BS EN 50618:2014
Incorporating corrigendum February 2015

BSI Standards Publication

Electric cables for photovoltaic systems (BT(DE/NOT)258)

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National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 50618:2014.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted by Technical Committee GEL/20, Electric cables, to Subcommittee GEL/20/17, Electric Cables - Low voltage.

BSI, as a member of CENELEC, is obliged to publish EN 50618:2014 as a British Standard. However, attention is drawn to the fact that during the development of this European Standard, the UK committee voted against its approval as a European Standard.

The main reasons for this negative vote are as follows:

- The scope includes statements about the lifetime of the cable in relation to maximum conductor temperature and the number of years of service that may be expected from the cable. While such a performance objective is supported, in the opinion of the UK committee the means of determining such performance are insufficiently robust.
- Table B.1 requires the insulation and the sheath materials of the cable to undergo testing for thermal endurance, this being the principal basis for the statements about lifetime expectation. These tests (to EN 60216) are complex, lengthy and specialized. They are of great use for research purposes and for materials development but, if they are to be used for tests on end products, it is necessary to define the sampling, the test temperatures, the test durations and the failure criteria in greater detail than is given in EN 50618. The absence of detail given in EN 50618 provides a high risk of variability of testing within manufacturers, suppliers, test laboratories and certifiers.

The UK committee advise users to be aware of these concerns when applying this standard, particularly in the context of any expectation that a minimum lifetime of 25 years, under any and all exposure conditions, is somehow guaranteed.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

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Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 28 February 2015.

Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
28 February 2015	Extra national foreword text inserted

EUROPEAN STANDARD

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

EN 50618

December 2014

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English Version

Electric cables for photovoltaic systems (BT(DE/NOT)258)

Câbles électriques pour systèmes photovoltaïques (BT(DE/NOT)258)

Kabel und Leitungen - Leitungen für Photovoltaik Systeme (BT(DE/NOT)258)

This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2014-10-27. CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CENELEC members are the national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

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