

Register of colours of manufacturers' identification threads for electric cables and cords

Tenth Edition

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Committees responsible for this Published Document

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- BEAMA Installation Ltd.
- British Approvals Services for Cables
- British Cables Association
- British Plastics Federation
- Chartered Institution of Building Services
- Department of Trade and Industry — Consumer Safety Unit
- Electrical Association
- Energy Industries Council
- Engineering Industries Association
- ERA Technology Ltd.
- Ministry of Defence — UK Defence Standardization

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Foreword

This Published Document has been prepared by Subcommittee GEL/20/17. It supersedes PD 2379:1994, which is withdrawn. This is the tenth edition of PD 2379.

The administration of the scheme for allocating distinctive combinations of coloured identification threads to manufacturers of electric cables was transferred from the Ministry of Defence to the British Standards Institution in 1950 and to the British Approvals Service for Cables (BASEC) in 1990. BASEC is responsible for issuing all the colour combinations contained in this document, except those allocated to the companies listed for France and Sweden. Those companies, however, are BASEC licensees.

The earlier editions of the register were published in mimeographed form between 1950 and 1956, when the fourth edition appeared as a Published Document under the present reference number, PD 2379. The fifth edition, published in 1962, was brought up to date and the allocations made by the Canadian Standards Association to Canadian companies were included.

In the sixth edition, published in 1977, an endeavour was made to indicate the former title where takeovers or merges had occurred. The seventh, eighth and ninth editions, published between 1982 and 1994, were general revisions. This tenth edition includes all new allocations and changes notified to BASEC up to 30 September 2004.

Annex A details the approval thread of BASEC (British Approvals Service for Cables), the common marking thread of CENELEC (European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization) and the morse-coded approval thread of the IECEE (IEC System for Conformity Testing to Standards for Safety of Electrical Equipment).

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, pages 1 to 25 and a back cover.

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1 Scope

This Published Document contains a register of colours of manufacturers' identification threads for electric cables and cords. It lists the manufacturers in alphabetical order by country, and the identification threads in alphabetical order by colour. It covers manufacturers in Australia, Canada, France, India, Ireland, Kenya, Jamaica, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom and Zambia.

2 Extent of scheme

The scheme covers companies with factories in Australia, Canada, France, India, Ireland, Kenya, Jamaica, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom and Zambia. It is known that some of the colour combinations allocated under the present scheme have also been adopted by manufacturers with factories outside the areas covered. There can therefore be no certain identification of the manufacturer from a sample, unless it is known that the cable was made in a country covered by the scheme. International discussions have taken place in an attempt to resolve this difficulty, but an agreed scheme had not been developed up to the date of publication of this edition of the register.

Identification by coloured threads is not the only method of identifying the name of the manufacturer within a cable. Several other systems are also in general use, including printed tapes, printing on the core or sheath and indenting or embossing of the core or sheath.

3 Correspondence and applications for new allocations

Applications for new allocations of identification colours under this scheme should be made to BASEC, 23 Presley Way, Crownhill, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire MK8 0ES. Reference to the number of this document, PD 2379, will assist in dealing with correspondence connected with this register.

4 Standard colours

NOTE Colours are not defined within close limits and manufacturers are expected to ensure that the colours are easily distinguishable from each other.

The colours used are as follows and in the lists they appear in alphabetical order.

- black;
- blue;
- brown;
- green;
- grey¹⁾;
- mauve;
- orange;
- purple²⁾;
- red;
- white;
- yellow.

5 Material

Each identification thread consists of one, two, three, four or eight coloured strands, twisted together or laid parallel, the colours for each individual manufacturer being as listed in Clause 6 and Clause 7.

Any suitable material may be used provided that it is not soluble in acetone and will retain the colourings without fading.

¹⁾ In Canada, this colour is known as "slate".

²⁾ Used only in Canada.

6 Alphabetical list of companies by country

6.1 Australia

The following colour combinations have been allocated through BASEC or the Standards Association of Australia, Standards House, 80 Arthur Street, North Sydney, NSW 2059, Australia.

A F Bambach Pty Ltd.	Red, white, yellow
Australian Insulated Cables Pty Ltd.	Grey, orange, red
* Austral Standard Cable Pty Ltd. (now MM Cables)	Blue, brown, green
* AWA Telecom	Black, blue, white
* Bly's Industries Pty Ltd. (now MM Cables)	Black, red, yellow
Burton Electrical Manufacturing Company	Blue, brown white
* Cable makers Australia Pty Ltd. (Queensland) (now MM Cables)	Black, black, orange
* Cable makers Australia Pty Ltd. (WA) (now MM Cables)	Black, orange, orange
* Cable makers Australia (SA) Ltd.	Black, brown, grey
* Conqueror Cables Pty Ltd. (integrated into Pirelli Ericsson Cables Ltd. ca. 1798)	Brown, green white
CPE Cables	Blue, green, grey, orange
Electra-Cables (Aust) Pty Ltd.	Brown, green, grey, red
G W Engineering Pty Ltd. (formerly Sphinx Engineering Pty Ltd.)	Black, green, white
Hartland Manufacturing Co.	Brown, white, yellow
J C Ludowici & Son, Ltd.	Blue, brown, yellow
* Metal Manufacturers Pty Ltd. (now MM Cables)	Blue, white, yellow
MM Cables (formerly Cable Makers Australia Pty Ltd. (NSW))	Black, orange
* Nylex	Black, green, red
Olex Cables Pty Ltd.	Red, yellow
Pirelli Power Cables & Systems Australia Ltd. (formerly Pirelli Ericsson Cables Ltd.) (formerly Camelec Ltd.)	Black, green, grey
Pirelli Power Cables & Systems Australia Ltd.	Black, green, grey, white
Regal Braiding Pty Ltd.	Black, brown, yellow
Spinaway Cables (formerly Spinaway Industries Pty Ltd.)	Blue, brown, red
Standards Association of Australia	Green, orange, red, yellow
Wiring Assemblies	Orange, red, white

*An asterisk preceding a company name indicates that the company has ceased trading under this name. However, to avoid the possibility of confusion, it is intended not to re-allocate the colour combinations for a long period.

6.2 Canada

For cables made in Canada the standard manufacturer's identification marking is by means of threads in which a purple coloured strand indicates Canadian manufacture. This enables cables of Canadian manufacture to be distinguished from cables made in the USA, where purple threads are not used for this purpose. The only use of a colour similar to purple in the allocations to the other participating countries is the single mauve thread allocated to a company in the United Kingdom. Mauve has purposely not been used in combination with any other colour in two-ply, three-ply or four-ply threads allocated to countries other than Canada.

The following colour combinations have been allocated through BASEC or the Canadian Standard Association, 178 Rexdale Boulevard, Rexdale, Ontario, Canada, M9W 1R3.

Alcan Canada Products (a division of Aluminium Company of Canada Ltd.) (Bracebridge Plant)	Blue, purple, red, white
Aluminium Company of Canada Ltd. (Shawinigan, Que)	Blue, purple, red
Boston Insulated Wire & Cable Co. Ltd.	Blue, purple
Cable Tech Wire Co. Ltd.	Blue, green, purple
Canada Wire & Cable Co. Ltd. (Fergus, Ont)	Purple, red, red
Canada Wire & Cable Co. Ltd. (Leaside, Ont)	Purple, red,
Canada Wire & Cable Co. Ltd. (Orangeville, Ont)	Purple, red, white
Canada Wire & Cable Co. Ltd. (Vancouver, BC)	Brown, purple, red,
Canada Wire & Cable Co. Ltd. (Weyburn, Sask)	Black, brown, purple
Canada Wire & Cable Co. Ltd. (Winnipeg, Man)	Grey, purple, red,
Canadian General Electrical Co. Ltd.	Black, purple
Canwirco (Belleville) (formerly Fabiricon Manufacturing Ltd.)	Black, black, purple
* Domtech Co. Ltd. (formerly Dieplast Co. Ltd.)	Green, purple, white
* Fabiricon Manufacturing Ltd.	Black, black, brown, purple
General Wire & Cable Co. Ltd.	Green, purple, red
Industrial Wire & Cable Co. Ltd.	Black, purple, white
ITT Wire & Cable (Phillips) [formerly Royal Electric Co. (Quebec) Ltd.]	Black, blue, purple
Les Câbles Industriels (Quebec, Que)	Black, green, purple
Leviton Manufacturing of Canada Ltd.	Purple, white, white
Lica Wire Ltd., Hamilton, Ontario	Brown, brown, purple
Nawico (Lachine, Que)	Blue, blue, purple
Northern Telecom Ltd., Montreal (Montreal – Toronto Blvd Plant, Lachine)	Orange, purple
Northern Telecom Ltd., Nova Scotia	Black, orange, purple
Phillips Cables Ltd. (Brockville, Ont)	Brown, purple, white
Phillips Cables Ltd. (Dartmouth, NS) [formerly Phillips Electrical Co. Ltd. (Woodside)]	Green, purple
Phillips Cables Ltd. (Scarborough, Ont) [formerly Triangle Conduit & Cable (Canada) Ltd.]	Brown, purple
Phillips Cables Ltd. (Vancouver, BC)	Blue, purple, white
Pirelli Cables Ltd. (Guelph, Ont) (formerly Federal Wire & Cable Co. Ltd.)	Purple, white
Pirelli Cables Ltd. (St Louis Street plant)	Grey, purple
Pirelli Cables Ltd. (Surrey, BC)	Grey, grey, purple

*An asterisk preceding a company name indicates that the company has ceased trading under this name. However, to avoid the possibility of confusion, it is intended not to re-allocate the colour combinations for a long period

6.3 China (Hong Kong)

The following colour combination has been allocated.

Keystone Electric Wire & Cable Co. Ltd.

Green, white, yellow

6.4 France

The following colour combinations have been allocated.

Cableries de Lens

Green, white, yellow, white, blue,
white, red, white

Nexans France S.A., Lyon
(formerly Alcatel Cable, Lyon)

(Blue, red) red, green

6.5 India

The following colour combinations have been allocated through BASEC or the Indian Standards Institution, Manak Bhavan, 9 Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi 1, India.

Aeon Teletronics, Bangalore

Green, grey, orange, yellow

Ajanta Enterprises, New Delhi

Green, grey, red, yellow

Alfa Rubber Company

Brown, grey

Allied Cables & Industries, New Delhi

Blue, green, white, yellow

Aluminium Industries Ltd.

Green, orange, white

Ashoka Cable Works, New Delhi

Black, brown, orange, red

Asian Cables Corporation Ltd.

Green, grey, orange

Asksh India Pvt, New Delhi

Brown, orange, white, yellow

Aur Cables Khasra, New Delhi

Green, grey, orange, white

Bat-Bro Engineering & General Manufacturers

Black, blue, grey, yellow

Bhagyeddeep Cables Pvt Ltd., Bangalore

Green, grey, white, yellow

Biren Mfg Co. (Cables) Pvt Ltd.

Black, brown, green, red

Birla Ericsson Optical Ltd.

Brown, brown, mauve

Bombay Cable Company Pvt Ltd.

Black, blue, green, grey

Brijbasi Insulated Cable Company

Black, blue, green, red

Cable Corporation of India Ltd.

Black, blue, red, yellow

Choudhari Metal Industries (P) Ltd.

Black, brown, green, orange

Continental Cables, New Delhi

Black, black, white

Darina Cable Industries

Black, blue, orange, red

Dawson Electrical Industries, Delhi

Blue, green, orange, white

Delton Cable Industries Pvt Ltd.
(formerly Delton Cable Company)

Blue, grey, red

Deluxe Electrical Industries, New Delhi

Brown, green, orange, white

Devidayal Electronics & Wires Ltd.
[formerly Devidayal Cable Industries (Pvt) Ltd.]

Green, grey, yellow

Diamond Rubber Works Pvt Ltd.

Black, blue, brown, white

Doorwani Cables Pvt Ltd.

Black, grey, orange, white

Dynamic Wire & Cords, Faridabad

Green, red, white, yellow

Elkey Telelinks, Faridabad	Black, black, grey
Ericsson's Telephone Sales Corporation	A single grey thread
Evershine Electrical Works	Black, blue, grey, orange
Fixwell Cables (P) Ltd., New Delhi	Blue, green, grey, yellow
Fort Gloster Industries Ltd.	Brown, orange, yellow
Goodwill Rubber (India), New Delhi	Brown, green, orange, red
Grandlay Electricals (India) Ltd. (formerly Grandlay Electrical Ltd.)	Brown, orange, white
Henley Cables India Ltd.	Brown, grey, orange
Hi-Tech Cables, New Delhi	Green, grey, red, white
Himalaya Cable Industries, New Delhi	Black, brown, red, yellow
Hindustan Cables Ltd.	Blue, grey, yellow
Hindustan Cables Ltd., Delhi	Black, brown, white, grey
Hindustan Cables Ltd., Delhi	Black, brown, white, yellow
Hindustan Insulations (P) Ltd.	Black, brown, green, grey
Home Appliances, New Delhi	Black, brown, grey, orange
Indian Cable & Wire Industries	Black, blue, brown, yellow
Indian Cable Co. Ltd.	Blue, red
Indian Cable Industries	Black, blue, white, yellow
Indian Communication Cable Co.	Black, brown, red, white
Indian Telephone Industries Ltd.	Black, blue, green
Indian Traders Private Ltd.	Grey, orange, yellow
Jai Bharat Industries, New Delhi	Blue, green, grey, white
Janta Wire Works, Shahdara, Delhi	Black, grey, red, yellow
JK Cable Industries, Noida	Black, green, red, yellow
Jvoti Cables	Orange, white, yellow
Kay Tee Cables, New Delhi	Black, brown, orange, yellow
Krishna Electrical Industries New Delhi	Black, grey, white, yellow
Krishna Electrical Industries Pvt Ltd., Morena	Black, orange, white, yellow
Kunol Bros Private Ltd., New Delhi	Blue, grey, orange, yellow
Laxman Singh Jariwala, New Delhi	Brown, orange, red, white
Maharaja Cables, New Delhi	Black, brown, grey, yellow
Mehendra Electricals Ltd.	Black, grey, yellow
Mentor Cables Corporation	Black, blue, grey, white
Meryfur Industries	Black, blue, red, white
Mody Cable Industries	Black, blue, green, white
Motherson, Noida	Black, brown, grey, white
Moti Electric Industries (P) Ltd.	Black, blue, orange, white
Myee Electric (P) Ltd.	Brown, brown, grey ³⁾
Nar-Sa Electricals (India), New Delhi	Blue, green, orange, yellow
National Insulated Cable Co. Ltd.	Blue, orange, yellow

³⁾ Colour combination also adopted by Milflex Ltd. (United Kingdom)