



BSI Standards Publication

Railway applications — Railway rolling stock cables having special fire performance — Test methods

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 50305:2020. It supersedes BS EN 50305:2002, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee GEL/20/12, Electric Cables - Railway Applications.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

EN 50305:2020 includes the following significant technical changes with respect to EN 50305:2002:

- a new cable standard EN 50382 series has been added to EN 50305;
- the long-term ageing test part is improved and adapted to the whole range of products;
- the requirements are now clearly described and give more information for the test laboratories;
- the definition of “halogen free” in Annex F and the determination of halogens element test in Annex G are moved from the product standard (EN 50306 series) to EN 50305.

BSI, as a member of CENELEC, is obliged to publish EN 50305:2020 as a British Standard. However, attention is drawn to the fact that during the development of this European Standard, the UK committee voted against its approval.

The main reasons for this negative vote are as follows:

- It is the view of the UK committee that the test for long-term ageing of railway rolling stock cables (detailed in clause 7.2) is not necessarily appropriate for all types of rolling stock cables, nor their applications. It is therefore a matter for the individual product standard to call for the test if necessary.
- At CENELEC Enquiry stage a sentence had been added to sub-clause 7.2.2 “Summary of test method” citing one specific type of cable, indicating that the test should be done. UK commented that this was inappropriate and should be deleted. The comment was accepted, but at subsequent formal voting the text remained in the document. The UK therefore voted negatively again, but no change was made. The relevant text can be found in clause 7.2.2, paragraph 3, final sentence.

The UK committee advises users to be aware of these concerns when applying this standard. It is recommended only to use the test in clause 7.2 if it is called for by the product standard for the relevant cable.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

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