

THE QUALITY GUIDE

Your guide to selecting the right cable





If it doesn't tick all the boxes, don't touch it!

There are a few good reasons why you should get to know your supplier before you purchase. When human lives and property are at stake, don't take a chance on the unknown! Use the checklist below to follow our 3 simple rules for compliance:

1. Raw Materials:

Raw materials are a major cost, and some manufacturers try to reduce cost by purchasing cheaper alternatives. You should be asking yourself "are these materials proven fit for purpose, and what's in them?" You may also want to know if they are safe for the environment and human health, and if they're legal in this country.

2. Cable Manufacturing Standards:

There are multiple standards hidden behind the one standard listed on your test certificate. It always pays to check if your manufacturer has met all of the manufacturing, product, and electrical standards.

3. Testing Procedures:

Ask your supplier if and how your cables have been tested. Australia and NZ have different requirements due to our different climate, environments, and our H&S legislation. Some tests require special instruments and equipment.

Can your offshore supplier guarantee this?



YOUR ESSENTIAL COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST:

Raw Materials:

- Are these materials fit for purpose?
- Have they been tested to the necessary standard/s?
- Have they been audited, and is there documentation to support this?
- Are they safe for human health?
- Are they safe for the environment?
- Are these materials legal in NZ?

Cable Standards:

- Is this cable appropriate to, or specified by the cable standard?

Testing:

- Are your cables fully tested?
- Are they backed by testing certification or documentation?
- Do you have a supplier or manufacturer's guarantee?



What can you do to protect yourself?

Be aware and ask questions

Have you ever considered why some cable products are so much cheaper than others? With cable, most of the cost is in the materials. If the price looks too good to be true, it almost certainly is!

Imported products and offshore suppliers

- If you are buying any sort of volume, deal direct with the manufacturer or with a local trusted supplier that deals with a reputable manufacturer.
- Avoid businesses describing themselves as 'brokers' or 'consolidators'.
- Imported products will rarely pass all specification requirements. Some offshore manufacturers may not have the correct equipment to perform tests as per our local standards, and will carry out testing using only what they have.
- It's important to remember that Australia and NZ need to meet AS/NZS standards, and this differs from country to country.
- Always ask for certificates and manufacturing documentation to ensure your cables meet NZ regulations and standards.
- Unfamiliar brand, poor reputation, or unknown country of origin? Steer clear!



YOUR COMPLETE CABLE CHECKLIST:

- Research! Get to know your supplier, their processes, and their procedures.
- Only buy from reputable companies with a proven track record who can comfortably answer all of your questions and source the required documentation to support this.
- Establish your own cable checklist so you become familiar and confident with the product you're buying and which boxes must be ticked.
- Check all certifications and endorsements - these provide no guarantee and can be bogus or easily falsified, making them useless if something goes wrong.
- Never make assumptions based on certification alone (SDoC).
- Ensure cables are fit for purpose and manufactured to the correct AS/NZS specification.
- Ensure your source will quality assure their products for peace of mind.
- If in doubt, always ask questions.



Cable selection:

Cable selection is also an important part of your design and installation process, and is dependent on 3 key factors:

1. Current carrying capacity
2. Voltage Drop
3. Short circuit capacity

We have the tool for the trade...

Nexans **EASYCALC™** is a free cable sizing tool that can help you determine the correct and optimal cable for your installation.

Available in both web and app versions, the mobile tool is handy for on-site or field calculations, while the web version provides reliable data from any desktop with a Wi-Fi connection.



Apple iOS



Android

Try it for yourself today. Scan our QR codes for instant download from the Google Play or the App Store.



What can Nexans do for you?

- Manufacture a range of quality cables to the approved standards
- Check your specification requirements on your behalf
- Technical advice with cable sizing and selection
- Remove hidden risks
- Quality Assurance
- Auditing

Buy from us with confidence.

Get in touch:

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