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TECHNICAL REPORT

Electrical installations in ships – Part 370: Guidance on the selection of cables for telecommunication and data transfer including radio-frequency cables

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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FOREWORD

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The main task of IEC technical committees is to prepare International Standards. However, a technical committee may propose the publication of a technical report when it has collected data of a different kind from that which is normally published as an International Standard, for example "state of the art".

IEC 60092-370, which is a technical report, has been prepared by subcommittee 18A: Electric cables for ships and mobile and fixed offshore units, of IEC technical committee 18: Electrical installations of ships and of mobile and fixed offshore units.

The text of this technical report is based on the following documents:

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
18A/289/DTR	18A/302/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this technical report can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts of the IEC 60092 series can be found, under the general title *Electrical installations in ships*, on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the maintenance result date indicated on the IEC web site under "http://webstore.iec.ch" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

INTRODUCTION

IEC 60092 series of International Standards concerns electrical installations in sea-going ships, and fixed and mobile offshore units, incorporating good practice and co-ordinating as far as possible existing rules.

These standards form a code of practical interpretation and amplification of the requirements of the International Convention on Safety of Life at Sea, a guide for future regulations which may be prepared and a statement of practice for use by shipowners, shipbuilders, mobile and fixed offshore units owners and builders and appropriate organisations.

This IEC/TR 60092-370 has been prepared by the maintenance team MT2 of the IEC subcommittee 18A.

Cables selected for installation onboard ships and on offshore installations are usually installed and are expected to operate in much harsher environments than equivalent land based types. The risk of mechanical abuse during installation, physical dislocation due to tension and bending allied with extremes of temperature are examples of the conditions to which these cables may be subject. If faults occur unlike onshore installations, trained experienced technicians may not always be readily available to affect a repair or replacement.

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS IN SHIPS –

Part 370: Guidance on the selection of cables for telecommunication and data transfer including radio-frequency cables

1 Scope

This Technical Report gives guidance and lays down the basic recommendations for the selection and installation of shipboard and offshore unit cables intended for electrical systems used in both essential and non-essential analogue or digital signal communication, transmission and control networks, including types suitable for high-frequency signals (i.e. signals with a frequency of more than 10^5 Hz). These cables are not suitable for direct connection to low impedance supplies. Where such cables are required, attention is drawn to IEC 60092-353.

Cables intended to have limited circuit integrity (fire resistance) when affected by fire are not covered by this technical report.

Fibre optical cables are not included.

Sub-sea or umbilical cables are not included.

2 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IEC 60092-350 apply.

3 Selection of cables

Cables with physical and electrical characteristics in accordance with the IEC 60092 series of international standards are recommended for use in the marine environment.

Cables constructed in accordance with the following standards are acceptable provided that due consideration has been given to their use in a marine environment: IEC 60189-1, IEC 60189-2, IEC 60189-3, and IEC 60096-0-1.

4 Fundamental considerations

The choice of materials and cable construction should be suitable for the intended application and installation of the cable.

The high level of electrical performance associated with many modern cables is only achieved by the accurate, consistent positioning of the various components within the cable. Careless or excess tension, compression or bending can alter this relationship. This may then have significant detrimental effects upon the fundamental performance of the cable at high data rates.

Similarly these high levels of electrical performance can usually only be achieved by the use of polymers and insulation systems that may not have the same reaction to fire characteristics as the more traditional materials used in other marine cables. In recognition of this, careful consideration should be given to the method of installation to select that most appropriate to the particular application (see also Clause 8).