

# Seriously mate?!

To pet the wrong cable is risky business.





### You can trust our cables to be EESS registered.

The Electrical Equipment Safety System is there for a reason – to increase consumer safety. And it's compulsory for manufacturers and importers to register and declare that all the equipment they sell meet relevant standards and are electrically safe. So, stocking products that aren't EESS registered is like giving the kiss of death to your business and customers. No need to risk it. **Play it safe and choose RCM marked products, always.** 

### What you MUST KNOW about EESS

#### What EESS is

- EESS stands for *Electrical Equipment Safety System*.
- It aims at increasing consumer safety by having nationally consistent, electrical equipment safety legislation throughout Australia and New Zealand.
- It is overseen by the *Electrical Regulatory Authorities Council* (ERAC). ERAC is the peak body of electrical safety regulators in Australia and New Zealand.

#### How does it work?

All manufacturers and importers (who are a legal entity in Australia or New Zealand) of in-scope electrical equipment MUST register their products in the system prior to offering them for sale. These are called Responsible Suppliers. Depending on the equipment level, additional testing and certification may be required for responsible suppliers to be able to register their products. Registration is COMPULSORY.

### In-scope electrical equipment is classified in relation to risk levels of electrical hazards.

Equipment falls into one of three categories: Level 3 (high risk), Level 2 (medium risk) and Level 1 (all other in-scope product). All level 3 equipment must be certified by Regulatory Authority or Approved third party.

#### Building wires and flexible cords are level 3 equipment

**Any flexible supply cord** that is unscreened and designed for use at low voltage that:

- consists of two or three elastomer or PVC insulated cores of multistrand construction,
- has a cross-sectional area of each conductor not exceeding 2.5 mm<sup>2</sup>,
- has (other than tinsel cords) individual wire strands not exceeding 0.21 mm for conductor sizes up to 1 mm<sup>2</sup> or 0.26 mm for conductor sizes exceeding 1 mm<sup>2</sup>.

Excluded: flexible cord directly connected to equipment or approved non-rewirable accessories (B.2.47).

## Type testing of in-scope electric cables is a must for a Certification to be granted.

Cables must be type tested to relevant Australia and New Zealand Standards by NATA accredited laboratories only. Once certification is granted and the product is registered, EESS allocates a unique registration number.

#### Compliance of Prysmian cables is easy to spot.

Look for the RCM mark on the product label. In addition, look for the registration number printed on the cable sheath.

#### What if a supplier is not EESS registered?

ERAC conducts regular monitoring. Electrical safety inspectors have wide ranging powers to inspect and seize documentation and equipment, write improvement and infringement notices and to initiate prosecutions and recalls involving unsafe electrical equipment.

#### Offences and Prosecution for Non-compliance

The maximum penalty for a breach of an electrical safety obligation or duty resulting in death is \$300,000 for an individual or \$1.5m for a corporation. The maximum penalty for a breach of an electrical safety obligation or duty resulting in multiple deaths is \$600,000 or 5 years imprisonment for an individual or \$3m for a corporation.

#### **Building wire cable that:**

- has 1 to 5 conductors of stranded or solid cores of copper conductors,
- has an insulated and laid up flat or circular configuration,
- is sheathed or unsheathed insulated cable,
- is intended for use at a rated voltage of between 200 and 250 V, single phase, or between 350 and 450 V, multi-phase, rms, a.c., between conductors or to earth,
- is intended for use in buildings or similar structures, and
- has a nominal cross-sectional area per conductor from 0.5 mm<sup>2</sup> to 16 mm<sup>2</sup>.

Excluded: armoured, metallic screened and metal sheathed cables (B.2.59).





