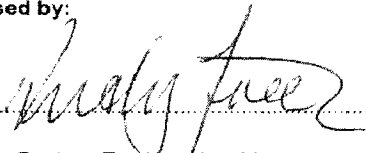
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Level 2

Product Specification - Plug Couplers for Connection of Cables to Lineside Signalling Equipment

Endorsement and Authorisation

Endorsed by:



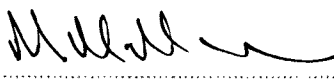
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Issue Record

Issue	Date	Comments
1	Sept 2009	1 st issue
2	Dec 2010	2 nd issue

Compliance

This Network Rail standard is mandatory and shall be complied with by Network Rail and its contractors if applicable from 04 December 2010.

When this standard is implemented, it is permissible for all projects that have formally completed GRIP Stage 4 to continue to comply with the Issue of any relevant Network Rail Standards current when GRIP Stage 4 was reached and not to comply with requirements contained herein, unless the designated Standard Owner has stipulated otherwise in the accompanying Briefing Note.

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1 Purpose

The aim of this standard is to set out Network Rail's requirements for plug coupler products. This standard includes construction details and performance requirements for plug couplers that are intended for use with approved Network Rail trackside signalling equipment and lineside circuits.

Plug coupler products submitted by manufacturers will be assessed against the requirements within this standard. Proposals for suitable products should be supported by evidence to demonstrate compliance with this standard when seeking Network Rail product acceptance.

Requirements for the use of plug couplers approved against this specification with previously approved equipment types are contained in Appendix A.

2 Scope

There are plug couplers and plug coupled units that are already accepted and in use on Network Rail infrastructure, and for the purposes of this standard, it is not expected to retro-fit a new type of coupler.

The requirements defined in this standard apply to the interconnection of lineside railway signalling equipment using a plug coupled connection for tail cables: typically linking the location case and the trackside equipment, including the use of a disconnection box or in-line connection where appropriate. The requirements also apply to lineside multicore cable: typically linking apparatus housings.

Plug couplers will offer benefits in terms of installation, testing, maintenance and renewals when appropriately utilised, however these activities are not part of this specification. The utilisation of plug couplers for projects and maintenance is described within NR/GN/SIG/CAT005.

This standard includes background information which may be of use to signalling designers, installers and maintainers. However, signalling design principles, testing techniques and Network Rail's implementation rules are excluded from the scope of this standard other than where germane to the plug coupler product itself.

3 Definitions

Attach	To fit a plug coupler to a cable
Boot	A rear accessory made of resilient material used around a multi-conductor cable to add insulation, strength or sealing.
Connect	Any mechanical or electrical connection that is not defined by the terms "Attach", "Contact", "Couple" or "Mate"
Contact	The conducting element that makes electrical connection between the