

To: 3P Customers and Business Partners

Your Ref.	Your Date	Our Ref. 5600@PV	Our Date 2006.10.05
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3P Newsletter No. 7/2006

Fire Safety Testing Integrated into 3P Services

For some time now 3P has been working to extend our accreditation for electrical testing to also cover fire safety testing. This has become a major focus point, not least due to now maturing CPD requirements. The CPD (Construction Products Directive) already exists with respect to fire safety ratings of some building products, and is now being extended to also cover installation cables. This means that fire safety requirements of cables could be determined by a European Directive for future installations. This would apply for all types of installation cables, for instance both power cables, copper communication cables and fiber optical cables.

Fire safety requirements are already today important for cables, but they will become even more vital in the future.

Discussion of the CPD, the rules for CE marking and attestation of conformity, and the consequences for the cable industry will be discussed in a future 3P Newsletter. The present 3P Newsletter is only aimed to inform about the 3P services within the fire safety area.

1. 3P Accreditation for Fire Safety Testing

3P has extended the electrical testing accreditation to cover also fire safety testing. We are now accredited to carry out the following safety testing:

- Flame propagation testing corresponding to IEC 60332-1-2 (in "old" terminology often called IEC 60332-1 testing)
- Fire propagation testing corresponding to IEC 60332-3-24 (Cat. C) (in "old" terminology often called IEC 60332-3, Cat. C testing)

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- Fire safety testing as presently drafted for all the common CPD safety ratings EuroClass B1_{CA}, EuroClass B2_{CA}, EuroClass C_{CA} and EuroClass D_{CA}
- Smoke density testing corresponding with IEC 61034-2
- Acidity testing corresponding with IEC 60754-2

This means that 3P can offer safety testing according to both traditional requirements and the requirements of the new CPD safety ratings, including sub-ratings (droplets of burning material, smoke generation and acidity of gasses from burning).

Integrated Electrical and Fire Safety Certifications

Communication cables will have electrical transmission performance closely dependent on the materials and dimensions being used. This means that if materials and dimensions of a copper communication cable are optimised to pass demanding EuroClass safety requirements it could result in reduced electrical performance, or vice versa. Therefore, it is significant to carry out electrical transmission performance and safety testing on the same cable sample to avoid any risk of testing cable with different constructions for the two tests.

For this reason it has also been important for 3P to offer integrated electrical performance and safety testing certifications.

3P's Fire Testing Facilities

All fire safety testing is carried out by 3P at our laboratory facilities in Hoersholm and at our separate fire testing laboratory situated close to Hoersholm. The important factor in establishing the 3P fire testing facility is that 3P can perform one-stop testing of both electrical performance and fire safety without using sub-suppliers.

Yours sincerely,
3P Third Party Testing

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

Poul Villien