

**Specification for**

**Copper and copper-cadmium  
stranded conductors for  
overhead electric traction and  
power transmission systems**

ICS 29.060.01; 29.240.20

# Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted by Technical Committee NFE/34, Copper and copper alloys, upon which the following bodies were represented:

- British Bathroom Council
- British Cable Makers Confederation
- British Non-Ferrous Metals Federation
- British Refrigeration Association
- British Valve and Actuator Manufacturers' Association
- Copper Development Association
- Inco Europe Limited
- London Metal Exchange
- Non-Ferrous Metal Stockists
- Transmission and Distribution Association (BEAMA Limited)

The following bodies were also represented in the drafting of the standard, through subcommittees and panels:

- British Railways Board
- Institution of Incorporated Executive Engineers
- Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders

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## Foreword

This British Standard has been prepared by Technical Committee NFE/34/2. This revision supersedes BS 125 : 1970 and BS 2755 : 1970, which are withdrawn.

Copper and copper alloy conductors for overhead electric traction are also dealt with in BS 23.

In this revision due regard has been given to the work of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) when reviewing the testing requirements, properties and physical dimensions of conductors. Where applicable, if possible, the requirements of this British Standard have been aligned with those of corresponding International Standards. However, it has been necessary to go outside ISO dimensions to specify conductors that are suitable for use with fittings currently in use.

**Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.**

### Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, pages 1 to 10, an inside back cover and a back cover.

# Specification

## 1 Scope

This British Standard specifies requirements for solid and stranded circular conductors for overhead power transmission systems and overhead electric traction systems. It specifies the requirements for material composition, dimensions, mechanical properties, electrical resistance, stranding, and other characteristics for hard-drawn high conductivity copper and copper alloy conductors.

NOTE. Guidance on information that should be supplied by the purchaser is given in annex A.

## 2 References

### 2.1 Normative references

This standard incorporates, by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are made at the appropriate places in the text and the cited publications are listed on the inside back cover. For dated references, only the edition cited applies: any subsequent amendments to or revisions of the cited publication apply to this British Standard only when incorporated in the reference by amendment or revision. For undated references, the latest edition of the cited publication applies, together with any amendments.

### 2.2 Informative references

This British Standard refers to other publications that provide information or guidance. Editions of these publications current at the time of issue of this standard are listed on the inside back cover, but reference should be made to the latest editions.

## 3 Definitions

For the purpose of this British Standard the following definitions apply.

### 3.1 solid conductor

Conductor consisting of one wire of circular cross-section.

### 3.2 stranded conductor

Conductor consisting of a number of circular wires of the same nominal diameter, having a central core wire surrounded by one or more layers of helically laid wires. When the conductor consists of more than one layer, alternate layers are stranded in opposite directions.

### 3.3 wire diameter

Mean of two micrometer measurements taken at right angles to each other at any one cross-section of the wire.

### 3.4 circularity

Degree by which the cross-section of a wire conforms to a circle.

NOTE. Circularity is ascertained by comparing the maximum and the minimum diameters measured at the same cross-section of the wire.

### 3.5 direction of lay

For stranded conductors, the direction in which the helically laid outer strands are wound round the central core wire.

NOTE. Wires conform to the direction of the central part of the letter 'Z' when the conductor is held vertically and viewed from the side. For left-hand lay, the wires conform to the central part of the letter 'S' when the conductor is held vertically and viewed from the side.

### 3.6 lay length

Axial length of one complete turn of the helix formed by an individual wire in a stranded conductor.

### 3.7 lay ratio

Ratio of the lay length to the external diameter of the corresponding layer of wires in the stranded conductor.

## 4 Requirements

### 4.1 Composition

Copper conductors shall be manufactured from high conductivity copper wires conforming to the composition requirements for BS 6926 : 1988, grade C100, C101 or C102, the choice of grade being at the discretion of the manufacturer. Copper alloy conductors shall be manufactured from wires conforming to the composition requirements for BS 2873 : 1969, alloy C108 or other composition requirements agreed between the purchaser and the supplier.

### 4.2 Dimensions, tolerances and masses

#### 4.2.1 Solid conductors

The dimensions and masses of solid conductors shall conform to tables 1 and 2.

The conductor shall not depart from circularity (see 3.4) by more than 2 % of the nominal diameter.

#### 4.2.2 Component wires of stranded conductors

The dimensions of component wires for stranded conductors before stranding shall conform to tables 1 and 2, as appropriate.

The cross-section of any wire before stranding shall not depart from circularity (see 3.4) by more than 2 % of the nominal wire diameter.

The mass per unit length of the wire before stranding shall be no more than 2 % greater than the nominal value given in tables 1 and 2, as appropriate.

### 4.2.3 Stranded conductors

The construction of the stranded conductors (i.e. the number of strands and the wire diameter) shall conform to tables 3 and 4, as appropriate.

The mass per unit length of the stranded conductor shall be no more than 2 % greater than the nominal value given in tables 3 and 4, as appropriate.

NOTE 1. The mass of a stranded conductor is affected by the lay ratio. With the exception of the central core wire, all wires are longer than the conductor length and the increase in mass per unit length depends on the lay ratio employed (see annex B).

NOTE 2. Information on the calculation of the increase in length of component wires due to stranding and on the calculation of the masses per unit length and resistance in tables 3 and 4 is given in annex B.

### 4.3 Mechanical properties

#### 4.3.1 Tensile properties

When tested in accordance with BS EN 10002-1, the tensile breaking load of the component wires before stranding shall conform to tables 1 and 2, as appropriate. The tensile breaking load of the stranded conductors shall conform to tables 3 and 4 as appropriate. The tensile breaking load shall be determined either directly [see a)] or by approximation [see b)] and shall conform to tables 3 and 4, as appropriate.

- a) Test on the complete strand in accordance with BS EN 10002-1;
- b) Test according to BS EN 10002-1, on each of the component wires before stranding. The breaking load of the complete strand shall be determined by multiplying the sum of the breaking loads of the individual wires by a factor of 0.92 for three and seven strand conductors or 0.90 for nineteen and thirty-seven strand conductors.

NOTE. The tensile breaking load specified corresponds to the maximum force ( $F_{\max}$ ), as defined in BS EN 10002-1.

If it is required to test component wires of a stranded conductor after stranding, the values for a conductor shall satisfy the following conditions:

- The tensile breaking load of an individual strand shall be not less than 92.5 % of the appropriate value given in tables 1 and 2.
- The average breaking load of all the wires in the conductor shall be not less than 94 % of the appropriate value given in tables 1 and 2.

#### 4.3.2 Wrap properties

Solid conductors and component wires taken from stranded conductors, either of copper or less than 5.6 mm nominal diameter, or of copper alloy less than 3.5 mm nominal diameter, shall not break when subjected to the wrap test given in annex C.

### 4.4 Electrical resistance

When tested in accordance with annex D, the electrical resistance of the conductors at 20 °C shall not exceed the maxima given in tables 1 to 4.

NOTE. These maxima have been calculated on the basis of a resistivity at 20 °C of 0.017 77  $\mu\Omega\cdot\text{m}$  for hard drawn high conductivity copper or a resistivity at 20 °C of 0.021 55  $\mu\Omega\cdot\text{m}$  for hard drawn copper alloy. These figures correspond to conductivities of 97 % and 80 % IACS respectively.

## 4.5 Manufacture

### 4.5.1 Stranding

The construction and lay ratio of the different layers of a stranded conductor shall conform to table 5.

In all constructions, the successive layers shall have opposite directions of lay, the outermost layer being right-handed, unless otherwise specified by the purchaser (see A.1e). The wires in each layer shall be evenly and closely stranded around the underlying wire or wires.

### 4.5.2 Joins

#### 4.5.2.1 Before stranding

The wires used in the construction of the conductor shall be drawn in continuous lengths without joins, except those made in the drawing stock prior to drawing.

#### 4.5.2.2 During stranding

##### 4.5.2.2.1 Cold compression welding

Joins in individual wires made by cold compression welding are permissible, but no two joins shall be less than 15 m apart in the completed stranded conductor.

##### 4.5.2.2.2 Brazing or resistance welding

For all conductors containing seven wires or less, see 4.5.2.2.1.

For conductors containing more than seven wires, joins made by brazing or resistance welding are permissible as well as joins made by cold compression welding. However, no two joins of any type shall be less than 15 m apart in the completed stranded conductor.

### 4.5.3 Identification of material

When requested by the purchaser, one wire in the outer layer of wires shall be tinned for identification purposes.

### 4.5.4 Surface condition

The surface of a solid conductor, or of the component wires before stranding, shall be clean, smooth and free from harmful defects.

## 5 Rounding of results

The results obtained from tests for chemical composition and tensile strength shall be rounded to the last place of figures specified as limits, by applying the rounding rule given in BS 1957.

**Table 1. Physical, mechanical and electrical properties of solid, circular, hard drawn copper wire**

| Nominal area of cross-section<br>mm <sup>2</sup> | Wire diameter |            |            | Nominal mass per unit length<br>kg/km | Resistance at 20 °C |       | Minimum breaking load<br>N |
|--|---------------|------------|------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-------|----------------------------|
|  | Nominal<br>mm | Max.<br>mm | Min.<br>mm |                                       | Ω/km                | Ω/km  |                            |
| 1.43   | 1.35          | 1.364      | 1.337      | 12.73                                 | 12.41               | 12.66 | 583                        |
| 2.01   | 1.60          | 1.616      | 1.584      | 17.87                                 | 8.838               | 9.018 | 818                        |
| 2.27   | 1.70          | 1.717      | 1.683      | 20.18                                 | 7.829               | 7.988 | 923                        |
| 2.54   | 1.80          | 1.818      | 1.782      | 22.62                                 | 6.983               | 7.125 | 1035                       |
| 3.46   | 2.10          | 2.121      | 2.079      | 30.79                                 | 5.130               | 5.235 | 1409                       |
| 3.98   | 2.25          | 2.273      | 2.228      | 35.35                                 | 4.469               | 4.558 | 1618                       |
| 4.75   | 2.46          | 2.484      | 2.435      | 42.25                                 | 3.739               | 3.816 | 1932                       |
| 4.91   | 2.50          | 2.525      | 2.475      | 43.64                                 | 3.620               | 3.694 | 1997                       |
| 5.51   | 2.65          | 2.677      | 2.624      | 49.03                                 | 3.222               | 3.286 | 2244                       |
| 6.16   | 2.80          | 2.828      | 2.772      | 54.74                                 | 2.886               | 2.944 | 2505                       |
| 6.61   | 2.90          | 2.929      | 2.871      | 58.72                                 | 2.690               | 2.745 | 2687                       |
| 7.07   | 3.00          | 3.030      | 2.970      | 62.84                                 | 2.514               | 2.565 | 2875                       |
| 8.04   | 3.20          | 3.232      | 3.168      | 71.50                                 | 2.210               | 2.254 | 3271                       |
| 9.90   | 3.55          | 3.586      | 3.515      | 87.99                                 | 1.795               | 1.831 | 4027                       |
| 11.04  | 3.75          | 3.788      | 3.713      | 98.19                                 | 1.609               | 1.641 | 4494                       |
| 14.52  | 4.30          | 4.350      | 4.250      | 129.1                                 | 1.224               | 1.253 | 5675                       |

NOTE 1. Resistance values are calculated from a resistivity of 0.017 77 μΩ·m at 20 °C. This is equivalent to a conductivity of 97 % IACS. Maximum values of resistance are calculated from minimum diameters.

NOTE 2. Minimum breaking loads for nominal diameters up to and including 4 mm are based on the minimum diameter of conductor and a tensile strength of 415 N/mm<sup>2</sup> and for nominal diameters greater than 4 mm they are based on the minimum diameter of conductor and a tensile strength of 400 N/mm<sup>2</sup>.

NOTE 3. Nominal mass per unit length has been calculated using a density of 8890 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

**Table 2. Physical, mechanical and electrical properties of solid, circular, hard drawn copper alloy wire**

| Nominal area of cross-section<br>mm <sup>2</sup> | Wire diameter |            |            | Nominal mass per unit length<br>kg/km | Resistance at 20 C |       | Minimum breaking load<br>N |
|--|---------------|------------|------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-------|----------------------------|
|  | Nominal<br>mm | Max.<br>mm | Min.<br>mm |                                       | Ω/km               | Ω/km  |                            |
| 2.27   | 1.70          | 1.717      | 1.683      | 20.30                                 | 9.494              | 9.687 | 1379                       |
| 2.54   | 1.80          | 1.818      | 1.782      | 22.76                                 | 8.469              | 8.641 | 1546                       |
| 3.14   | 2.00          | 2.020      | 1.980      | 28.10                                 | 6.860              | 6.999 | 1909                       |
| 3.46   | 2.10          | 2.121      | 2.079      | 30.98                                 | 6.222              | 6.348 | 2105                       |
| 3.98   | 2.25          | 2.273      | 2.228      | 35.57                                 | 5.420              | 5.527 | 2417                       |
| 4.15   | 2.30          | 2.323      | 2.277      | 37.16                                 | 5.187              | 5.292 | 2525                       |
| 4.91   | 2.50          | 2.525      | 2.475      | 43.91                                 | 4.390              | 4.479 | 2983                       |
| 5.31   | 2.60          | 2.626      | 2.574      | 47.49                                 | 4.059              | 4.141 | 3226                       |
| 6.16   | 2.80          | 2.828      | 2.772      | 55.08                                 | 3.500              | 3.571 | 3561                       |
| 6.61   | 2.90          | 2.929      | 2.871      | 59.08                                 | 3.263              | 3.329 | 3820                       |
| 8.04   | 3.20          | 3.232      | 3.168      | 71.94                                 | 2.680              | 2.734 | 4651                       |
| 9.62   | 3.50          | 3.535      | 3.465      | 86.06                                 | 2.240              | 2.285 | 5564                       |
| 10.75  | 3.70          | 3.737      | 3.663      | 96.18                                 | 2.004              | 2.045 | 5901                       |
| 12.57  | 4.00          | 4.040      | 3.960      | 112.4                                 | 1.715              | 1.750 | 6897                       |
| 14.52  | 4.30          | 4.350      | 4.250      | 129.9                                 | 1.484              | 1.519 | 7944                       |

NOTE 1. Resistance values are calculated from a resistivity of 0.021 55 μΩ·m at 20 °C. This is equivalent to a conductivity of 80 % IACS. Maximum values of resistance are calculated from minimum diameters.

NOTE 2. Minimum breaking loads are based on minimum wire diameters and tensile strength as follows:

| Nominal diameter (mm)             | Tensile strength (N/mm <sup>2</sup> ) |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| up to and including 2.6           | 620                                   |
| over 2.6, up to and including 3.5 | 590                                   |
| over 3.5                          | 560                                   |

NOTE 3. Nominal mass per unit length has been calculated using a density of 8945 kg/m<sup>3</sup> and therefore the values apply only to copper-cadmium alloy C108.

**Table 3. Physical, mechanical and electrical properties of hard drawn copper stranded conductors**

| Nominal area of cross-section of stranded conductor<br>mm <sup>2</sup> | Construction (stranding and wire diameter)<br>number/mm | Overall diameter of conductor (approx.)<br>mm | Nominal mass per unit length<br>kg/km | Resistance at 20 °C |              | Minimum breaking load<br>N |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
|  |   |   |                                       | Nominal<br>Ω/km     | Max.<br>Ω/km |                            |
| 10   | 7/1.35  | 4.05  | 89.82                                 | 1.788               | 1.829        | 3752                       |
| 14   | 7/1.60  | 4.80  | 126.2                                 | 1.273               | 1.303        | 5267                       |
| 16   | 3/2.65  | 5.70  | 148.3                                 | 1.082               | 1.106        | 6194                       |
| 16   | 7/1.70  | 5.10  | 142.4                                 | 1.128               | 1.154        | 5946                       |
| 25   | 7/2.10  | 6.30  | 217.3                                 | 0.7391              | 0.7563       | 9073                       |
| 32   | 3/3.75  | 8.06  | 296.9                                 | 0.5405              | 0.5520       | 12400                      |
| 32   | 7/2.46  | 7.38  | 298.2                                 | 0.5386              | 0.5497       | 12442                      |
| 35   | 7/2.50  | 7.50  | 308.0                                 | 0.5215              | 0.5337       | 12860                      |
| 50   | 7/3.00  | 9.00  | 443.5                                 | 0.3622              | 0.3706       | 18520                      |
| 50   | 19/1.80   | 9.00  | 435.8                                 | 0.3727              | 0.3819       | 17700                      |
| 70   | 7/3.55  | 10.65   | 621.1                                 | 0.2586              | 0.2646       | 25930                      |
| 70   | 19/2.10   | 10.50   | 593.2                                 | 0.2738              | 0.2806       | 24090                      |
| 95   | 19/2.50   | 12.50   | 840.7                                 | 0.1932              | 0.1980       | 34140                      |
| 100  | 7/4.30  | 12.90   | 911.2                                 | 0.1763              | 0.1810       | 36540                      |
| 120  | 19/2.80   | 14.00   | 1055                                  | 0.1540              | 0.1578       | 42830                      |
| 125  | 19/2.90   | 14.50   | 1131                                  | 0.1436              | 0.1471       | 45940                      |
| 150  | 19/3.20   | 16.00   | 1377                                  | 0.1180              | 0.1208       | 55940                      |
| 150  | 37/2.25   | 15.75   | 1334                                  | 0.1233              | 0.1264       | 53880                      |
| 185  | 19/3.55   | 17.75   | 1695                                  | 0.09582             | 0.09815      | 68860                      |
| 185  | 37/2.50   | 17.50   | 1647                                  | 0.09981             | 0.1024       | 66490                      |

NOTE 1. Resistance values are calculated from a resistivity of 0.017 77  $\mu\Omega\cdot\text{m}$  at 20 °C. Nominal resistance is calculated from the nominal diameter and mean lay ratio. Maximum resistance is calculated from minimum diameter and minimum lay ratio.

NOTE 2. Minimum breaking load is based on the sum of the minimum breaking loads of the component wires shown in table 2, multiplied by a factor of 0.92 for three and seven wire standards and 0.90 for nineteen and thirty-seven wire strands.

NOTE 3. Nominal mass per unit length has been calculated using a density of 8890  $\text{kg/m}^3$ .



**Table 4. Physical, mechanical and electrical properties of hard drawn copper alloy stranded conductors**

| Nominal area of cross-section of stranded conductor<br>mm <sup>2</sup> | Construction (stranding and wire diameter)<br>number/mm | Overall diameter of conductor (approx.)<br>mm | Nominal mass per unit length<br>kg/km | Resistance at 20 °C |              | Minimum breaking load<br>N |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
|  |   |   |                                       | Nominal<br>Ω/km     | Max.<br>Ω/km |                            |
| 12   | 3/2.30  | 4.95  | 112.4                                 | 1.743               | 1.780        | 6968                       |
| 16   | 7/1.70  | 5.10  | 143.3                                 | 1.368               | 1.399        | 8883                       |
| 22   | 7/2.00  | 6.00  | 198.3                                 | 0.9882              | 1.011        | 12290                      |
| 25   | 7/2.10  | 6.30  | 218.7                                 | 0.8959              | 0.9171       | 13550                      |
| 30   | 7/2.30  | 6.90  | 262.3                                 | 0.7469              | 0.7645       | 16260                      |
| 35   | 7/2.50  | 7.50  | 309.9                                 | 0.6324              | 0.6471       | 19210                      |
| 38   | 7/2.60  | 7.80  | 335.2                                 | 0.5847              | 0.5983       | 20780                      |
| 45   | 7/2.90  | 8.70  | 417.0                                 | 0.4698              | 0.4809       | 24600                      |
| 55   | 7/3.20  | 9.60  | 507.8                                 | 0.3859              | 0.3950       | 29950                      |
| 70   | 19/2.10   | 10.50   | 596.8                                 | 0.3316              | 0.3403       | 35990                      |
| 75   | 7/3.70  | 11.10   | 678.8                                 | 0.2887              | 0.2954       | 38010                      |
| 95   | 19/2.50   | 12.50   | 845.9                                 | 0.2343              | 0.2400       | 51010                      |
| 100  | 7/4.30  | 12.90   | 916.9                                 | 0.2138              | 0.2195       | 51160                      |
| 120  | 19/2.80   | 14.00   | 1061                                  | 0.1862              | 0.1914       | 60890                      |
| 125  | 19/2.90   | 14.50   | 1138                                  | 0.1739              | 0.1784       | 65310                      |
| 150  | 19/3.20   | 16.00   | 1386                                  | 0.1428              | 0.1465       | 79530                      |
| 150  | 37/2.25   | 15.75   | 1342                                  | 0.1493              | 0.1533       | 80490                      |
| 180  | 19/3.50   | 17.50   | 1658                                  | 0.1196              | 0.1225       | 95140                      |
| 180  | 37/2.50   | 17.50   | 1657                                  | 0.1209              | 0.1242       | 99330                      |
| 200  | 19/3.70   | 18.50   | 1853                                  | 0.1068              | 0.1696       | 100900                     |
| 240  | 19/4.00   | 20.00   | 2165                                  | 0.09153             | 0.09378      | 117900                     |

NOTE 1. Resistance values are calculated from a resistivity of 0.02155  $\mu\Omega\cdot\text{m}$  at 20 °C. Nominal resistance is calculated from the nominal diameter and mean lay ratio. Maximum resistance is calculated from minimum diameter and minimum lay ratio.

NOTE 2. Minimum breaking load is based on the sum of the minimum breaking loads of the component wires shown in table 3, multiplied by a factor of 0.92 for three and seven wire strands and 0.90 for nineteen and thirty-seven wire strands.

NOTE 3. Nominal mass per unit length has been calculated using a density of 8945  $\text{kg/m}^3$  and therefore the values apply only to copper-cadmium alloy C108.

**Table 5. Lay ratios of stranded conductors**

| Number of wires in conductor | Lay ratio    |      |              |      |               |      |               |      |
|------------------------------|--------------|------|--------------|------|---------------|------|---------------|------|
|                              | 3 wire layer |      | 6 wire layer |      | 12 wire layer |      | 18 wire layer |      |
|                              | Min.         | Max. | Min.         | Max. | Min.          | Max. | Min.          | Max. |
| 3                            | 11           | 16   | —            | —    | —             | —    | —             | —    |
| 7                            | —            | —    | 13           | 17   | —             | —    | —             | —    |
| 19                           | —            | —    | 13           | 17   | 12            | 15   | —             | —    |
| 37                           | —            | —    | 13           | 17   | 12            | 15   | 10.5          | 13   |

## 6 Selection of test samples

### 6.1 Tests before stranding

Test samples shall be taken before stranding from not less than 10 % of the individual lengths of wire to be included in any one consignment of stranded conductors. One test sample, sufficient to provide one specimen for each test, shall be taken from each of the selected lengths of wire.

### 6.2 Tests after stranding

Test samples of conductor shall be selected from not less than 10 % of the drums included in any one consignment. Each test sample shall be sufficient to provide specimens for each test.

### 6.3 Retests

#### 6.3.1 Tests completed before stranding

Any test samples from which the specimens fail to pass any of the tests specified in this standard shall be subjected to two retests. Should these retests result in failure of a test and the failures outnumber the passes, the package (reel/parcel) shall be rejected. If 10 % of the selected test samples from any consignment of material fail to be accepted then the whole consignment shall be deemed not to conform to this standard.

#### 6.3.2 Tests completed after stranding

Any test samples from which specimens fail to pass any of the tests given in this standard shall be subjected to two retests. Should retests result in failure of a test and the failures outnumber the passes, the package (drum) shall be rejected. If 10 % of the selected test samples from any consignment of material fail to be accepted then the whole consignment shall be deemed not to conform to this standard.

## 7 Inspection documentation

When requested by the purchaser and agreed with the supplier, the supplier shall issue for the goods the appropriate declaration of conformity, in accordance with BS EN 1655, or a certificate of results of inspection.

## 8 Marking, labelling and packaging

Unless otherwise specified by the purchaser and agreed by the supplier, the marking, labelling and packaging shall be left to the discretion of the supplier.

## Annexes

### Annex A (informative)

#### Information to be supplied by the purchaser

**A.1** The following information should be supplied by the purchaser at the time of enquiry and order:

- the quantity of material required;
- the number of this standard;
- the material from which the conductor is to be manufactured;
- the product construction, i.e. the number of wires and wire diameter;
- if the direction of lay of the outermost layer of the stranded conductor is to be left-handed (see 4.5.1);
- if tests on the stranded conductor are to be carried out in the presence of a representative of the purchaser;
- any delivery requirements, e.g. coil size, type of spool;
- whether a declaration of conformity or a certificate of results of inspection is required;
- any testing required (see A.3b).

**A.2** The following information may be pertinent and should be supplied, if appropriate, at the time of enquiry and order:

- whether special surface conditions are required, e.g. greased wires;
- whether there are any special requirements for marking, labelling or packaging;
- whether there is a special requirement for weight or length per coil or spool.

**A.3** In normal commercial practice two levels of certification of the quality of the product should be available at the request of the purchaser, as follows:

- Declaration of conformity. This is a statement from the supplier, claiming, under the supplier's sole responsibility, that a product conforms to this standard.
- Certificate of results of inspection. This certificate is issued on the basis of tests, requested by the purchaser, having been carried out on the manufacturing batch from which the supplied consignment has been taken.

### Annex B (informative)

#### Notes on the calculation of tables 3 and 4

##### B.1 General

The calculations involved in deriving the mass per unit length of stranded conductor and the resistance per kilometre of stranded conductor have been based on the factors given in B.2 and B.3.

##### B.2 Increase in length due to stranding

When straightened out, each wire in a particular layer of stranded conductor, except the centre wire, is assumed to be longer than the stranded conductor by an amount depending on the mean lay ratio (see table 5) of that layer, as shown in table B.1.

**Table B.1 Increase in length due to stranding**

|   | Three wire conductor | Six wire layer | Twelve wire layer | Eighteen wire layer |
|---|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Mean of maximum and minimum lay ratios as defined in 3.7 and table 5  | 13.5                 | 15             | 13.5              | 11.75               |
| Mean of maximum and minimum lay ratios based on mean helix diameter, used for calculating percentage increase in length of single wires | 15                   | 22.5           | 16.88             | 13.71               |
| Percentage increase in length, calculated   | 0.79                 | 0.97           | 1.72              | 2.59                |

##### B.3 Mass and resistance

The mass of each wire in any particular layer (except the centre) of a length of stranded conductor will be greater than that of an equal length of the straight wire by an amount depending on the mean lay ratio. In tables 3 and 4 the areas, masses and resistance of the stranded conductors have been calculated by multiplying the corresponding values for a single wire by the factors given in table B.2.

**Table B.2 Stranding constants**

| Number of wires stranded | Multiplying factor for mean lay ratio |       |            |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------|------------|
|                          | Area                                  | Mass  | Resistance |
| 3                        | 2.977                                 | 3.024 | 0.3360     |
| 7                        | 6.942                                 | 7.058 | 0.1440     |
| 19                       | 18.74                                 | 19.26 | 0.0534     |
| 37                       | 36.27                                 | 37.73 | 0.0276     |

### Annex C (normative)

#### Wrapping test

##### C.1 General

The wrapping test, for assessing the ductility of the conductor, shall be carried out on solid conductors (see 6.1) and on individual component wires taken from the test sample of stranded conductors (see 6.2).

##### C.2 Procedure

Wrap the specimen around a mandrel of the same diameter to form a close helix of eight turns. Unwrap six of the turns and re-wrap them closely in the same direction as the first wrapping. Examine the specimen, by eye (corrected for normal vision if necessary), for any signs of fracture.

**Annex D (normative)****Electrical resistance test**

The resistance per unit length shall be determined by direct measurement on a specimen using the routine method given in BS 5714. In cases of dispute, the reference method in BS 5714 shall be used, or any

other method acceptable to the disputing parties.

Correct the value obtained to the reference temperature of 20 °C by means of the appropriate factor, given in tables D.1 and D.2 for hard drawn copper and copper-cadmium respectively. For copper alloys other than copper-cadmium the test shall be conducted at 20 °C ± 1 °C.

**Table D.1 Factors for correcting resistance: hard drawn high conductivity copper of conductivity 97 % IACS**

| 1              | 2                 | 3                    | 1              | 2                 | 3                    |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Temperature °C | Correction factor | Reciprocal of factor | Temperature °C | Correction factor | Reciprocal of factor |
| 5              | 1.0606            | 0.9429               | 20.5           | 0.9981            | 1.0019               |
| 5.5            | 1.0585            | 0.9448               | 21             | 0.9962            | 1.0038               |
| 6              | 1.0563            | 0.9467               | 21.5           | 0.9943            | 1.0057               |
| 6.5            | 1.0542            | 0.9486               | 22             | 0.9924            | 1.0076               |
| 7              | 1.0521            | 0.9505               | 22.5           | 0.9906            | 1.0095               |
| 7.5            | 1.0500            | 0.9524               | 23             | 0.9887            | 1.0114               |
| 8              | 1.0479            | 0.9543               | 23.5           | 0.9868            | 1.0133               |
| 8.5            | 1.0458            | 0.9562               | 24             | 0.9850            | 1.0152               |
| 9              | 1.0437            | 0.9581               | 24.5           | 0.9831            | 1.0171               |
| 9.5            | 1.0417            | 0.9600               | 25             | 0.9813            | 1.0191               |
| 10             | 1.0396            | 0.9619               | 25.5           | 0.9795            | 1.0210               |
| 10.5           | 1.0376            | 0.9638               | 26             | 0.9777            | 1.0229               |
| 11             | 1.0355            | 0.9657               | 26.5           | 0.9758            | 1.0248               |
| 11.5           | 1.0335            | 0.9676               | 27             | 0.9740            | 1.0267               |
| 12             | 1.0314            | 0.9695               | 27.5           | 0.9722            | 1.0286               |
| 12.5           | 1.0294            | 0.9714               | 28             | 0.9704            | 1.0305               |
| 13             | 1.0274            | 0.9733               | 28.5           | 0.9686            | 1.0324               |
| 13.5           | 1.0254            | 0.9752               | 29             | 0.9668            | 1.0343               |
| 14             | 1.0234            | 0.9771               | 29.5           | 0.9651            | 1.0362               |
| 14.5           | 1.0214            | 0.9790               | 30             | 0.9633            | 1.0381               |
| 15             | 1.0194            | 0.9810               | 30.5           | 0.9615            | 1.0400               |
| 15.5           | 1.0174            | 0.9829               | 31.0           | 0.9598            | 1.0419               |
| 16             | 1.0155            | 0.9848               | 31.5           | 0.9580            | 1.0438               |
| 16.5           | 1.0135            | 0.9867               | 32.0           | 0.9563            | 1.0457               |
| 17             | 1.0116            | 0.9886               | 32.5           | 0.9545            | 1.0476               |
| 17.5           | 1.0096            | 0.9905               | 33.0           | 0.9528            | 1.0495               |
| 18             | 1.0077            | 0.9924               | 33.5           | 0.9511            | 1.0514               |
| 18.5           | 1.0057            | 0.9943               | 34.0           | 0.9494            | 1.0533               |
| 19             | 1.0038            | 0.9962               | 34.5           | 0.9476            | 1.0552               |
| 19.5           | 1.0019            | 0.9981               | 35.0           | 0.9459            | 1.0572               |
| 20             | 1.0000            | 1.0000               |                |                   |                      |

NOTE 1. The primary purpose of this table is to enable a resistance measured at a temperature other than 20 °C to be converted to the resistance at 20 °C in order to determine whether the conductor under test conforms to this standard. Given the resistance at  $T$  °C, the resistance at 20 °C is found by multiplying the resistance at  $T$  °C by the constant for  $T$  °C given in column 2. Conversely, given the resistance at 20 °C, the corresponding resistance at  $T$  °C is found by multiplying the resistance at 20 °C by the reciprocal for  $T$  °C given in column 3. For this purpose the factors have been given at intervals of 0.5 °C from 5 °C to 35 °C, and the error in using the table between these limits does not exceed 0.06 % for copper within the range of conductivity 96 % to 98 % IACS.

NOTE 2. The temperature coefficient of resistance of copper varies slightly from sample to sample according to its exact conductivity. The figures given are based on a value of the temperature coefficient of resistance of 0.003 81 per degree Celsius, which is an average value for copper of 97 % IACS conductivity.

| <b>1</b>                  | <b>2</b>                 | <b>3</b>                        | <b>1</b>                  | <b>2</b>                 | <b>3</b>                        |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Temperature<br/>°C</b> | <b>Correction factor</b> | <b>Reciprocal of<br/>factor</b> | <b>Temperature<br/>°C</b> | <b>Correction factor</b> | <b>Reciprocal of<br/>factor</b> |
| 5                         | 1.049                    | 0.954                           | 20.5                      | 0.998                    | 1.002                           |
| 5.5                       | 1.047                    | 0.955                           | 21                        | 0.997                    | 1.003                           |
| 6                         | 1.045                    | 0.957                           | 21.5                      | 0.995                    | 1.005                           |
| 6.5                       | 1.044                    | 0.958                           | 22                        | 0.994                    | 1.006                           |
| 7                         | 1.042                    | 0.960                           | 22.5                      | 0.992                    | 1.008                           |
| 7.5                       | 1.040                    | 0.961                           | 23                        | 0.991                    | 1.009                           |
| 8                         | 1.039                    | 0.963                           | 23.5                      | 0.989                    | 1.011                           |
| 8.5                       | 1.037                    | 0.964                           | 24                        | 0.988                    | 1.012                           |
| 9                         | 1.035                    | 0.966                           | 24.5                      | 0.986                    | 1.014                           |
| 9.5                       | 1.033                    | 0.968                           | 25                        | 0.985                    | 1.016                           |
| 10                        | 1.032                    | 0.969                           | 25.5                      | 0.983                    | 1.017                           |
| 10.5                      | 1.030                    | 0.971                           | 26                        | 0.982                    | 1.019                           |
| 11                        | 1.029                    | 0.972                           | 26.5                      | 0.980                    | 1.020                           |
| 11.5                      | 1.027                    | 0.974                           | 27                        | 0.979                    | 1.022                           |
| 12                        | 1.025                    | 0.975                           | 27.5                      | 0.977                    | 1.023                           |
| 12.5                      | 1.024                    | 0.977                           | 28                        | 0.976                    | 1.025                           |
| 13                        | 1.022                    | 0.978                           | 28.5                      | 0.974                    | 1.026                           |
| 13.5                      | 1.021                    | 0.980                           | 29                        | 0.973                    | 1.028                           |
| 14                        | 1.019                    | 0.981                           | 29.5                      | 0.971                    | 1.030                           |
| 14.5                      | 1.017                    | 0.983                           | 30                        | 0.970                    | 1.031                           |
| 15                        | 1.016                    | 0.984                           | 30.5                      | 0.9685                   | 1.032                           |
| 15.5                      | 1.014                    | 0.986                           | 31                        | 0.9670                   | 1.034                           |
| 16                        | 1.013                    | 0.988                           | 31.5                      | 0.9656                   | 1.036                           |
| 16.5                      | 1.011                    | 0.989                           | 32                        | 0.9641                   | 1.037                           |
| 17                        | 1.009                    | 0.991                           | 32.5                      | 0.9627                   | 1.039                           |
| 17.5                      | 1.008                    | 0.992                           | 33                        | 0.9613                   | 1.040                           |
| 18                        | 1.006                    | 0.994                           | 33.5                      | 0.9598                   | 1.042                           |
| 18.5                      | 1.005                    | 0.995                           | 34                        | 0.9584                   | 1.043                           |
| 19                        | 1.003                    | 0.997                           | 34.5                      | 0.9570                   | 1.045                           |
| 19.5                      | 1.002                    | 0.998                           | 35                        | 0.9556                   | 1.047                           |
| 20                        | 1.000                    | 1.000                           |                           |                          |                                 |

NOTE 1. The primary purpose of this table is to enable a resistance measured at a temperature other than 20 °C to be converted to the resistance at 20 °C in order to determine whether the conductor under test conforms to this standard. Given the resistance at  $T$  °C, the resistance at 20 °C is found by multiplying the resistance at  $T$  °C by the constant for  $T$  °C given in column 2. Conversely, given the resistance at 20 °C, the corresponding resistance at  $T$  °C is found by multiplying the resistance at 20 °C by the reciprocal for  $T$  °C given in column 3

NOTE 2. The temperature coefficient of resistance of copper varies slightly from sample to sample according to its exact conductivity. The figures given are based on a value of the temperature coefficient of resistance of 0.0031 per degree Celsius, which is an average value for copper of 80 % IACS conductivity.



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## List of references (see clause 2)

### Normative references

#### BSI publications

BRITISH STANDARDS INSTITUTION, London

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| BS 1957 : 1953       | <i>Presentation of numerical values (fineness of expression; rounding of numbers)</i>        |
| BS 2873 : 1969       | <i>Specification for copper and copper alloys. Wire</i>                                      |
| BS 5714 : 1979       | <i>Method of measurement of resistivity of metallic materials</i>                            |
| BS 6926 : 1988       | <i>Specification for copper for electrical purposes: high conductivity copper wire rod</i>   |
| BS EN 10002-1 : 1990 | <i>Tensile testing of metallic materials — Part 1: Method of test at ambient temperature</i> |
| BS EN 1655           | <i>Copper and copper alloys — Declarations of conformity</i>                                 |

### Informative references

#### BSI publications

BRITISH STANDARDS INSTITUTION, London

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| BS 23 : 1970 | <i>Specification for copper and copper-cadmium trolley and contact wire for electrical traction</i> |
|--------------|---|

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