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Level 3 Module

Signalling Installation – Labelling: Wires and Cables

Endorsement and Authorisation

For endorsement and authorisation, please refer to NR/L3/SIG/11303.

This module is a reformatted version of the previous Signalling Installation Handbook with no change to the content other than correction of terminology.

It represents historic best practice which may no longer be relevant.

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Issue record

Issue	Date	Comments
2	September 2010	Reformatted version of previous document incorporating the text of the installation handbook.
1	August 2000	First issue

Compliance

This Network Rail standard is mandatory and shall be complied with by Network Rail and its contractors if applicable from 4 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 Cables – Labelling Method

An approved system of permanently labelling all internal and external cables is illustrated in Figure 1. An example of such a system is that supplied by Oskarlapp and is included in an all purpose boxed labelling kit available from the Materials stores.

For labelling cables, the kit includes lengths of plastic sleeve, a tool for cutting and punching the strip, letters and numbers in break - off strips, and zip ties in several lengths. The character height of the lettering used should not be less than 6mm. Holes are punched in the edges of the sleeve so that when the zip tie is inserted it prevents the lettering from sliding out as well as securing the label to the cable. Where practicable, the whole label (including zip ties) should be covered by a length of heat shrink clear tubing for extra protection.

To make a label, use the tool to punch holes about 10mm from one end of a length of sleeve and pass a zip tie through the holes. Select the required label characters and slide them in sequence into the open end of the sleeve holder so that they fall against the zip tie. Punch a second set of holes just clear of the last character inserted, and then use the tool to cut the sleeve to length (again about 10mm from the holes). Insert a zip tie through the second set of holes and secure the sleeve to the cable by the two ties. Where practicable, pass a suitable length of clear heat shrink tubing over the end of the cable, centre it over the label and shrink the tubing to a tight fit with a hot air gun. When making a quantity of similar length labels, the sleeve holders may be cut and punched as a batch before inserting the characters in each one.

Temporary short term labelling may use pre-printed tear-off self adhesive labels (such as Speedco) but such a system of labelling is not suitable for permanent use.

2 Label Positions

Label cables at the following places:

- At their termination point. (See Figures 2, 3, & 4.)
- Each side of joints in main and selected tail cables at junctions, diversions etc. (See Figure 5.)
- At a point 50 metres from a signal box or relay room in which they terminate. (See Figure 6.)

When labelling a power cable, the voltage it carries shall be clearly stated.

3 Cable Cores And Wires

Permanent labelling for these should be with bead markers slipped over the end of the wire or core before fitting the connector.

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