

**To: 3P Customers and Business Partners**

Your Ref.	Your Date	Our Ref. 5806@PV	Our Date 2008.02.27
-----------	-----------	---------------------	------------------------

---

### **3P Newsletter No. 3/2008**

#### **Colour Identification Scheme for 3P Qualifications**

It has been requested from the market to have a colour identification of listed 3P qualifications for easy identification of qualification status. Such a colour identification scheme has been applied for some time in the 3P homepage, but has never been discussed in a 3P Newsletter.

The intension of the colour marking is of course to provide more detailed information about status of a qualification as small deviations to a perfect maintenance of qualification status will sometimes occur. It is "easy" if fatal failures in testing occur in the way that a qualification is then of course cancelled, but other scenarios could be more common and much less obvious. An example could be a delayed maintenance of qualification testing without any indication that performance is degraded.

To cover different situations 3P has applied the colours green, yellow and red to indicate status of (1) full production line qualifications of cables, connecting hardware and patch cords, and (2) capability certifications of connecting hardware and permanent links & channels. The colour schemes for continuously maintained full production line qualifications and one time capability approvals are different due to the different nature of repeated versus one time testing.

The listings on the homepage provide a summarised description of the conditions of the different colour markings. The present 3P Newsletter will provide some more information about the applied colour scheme for full production line qualifications of cables, connecting hardware and patch cords.

..../2

### **Green colour markings**

The text applied for this colour in the 3P survey of qualifications is:

"Performance is continuously verified. Maintenance activities include both product testing at 3P and factory inspection every 6 months."

The green marking should not need long discussion here. 3P offers full market support for the performance of the component in question and does not expect that this service would ever be requested, and would indeed be surprised to receive anything but positive market response.

### **Blue colour markings**

The text applied for this colour in the 3P survey of qualifications is:

"Performance is continuously verified. Maintenance activities include regular product testing at 3P, but factory inspection is not presently carried out."

The blue marking is a special case of green marking, for which factory inspections are not performed in the usual way, but with product testing done and concluded in a regular maintenance of qualification programme. The factory inspections are not carried out by a visit from 3P inspectors every 6 months, but conclusion of earlier inspections are supported by a questionnaire completed by the quality assurance manager of the factory in question.

### **Yellow colour markings**

The text applied for this colour in the 3P survey of qualifications is:

"Component is 3P qualified, but has not passed scheduled maintenance of qualification testing"

The yellow marking does raise a small questionmark in connection with the component qualification, but it is not intended to indicate that the 3P qualified component production has significant performance problems. Also for yellow marked component qualifications 3P offers full market support for the performance of the component in question. Actions are being taken to secure that a fast maintenance of qualification testing is successfully passed to restore the perfect green colour marking.

### **Red colour markings**

The text applied for this colour in the 3P survey of qualifications is:

"Component is not 3P qualified. 3P does not offer market support in case of component performance problems."



The red marking is intended as a clear warning to the market about the component in question. Red marking is only used in case we expect that application of the component could falsely give the impression that performance is in any way 3P assured, supported or supervised. No red colour marking will normally be applied if a 3P qualification is withdrawn and the "3P Verified" marketing is at the same time stopped by the manufacturer. In this case the 3P listing will simply be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,  
3P Third Party Testing

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Poul Villien". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Poul Villien