BSI Standards Publication

General requirements for electrical accessories – Specification
Foreword

1 Scope
2 Normative references
3 Terms and definitions
4 Classification
5 General requirements
6 Type testing
7 Rating
8 Marking
9 Dimensions
10 Clearances, creepage distances and solid insulation
11 Accessibility of live parts
12 Provision for earthing
13 Construction
14 Terminals and terminations
15 Screws, current-carrying parts and connections
16 Provisions for cables and cords
17 Resistance to ageing
18 Resistance to harmful ingress of water and resistance to humidity
19 Insulation resistance and electric strength
20 Temperature rise
21 Mechanical strength
22 Resistance to heat
23 Resistance of insulating material to abnormal heat, and to fire
24 Clause deleted
25 Resistance to excessive residual stresses and to rusting

Annexes
Annex A (informative) Summary of tests on insulating parts of accessories
Annex B (normative) Measurement of clearances and creepage distances
Annex C (normative) Determination of the comparative tracking index (CTI) and proof tracking index (PTI)
Annex D (normative) Relation between rated impulse withstand voltage, rated voltage and overvoltage category
Annex E (normative) Pollution degree
Annex F (normative) Impulse withstand voltage test

Bibliography

List of figures
Figure 1 – Examples of pillar terminals
Figure 2 – Examples of screw terminals and stud terminals
Figure 3 – Examples of saddle terminals
Figure 4 – Examples of lug terminals
Figure 5 – Examples of a mantle terminal
Figure 6 – Thread forming tapping screw
Figure 7 – Thread cutting tapping screw
Figure 8 – Gauge for checking non-accessibility through shutters
Figure 9 – Apparatus for testing accessory enclosure fixing screws
Figure 10 – Solid link for test on fuseclips
Figure 11 – Arrangement for checking damage to conductors
Figure 11A – Arrangement for voltage drop test [New Figure]
Figure 12 – Apparatus for flexing test
Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i to iv, pages 1 to 76, an inside back cover and a back cover.
Publishing information
This British Standard is published by BSI Standards Limited, under licence for The British Standards Institution, and came into effect on 31 July 2010. It was prepared by Technical Committee PEL/23, Electrical accessories. A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

Supersession

Information about this document
BS 5733:2010 incorporated technical changes only. It did not represent a full review or revision of the standard, which will be undertaken in due course.

The principal changes from the previous edition were as follows.

a) The standard now includes requirements for maintenance-free accessories.

b) Clause 10 on clearances, creepage distances and solid insulation has been revised, and Clause 24 has been deleted.

c) New Annexes B to F have been added.

The principal changes introduced by Amendment No. 1 are as follows.

a) In 8.1 a new requirement has been specified for accessories incorporating screwless terminals.

b) Amendments have been made to Tables 2, 5 and 6A.

c) Amendments have been made to Clauses 14 and 19.

Text introduced or altered by Amendment No. 1 is indicated in the text by tags [ ] and [ ]. Minor editorial changes are not tagged.

Hazard warnings
WARNING. This British Standard calls for the use of substances and/or procedures that can be injurious to health if adequate precautions are not taken. It refers only to technical suitability and does not absolve the user from legal obligations relating to health and safety at any stage.

Use of this document
It has been assumed in the preparation of this British Standard that the execution of its provisions will be entrusted to appropriately qualified and experienced people, for whose use it has been produced.

Presentational conventions
The provisions of this standard are presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Its requirements are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is “shall”.

Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.
This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.
1.1 This British Standard specifies requirements and tests to check the safety in normal use of electrical accessories which are not covered by other specific British Standards.

Such accessories are intended for use in household, commercial and light industrial premises where:

- the nominal supply voltage does not exceed 250 V a.c. single-phase, 50 Hz to 60 Hz or 250 V d.c.;
- the rated current of the accessory does not exceed 63 A.

Unless otherwise stated by the manufacturer, accessories conforming to this standard are intended for connection by cables or flexible cords conforming to BS 6004, BS 6007, BS 6500 or BS 7211.

1.2 This standard also covers:

- “plug-in” and other accessories in which electrical accessory components such as plug-pins, socket-contacts, switches, terminals, etc. are incorporated (see 5.1);
- maintenance free accessories (see 3.31).

1.3 Accessories conforming to this standard are suitable for use under the following conditions of service:

- an ambient temperature in the range -5 °C to +40 °C, the average value over 24 h not exceeding 25 °C;
  
  NOTE 1 Under normal conditions of use, the available cooling air is subject to natural atmospheric variations of temperature and hence the peak temperature occurs only occasionally during the hot season, and on those days when it does occur, it does not persist for lengthy periods.

- a situation not subject to direct radiation from the sun or other source of heat likely to raise temperatures above the limits specified above;

- an altitude not exceeding 2 000 m above sea-level;

- an atmosphere not subject to excessive pollution by smoke, chemical fumes, or other abnormal conditions.

NOTE 2 Accessories conforming to this standard may be suitable for use in other conditions, subject to agreement between manufacturer and user. Information given in a manufacturer's catalogue may take the place of such an agreement.

1.4 Requirements for electromagnetic compatibility are not given, as accessories do not in themselves produce extraneous emissions, nor is their functioning affected by external emissions. Therefore no emission or immunity tests are necessary.

It should be noted that accessories containing active electronic components, other than luminous indicating devices, may be susceptible to, or emit, electromagnetic interference.