

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Electric cables—Polymeric insulated**

**Part 1: For working voltages  
1.9/3.3 (3.6) kV up to and including  
19/33 (36) kV**

## **AS/NZS 1429.1:2000**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee EL-003, Electric Wires and Cables. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 28 April 2000 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 12 April 2000. It was published on 16 June 2000.

---

The following interests are represented on Committee EL-003:

Australasian Railway Association  
Australian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers Association  
Australian Industry Group  
Department of Defence (Australia)  
Department of Mineral Resources, N.S.W.  
Electrical Contractors Association of New Zealand  
Electricity Supply Association of Australia  
Institution of Engineers Australia  
Ministry of Commerce NZ  
National Electrical and Communications Association  
New Zealand Manufacturers Federation  
Regulatory Authorities (Electrical)  
Testing interests (Australia)

---

### **Keeping Standards up-to-date**

Standards are living documents which reflect progress in science, technology and systems. To maintain their currency, all Standards are periodically reviewed, and new editions are published. Between editions, amendments may be issued. Standards may also be withdrawn. It is important that readers assure themselves they are using a current Standard, which should include any amendments which may have been published since the Standard was purchased.

Detailed information about joint Australian/New Zealand Standards can be found by visiting the Standards Australia web site at [www.standards.com.au](http://www.standards.com.au) or Standards New Zealand web site at [www.standards.co.nz](http://www.standards.co.nz) and looking up the relevant Standard in the on-line catalogue.

Alternatively, both organizations publish an annual printed Catalogue with full details of all current Standards. For more frequent listings or notification of revisions, amendments and withdrawals, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand offer a number of update options. For information about these services, users should contact their respective national Standards organization.

We also welcome suggestions for improvement in our Standards, and especially encourage readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Please address your comments to the Chief Executive of either Standards Australia International or Standards New Zealand at the address shown on the back cover.

---

AS/NZS 1429.1:2000  
(Incorporating Amendment Nos. 1 and 2)

# Australian/New Zealand Standard™

## Electric cables—Polymeric insulated

### Part 1: For working voltages 1.9/3.3 (3.6) kV up to and including 19/33 (36) kV

Originated as AS 1429.1—1979.  
Previous edition AS 1429.1—1993.  
Jointly revised and designated AS/NZS 1429.1:2000.  
Reissued incorporating Amendment No. 1 (April 2002).  
Reissued incorporating Amendment No. 2 (June 2002).

#### **COPYRIGHT**

© Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher.

Jointly published by Standards Australia International Ltd, PO Box 1055, Strathfield, NSW 2135 and Standards New Zealand, Private Bag 2439, Wellington 6020

ISBN 0 7337 3435 9

## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EL/3, Electric Wires and Cables, to supersede AS 1429.1—1993, *Electric cables—Polymeric insulated, Part 1: For working voltages 1.9/3.3 (3.6) kV up to and including 19/33 (36) kV*.

*This Standard incorporates Amendments No. 1 (April 2002) and No. 2 (June 2002). The changes required by the Amendment are indicated in the text by a marginal bar and amendment number against the clause, note, table, figure or part thereof affected.*

This Standard differs from the previous edition in the following significant ways:

- (a) This Standard is published as a Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard.
- (b) The extruded insulation screen thickness has been rationalized at 0.6 mm minimum at any point.
- (c) Additional non-metallic sheath materials are allowed and appropriate requirements have been added.
- (d) Routine voltage test levels have been increased.
- (e) The test levels for the 4 h high voltage test have been increased.
- (f) Many changes have been made to align with IEC 60502.
- (g) d.c. test after installation is not recommended.

In the preparation of this Standard, consideration was given to the following publications and acknowledgment is made of the assistance received:

IEC 60229, *Tests on cable oversheaths which have a special protective function and are applied by extrusion*

IEC 60502-1, *Power cables with extruded insulation and their accessories for rated voltages from 1 kV ( $U_m = 1.2$  kV) up to 30 kV ( $U = 36$  kV)*

IEC 60811, *Common test methods for insulating and sheathing materials of electric cables* (all Parts)

AEIC No. CS5, *Crosslinked polyethylene insulated shielded power cables rated 5 kV through 46 kV*

AEIC No. CS6, *Ethylene propylene rubber insulated shielded power cables rated 5 kV through 69 kV*

NEMA No. WC 7 ICEA Publication No. S-66-524, *Cross-linked-thermosetting-polyethylene-insulated wire and cable for the transmission and distribution of electrical energy*

NEMA No. WC 8 ICEA Publication No. S-68-516, *Ethylene-propylene-rubber-insulated wire and cable for the transmission and distribution of electrical energy*

The nominal cross-sectional areas of the conductors specified herein are identical with the values specified in AS 1125, *Conductors in insulated electric cables and flexible cords*.

The dimensions for insulation and non-metallic sheath thicknesses are identical with the values recommended in IEC 60502. Certain tests and criteria in this Standard are more stringent than those in IEC 60502.

Two types of insulation compounds are specified in this Standard, namely insulation comprising cross-linked polyethylene (XLPE) and insulation comprising ethylene propylene rubber (EPR).

Although the Standard provides tables of insulation thicknesses and the necessary information to establish precisely the dimensions of the cable protective coverings, no cable dimension tables are provided owing to the variety of cable constructions that could possibly affect such dimensions.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

Statements expressed in mandatory terms in notes to tables and figures are deemed to be requirements of this Standard.

## CONTENTS

	Page
SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL	
1.1 SCOPE.....	6
1.2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS.....	6
1.3 DEFINITIONS.....	7
1.4 VOLTAGE DESIGNATION .....	8
1.5 MAXIMUM CONDUCTOR TEMPERATURE .....	9
SECTION 2 CONSTRUCTION	
2.1 CONDUCTORS .....	11
2.2 CONDUCTOR SCREEN.....	11
2.3 INSULATION .....	11
2.4 INSULATION SCREEN .....	13
2.5 INDIVIDUAL OR COLLECTIVE SCREEN.....	14
2.6 IDENTIFICATION OF CORES .....	14
2.7 LAYING-UP.....	15
2.8 FILLERS, BINDERS, AND BARRIER TAPES.....	15
2.9 METAL SHEATH .....	15
2.10 SEPARATION SHEATH .....	16
2.11 BEDDING .....	16
2.12 ARMOUR.....	17
2.13 NON-METALLIC SHEATH .....	18
2.14 WATER-BLOCKING.....	19
2.15 PROTECTION FROM INSECT ATTACK .....	19
2.16 CABLE IDENTIFICATION .....	20
2.17 METRE MARKING ON CABLE.....	20
2.18 PREPARATION FOR DELIVERY .....	20
2.19 MARKING OF DRUMS .....	20
SECTION 3 TESTS	
3.1 GENERAL.....	21
3.2 SELECTION OF SAMPLES .....	21
3.3 HIGH VOLTAGE TEST FOR 5 MIN.....	25
3.4 BENDING TEST FOLLOWED BY PARTIAL DISCHARGE TEST.....	25
3.5 MEASUREMENT OF DDF (TAN $\delta$ ) AS A FUNCTION OF VOLTAGE.....	26
3.6 MEASUREMENT OF DDF (TAN $\delta$ ) AT ELEVATED TEMPERATURE.....	26
3.7 HEAT CYCLING FOLLOWED BY PARTIAL DISCHARGE TEST.....	26
3.8 IMPULSE WITHSTAND TEST FOLLOWED BY A HIGH VOLTAGE TEST .....	26
3.9 HIGH VOLTAGE A.C. TEST FOR 4H.....	27
3.10 RE-QUALIFICATION TESTS.....	27
SECTION 4 REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO CABLES COMPRISING INDIVIDUALLY SCREENED CORES	
4.1 GENERAL.....	29
4.2 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS .....	29
SECTION 5 REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO THREE-CORE CABLES COMPRISING COLLECTIVELY SCREENED CORES	
5.1 GENERAL.....	30
5.2 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS .....	30

## APPENDICES

A	THE FICTITIOUS CALCULATION METHOD FOR THE DETERMINATION OF THE DIMENSIONS OF PROTECTIVE COVERINGS .....	32
B	PURCHASING GUIDELINES .....	35
C	RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CABLE INDIVIDUAL OR COLLECTIVE SCREENS.....	36
D	WATER PENETRATION TEST .....	37
E	RECOMMENDED DIAMETER OF DRUM BARREL AND INSTALLATION BENDING RADIUS FOR CABLES .....	39
F	TESTS AFTER INSTALLATION.....	40
G	SELECTION AND RETEST PROCEDURE FOR SAMPLE TESTS.....	41
H	IMPULSE TEST.....	42
I	ROUNDING OF NUMBERS .....	44

## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

**Australian/New Zealand Standard**  
**Electric cables—Polymeric insulated**

Part 1: For working voltages 1.9/3.3 (3.6) kV up to and including  
 19/33 (36) kV

## SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE**

This Standard specifies requirements for cross-linked polyethylene (XLPE) and ethylene propylene rubber (EPR) insulated cables for fixed installations for electricity supply.

NOTE: Optional requirements for metal sheath, armour, water-blocking, protection from insect attack and metre marking on cable are provided in Clauses 2.9, 2.12, 2.14, 2.15 and 2.17 respectively.

Sections 1 to 3 of this Standard cover the general requirements for cables with individually or collectively screened cores, Section 4 requirements are specific to cables with individually screened cores, and Section 5 requirements are specific to three-core cables with collectively screened cores.

**1.2 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

## AS

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| 1018   | Partial discharge measurements   |
| 1125   | Conductors in insulated electric cables and flexible cords   |
| 1931   | High voltage testing techniques  |
| 1931.1 | Part 1: General definitions and test requirements  |
| 1931.2 | Part 2: Measuring systems  |
| 2893   | Electric cables—Lead and lead alloy sheaths—Composition  |
| 3863   | Galvanized mild steel wire for armouring cables  |
| 3983   | Metal drums for insulated electric cables and bare conductors  |
| AS/NZS |  |
| 1429   | Electric cables—Polymeric insulated  |
| 1429.2 | Part 2: For working voltages above 19/33 (36) kV up to and including<br>76/132 (145) kV                                    |
| 1660   | Test methods for electric cables, cords and conductors (all parts)   |
| 2857   | Timber drums for insulated electric cables and bare conductors   |
| 3808   | Insulating and sheathing materials for electric cables   |
| IEC    |  |
| 60949  | Calculation of thermally permissible short-circuit currents, taking into account non-adiabatic heating effects             |
| 60986  | Guide to the short-circuit temperature limits of electric cables with a rated voltage from 1.8/3 (3.6) kV to 18/30 (36) kV |