LPCB®

www.RedBookLive.com

Performance of Cables in Fires
What You Need To Know

Around the world, there is regulatory attention and public demand for improved public safety and risk management in the event of fire.

Accidents happen but experience shows the worst consequences in terms of fatalities or serious injuries can be minimised and uninsurable damage can be reduced by appropriate risk management and controls.

One critical step is to ensure that all products specified comply with world class standards, proven by independent third party performance assessment and that they are installed and maintained correctly to achieve the intended performance in the event of a fire. This applies especially to power, data and voice cables.

Although cables are rarely the source of a fire, cables running through buildings and other structures, can speed up the spread of flame, add to the fire load, and can create smoke and gasses that are both hazardous to life and damaging to property and infrastructure impacting on business continuity.

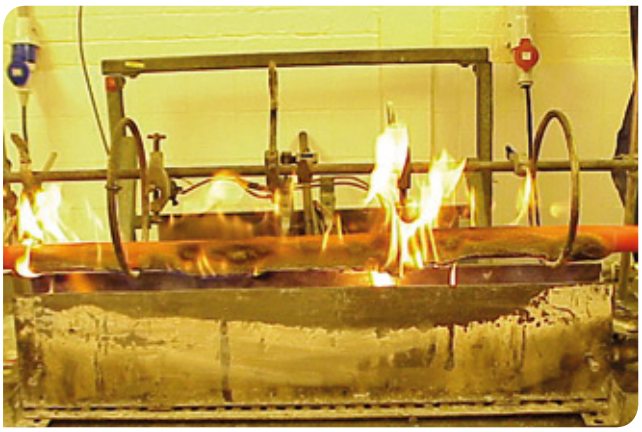
In many installations, it is vital that power and data connections are maintained in the event of fire, as they are a critical element of the evacuation and operational safety systems. These applications generally require fire rated cables, which maintain circuit integrity and continue to perform for a specified time. Flame retardant cables typically perform a different function and are required to resist the spread of fire and limit the contribution to fire growth and the production of smoke and gasses.

These issues are important to different degrees in all buildings, but critical in high density population areas and applications, such as mass transit systems, (especially underground or metro systems and tunnels) and in the marine and offshore sectors.

The design and manufacture of cable is a global business. Cables can be manufactured in one country and shipped and installed in other regions, where regulatory standards may differ widely.

The key question for specifiers and installers is: "how can you be sure the cables you are actually using in your project meet your specified fire performance requirements?" The simple answer is: "look for cables that are LPCB® approved".

bre



Are your cables just "fire tested" or are they LPCB® Approved and BRE fire tested?

"Fire tested" means that a product has been tested in accordance with a standard. Typically, the manufacturer is able to choose their specimen and submit this to a fire test laboratory. The results are a "snap shot" of the performance of one sample. There is no requirement for factory production control assessments or ongoing audit testing. These aspects are the foundations of independent third party approvals of products and services and what differentiates LPCB® approval or certification from fire testing.

LPCB® Approved

LPCB® (Loss Prevention Certification Board) is a UK-based certification brand with worldwide recognition owned by BRE Global Ltd.

It has been working with insurers, regulators, industry, specifiers and government since 1868 to develop and set standards to determine the performance of fire protection products and services in the case of fire.

LPCB® carries out independent third party assessment and approval of fire protection and construction products and services in accordance with International, European, British and its own Loss Preventions Standards (LPS). The LPCB® Red Book listings are updated daily. To ensure that you are using the most up to date information please go to www.redbooklive.com or use the Red Book App available for iPhone/iPad, Android devices and Windows 8 Phones.

Around the world, the LPCB® mark of approval is recognised as a mark that specifiers and regulators (those responsible for checking compliance) can trust. Beware of products claiming "satisfies" or "complies with" or "meets" LPCB® requirements. Simply, if it's not printed with the LPCB® mark and a certificate number, it isn't LPCB® approved. Make sure you get what you have specified and paid for and are managing your fire risks appropriately. So, specify and require LPCB® approved cables and demonstrate your commitment to quality and the protection of life, property and business operations by pro-active management of risks in the case of fire.

BRE Global Ltd

LPCB® is part of BRE Global Ltd, an independent, third party approvals body providing testing, inspection and certification, with product testing and approvals of products and services carried out by its experts in world class laboratories.

BRE Global offers an independent third party service to manufacturers and installers of cables to enable them to demonstrate compliance with International fire performance standards for fire resistance, flammability, smoke emission, acidity and toxicity.

BRE Global is accredited by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) for certification (0007), testing (0578), inspection (4601) and Technical Assessments and is designated a Notified Body by the European Commission (0832) for the Construction Products Regulation (CPR), Pressure Equipment Directive (PED), Marine Equipment Directive (MED) and Transportable Pressure Equipment Directive (TPED).

The European product standard EN 50575 for power, control and communication cables was cited in the OJ on 10th July 2015, making the start of CE-marking for these products possible from 1st July 2016. By 1st July 2017, CE marking will become mandatory for all these products placed on the market in Europe. BRE Global is able to provide manufacturers of these products with a professional and efficient service in support of their CE marking requirements.

The message is clear. If you want to be certain that you are specifying and installing cables that will meet the required fire performance standards, only use cables with LPCB® Approval.