Session 13 – EX Wiring Methods
EX Installation Methods
Conduit or Cable Glands...

- Direct Entry via EEx ‘d’ gland
- Indirect Entry via EEx ‘e’ gland & enclosure
- Direct Entry via EEx ‘d’ conduit
Typical Wiring Methods

- Rigid Conduit
- Unarmored Cable
- Armored Cable
IEC Cable Types and Construction

Unarmored Cable similar to US TC type cables but with fully extruded fillers. Armored Cable similar in concept to IEEE45 Type P marine shipboard cable and continuous corrugated aluminum armor cable.
Cable/Conductor Requirements in Zone applications

The following main requirements are listed in the EN60079 standard for cables and conductors:
- use only insulated cables and conductors (test voltage ≥ 500 VAC),
- in special cases earth the required screening only once at the end of the non-explosive environment,
- protect intrinsically safe circuits against external electrical or magnetic fields through the maintenance of adequate distances, screening and/or core twisting, isolate intrinsically safe cables and conductors from non-intrinsically safe cables and conductors or, protect against mechanical damage or, protect through metal housing, or screening of the cables and conductors do not combine conductors of intrinsically safe and non-intrinsically safe circuits
- prevent the fraying of fine wired conductors through the use of cable sleeves, for example:
  - keep to minimum diameter of 0.1 mm,
  - isolate intrinsically safe and non-intrinsically safe circuits in cable bundles or ducts via insulation spacer or an earthed metal spacer (not required with screening or sheathing),
- identify (i.e. light blue) the cables and conductors of intrinsically safe circuits (not required with shielding or metal sheathing)
When selecting cables and conductors, only use those which can withstand the expected mechanical, chemical and thermal influences. Cables and conductors with thermoplastic sheath, duroplastic sheath, elastomer sheath or mineral insulation with metal sheath may be used for fixed routing. Cable branch lines must comply with the requirements for hazardous areas.

The cables and conductors must be connected to the electrical equipment in line with the directives for the associated type of protection. Unused openings on devices and equipment must be closed. When cables and conductors are installed through openings into non-hazardous areas, care must be taken to provide an adequate seal at the openings (e.g. sand filling, mortar) to prevent carrying-over of the zone. At particularly hazardous points, cables and conductors must be protected against thermal, mechanical or chemical stress by, for example, conduits, tubing or covers. The flame retardance of cables and conductors for fixed routing must be proven in accordance with IEC 60332-1.
In general, SWA cable has been the cable of choice in the UK for onshore installations. It is somewhat flexible, readily available and has good bending capabilities.

SWB cable has become the choice for installations offshore with various armor materials including tinned copper, bronze and other materials. Very flexible yet durable under very demanding conditions. Many different jacket types available.

STA is more of an onshore type cable and is widely used in onshore applications in continental Europe, especially for power applications. Clients have started to shy away from STA as it is generally regarded as slightly more difficult to terminate than either SWA or SWB.

One variation commonly used for direct bury applications is a Lead sheathed armor cable. Lead provides a very good insulation due to corrosive elements and is particularly resistant to rodents and ants. Cable glands for lead sheathed cable typically need an additional component to seat the lead portion of the cable.

Designations on glands is to mark a XZ for braid and tape, with a W for wire armor for field installation.
BFOU & RFOU instrumentation cables are manufactured with either overall or individual screens, the cores are either laid up as pairs or triples. Ideal for signal and instrumentation circuits where the fire performance and Low Smoke Zero Halogen properties are increasingly being required within public buildings and power stations, as well as traditional Petro/Chem industries. The cable is designed to carry on working for a period of 3 hours when exposed to fire, according to IEC 60331 test procedure. BFOU also offers good screening properties, reducing Electro Magnetic Interference (EMI).

**Construction**

Tinned stranded copper conductor, MICA tape, EPR insulation, overall screen of Copper backed Polyester tape with a stranded copper drain wire 0.75mm², inner sheath of Halogen Free Thermoset Elastomer, tinned copper wire braid and an outer sheath of Halogen Free Thermoset Elastomer. The individually screened version has a Copper backed Polyester tape with a stranded copper drain wire 0.75mm² around each pair or triple.

**Core colors**

*Pairs - Light blue, black*

*Triples - Light blue, black and brown*

Each pair or triple is identified by a numbered tape.
The most common sheath material for data cabling in use in the UK is PVC. For many environments, PVC is the ideal material, having superior mechanical characteristics and high reliability. However, in a fire, PVC emits heavy black smoke mixed with hydrochloric acid, thus reducing vision, immediately impairing breathing, and additionally initiating corrosion of all equipment exposed to the fumes. For improved fire performance, it is common for LSZH Low Smoke Zero Halogen (usually meeting IEC61034, IEC60754-2 and IEC60332-3) cable sheaths to be used within Europe.

### Fire Performance Standards

The major Standards in common use are

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>International Standard (Note 1)</th>
<th>Other Standards (Note 1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tests for evolution of acidic and</td>
<td>IEC60754 Part 1 - halogen acid</td>
<td>EN50267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>corrosive gas</td>
<td>acid gas Part 2 - total acid</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests for smoke opacity</td>
<td>IEC 61034 IEC60695-6</td>
<td>BS7022 (possibly the same content)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests for toxicity</td>
<td>None known</td>
<td>NES 711 Smoke Index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests for flame propagation</td>
<td>IEC 60332 (Note 2) Part 1 -</td>
<td>EN50265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>single vertical cable Part 3 -</td>
<td>EN50266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>bunched cable</td>
<td>US Standards:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- UL1581 - General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- UL1666 - Riser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- UL910 - Plenum (Note 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests for fire resistance</td>
<td>IEC60331</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cables meeting IEC60332-3 have better fire performance characteristics than those meeting IEC60332-1: They use either a thicker cable sheath or a more expensive sheath material and therefore the cable is more costly.
## IEC Cable Tests for Fire Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Fire Performance</th>
<th>Typical Tests</th>
<th>Guidance Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>General Flammability Resistance</td>
<td>IEC 60332-1</td>
<td>This cable provides a level of flammability resistance for general purpose applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Reduced Flame Spread</td>
<td>IEC 60332-1 &amp; IEC 60332-3</td>
<td>This cable provides reduced flame spread from bunched cables, as required in cable risers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Low Smoke &amp; Fume</td>
<td>IEC 60332-1 &amp; IEC 60754-1 &amp; IEC 60754-2 &amp; IEC 61034</td>
<td>This cable provides low emission of smoke and corrosive fumes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Reduced Fire Hazard</td>
<td>IEC 60332-1 &amp; IEC 60332-3 &amp; IEC 60754-1 &amp; IEC 61034</td>
<td>This cable provides reduced flame spread from bunched cables with low smoke and acid gas emission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Limited Fire Hazard</td>
<td>IEC 60332-1 &amp; IEC 60332-3 &amp; IEC 60754-1 &amp; IEC 60754-2 &amp; IEC 61034 &amp; Toxicity (?)</td>
<td>This cable provides an overall limited fire hazard performance and combines reduced flame spread with low emission of smoke and noxious fumes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Fire Resistant</td>
<td>IEC 60331</td>
<td>This cable is designed for wiring and interconnection where it is required to maintain circuit integrity under fire conditions for long periods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Typical IEC Cable Tests

Fire Resistant Test – IEC60331-21 Under long fire exposure, the cable must maintain the power supply for vital safety equipment (emergency lighting, alarm, systems & fire pumps, etc.)

Smoke Density Test – IEC61034-1/2 The smoke density test evaluates the smoke emissions of the cable and the jacket construction.

Test under fire condition – IEC60332-3 Flame retardant test simulating cables installed in bunch on a vertical ladder under fire conditions.
IEC60332-1-2 Single wire or cable

- A test on a single length of cable 600mm long held between 2 clamps.

- The flame is applied for a predetermined amount of time based on the weight of the cable.

- To pass the test there should not be any visible damage or charring within 50mm of the lower edge of the top clamp (Equal to 425mm higher than the flame source) once all combustion has stopped.

- This test replaces IEC60332-1, BS4066 pt 1 & BS EN 50265-2-1.
IEC60332-3 “The ladder test”

• The IEC60332-3 ranges of tests are conducted on bunches of cables and are much closer to a real life installation. 3.5m Lengths of cables are bunched onto a cable ladder in a chimney simulating a building riser.

• The volume of cable on the ladder is determined in litres of combustible material to offer a balanced view of performance across a cable range.

• A flame is applied 500mm from the base of the ladder for a predetermined time. When the burner has extinguished a one hour after-burn period is allowed then the cables are checked for performance.

• To pass the tests the cables should not be affected by the flame 2.5m above the flame source.

• BS EN 50266 is the BS standard for the same test procedure
### IEC60332-3 categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Qty of material</th>
<th>Flame application</th>
<th>Supersedes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60332-3-22 Cat A</td>
<td>7.0 litres</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>IEC60332-3A BS4066 pt 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60332-3-23 Cat B</td>
<td>3.5 litres</td>
<td>40 minutes</td>
<td>IEC60332-3B BS4066 pt 3B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEC60332-3-24 Cat C</td>
<td>1.5 litres</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td>IEC60332-3C BS4066 pt 3C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEC60332-3-25 Cat D</td>
<td>0.5 litres</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60332-3-21 Cat A F/R</td>
<td>Used for large O.D cables instead of “3-22 Cat A”. The cables are mounted on the front and back of the ladder</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- All these tests are to be conducted on complete cables.
- Compounds alone cannot be tested to IEC60332
Fire Resistant Testing

- A cables ability to continue operating safely during a fire. Also referred to as circuit integrity.

- Widely used in commercial/public buildings & MOG applications to control fire alarm/monitoring systems, emergency lighting, fire shutters and emergency evacuation equipment.
## European Fire Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Ref.</th>
<th>Performance Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IEC60331</td>
<td>Cables ≤ 0.6/1kV</td>
<td>3 hours at 750°C (1970 edition)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEC60331-21</td>
<td>Cables ≤ 0.6/1kV</td>
<td>90 minutes @ 750°C (unless alt. stated in the cable spec)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEC60331-23</td>
<td>Data cables</td>
<td>90 minutes @ 750°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEC60331-25</td>
<td>Optical fibre</td>
<td>90 minutes @ 750°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEC60331-31</td>
<td>Cables ≤ 0.6/1kV</td>
<td>120 minutes @ 830°C with vibration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VDE0472</td>
<td>FE180</td>
<td>This test is equal to IEC60331 (1970 edition)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIN 4102</td>
<td>E30</td>
<td>Complete system integrity for 30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIN 4102</td>
<td>E90</td>
<td>Complete system integrity for 90 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EN50200 PH30, PH60, PH120

BS8434 was developed and enhanced from this standard. Currently EN50200 is inferior to BS8434 as it does not include the water spray test.
Smoke Emission & Toxic Gas

- Obscuration of vision and toxic gas are the main threat to people during a fire leading to disorientation and choking from fumes. Death is normally caused by choking rather than flames. Reducing smoke & fume emissions is vital to enable safe evacuation.

- Equipment damage is caused by HCl gases mixing with moisture from the sprinkler systems and creates acid rain leading to long term component failure even if the equipment does not look damaged.

- Not all materials that are low smoke are halogen free, examples:
  - LS-PVC (Limited Smoke PVC to UL1685)
  - Fluorocarbons (PTFE, FEP etc.)
  - “Type B” CSP to BS6883 (1991)
European Smoke Testing

- **IEC 61034-2**: A one meter sample of cable (or a bundle of cables depending on the outer diameter) is placed in a 3m cube and subjected to combustion by an alcohol produced flame for 20 minutes. The light transmission through the cube should not fall below 60% during the test (at peak or total).

  - Measurement method:
  - 100W halogen light source sensed by a photoelectric cell positioned on the opposite side of the smoke cube.

- IEC61034-2 is the most popular test used for cable in Europe.
- IEC61034-1 covers the apparatus required and test procedure.
Toxic Gas Evolution IEC60754

- IEC60754-1 (BS EN 50267 pt1) measures the amount of hydrochloric acid (HCl) evolved during burning. The result is normally expressed as a percentage of the sample weight. There is no pass/fail criteria.

- This method is not suitable for testing cables classed as “Zero Halogen” and compounds containing less than 5mg/g (5%) containing less than 5mg/g (5%)

- IEC60754-2 (BS EN 50267 pt2) measures the corrosiveness of the evolved gas in terms of acidity (pH) and conductivity. IEC 60754-2 recommended values are:

- pH > 4.3. & Conductivity of combustion gases < 10 mS/mm
Panel Wiring to IEC requirements

Most of Europe abides by IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) wiring color codes for AC branch circuits. The older color codes in the table reflect the previous style which did not account for proper phase rotation. The protective ground wire (listed as green-yellow) is green with yellow stripe.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Label</th>
<th>Current Color IEC</th>
<th>Old Color IEC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protective Earth</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Green-Yellow</td>
<td>Green-Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line, single Phase</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>Brown or Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line, 3 phase</td>
<td>L1</td>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>Brown or Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line, 3 phase</td>
<td>L2</td>
<td>Black</td>
<td>Brown or Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line, 3 phase</td>
<td>L3</td>
<td>Grey</td>
<td>Brown or Black</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The United Kingdom now follows the IEC AC wiring color codes. The table below lists these along with the obsolete domestic color codes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Label</th>
<th>Current Color UK</th>
<th>Old Color UK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Protective Earth</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Green-Yellow</td>
<td>Green-Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line, single Phase</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line, 3 phase</td>
<td>L1</td>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line, 3 phase</td>
<td>L2</td>
<td>Black</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line, 3 phase</td>
<td>L3</td>
<td>Grey</td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Example of old UK wiring colors

The use of color coded ferrules or sleeves is typically left up to the client/user preference. Either practice is acceptable to relevant IEC standards.
Cable Gland Selection Criteria

Cable glands used in enclosures intended for use in a hazardous area must meet with the same criteria as the enclosure to which they are connected. For example, cable glands used on an EEx’e’ enclosure must meet the requirements for the enclosures of the EEx’e’ standard i.e. must be capable of withstanding a 7Nm impact and capable of maintaining an ingress protection of at least IP54.

If a plastic or non-metallic cable gland is used it must be capable of passing these tests after having undergone an accelerated conditioning period.

Most reputable cable gland manufacturers have their products approved by a suitably notified body and will carry the certification markings on the body of the gland. Cable glands are a very important element in the protection of electrical equipment and should not be underestimated. There are a vast array of different cables in use today and it is important that advice is sought from a cable gland manufacturer regarding selection.
Testing Procedures for Cable Glands

IP 66 Testing – 100 liters of water for 3 minutes from 2.5 to 3 meters

Continuity Testing of Armor – Gland is heated and cooled over time and resistivity should not change more than 10%

Tork Test – Multiple spanners to prescribed tension with no damage on disassembly
Testing Procedures for Cable Glands

Load Test – Unarmored cable gland with mandrel to not slip more than 6 mm over 6 hrs.

Impact Test – 1 kg falling from 70cm or 7 joules. No damage to gland

Pressure Test – Minimum of 450 psi without leakage for Ex ‘d’, 2000 psi for UL2225 requirements
Wiring Methods

Wiring concepts Offshore follow the established & prevailing Marine standards, e.g. IEC 60092-352

Metallic parts (including armour) shall be earthed effectively to prevent them from becoming live.

Cable Armour/Braid provides a means of good earth continuity as well as mechanical protection.

Normal practice has been to use external grounding as the most direct route to earth.

This is easily achieved with metallic cable glands in non metallic enclosures by the use of an earth tag.

Shrouds have been found to be an ineffective means of keeping water out of enclosures and glands are typically not used for North Sea applications any more.
Two forms of EMI/RFI to consider
• Conducted Emissions (Generated & Susceptibility)
• Radiated Emissions (Generated & Susceptibility)

A Screened Cable entering shielded enclosure
• Assists in protection against Radiated Emissions

Metallic glands are an essential part of the system design in respect of Electromagnet protection.

360° Cable shielding provides optimum performance for EMC as opposed to ‘pig tail’ techniques.

Non metallic glands create the weak link in the system between shielded cable and enclosure.
Typical EEx d & e armored cable gland

Components of Typical EEx e & d cable gland....

- Deluge Seal
- Armor Cone
- Clamping Ring
- Back End
- Outer Seal
- Inner Seal
Installation of EEx ‘ed’ gland

**EEx d & EEx e**

Requirement for EEx d cable glands for equipment < 2 litres
- Screwed entry threads must maintain flame path
- Inner seal must be explosion proof and gas tight
- Trend is to use dual certified Ex d & Ex e

Requirements for EEx e cable glands
- Impact strength – 7 Nm Minimum
- Minimum I.P. rating – IP54 gas/vapour – IP64 dust
- Single (outer) seal as a minimum
- Trend is to use a double (inner/outer) seal

Not unusual to use the identical gland for both EEx d and EEx e applications for less confusion in installation in the field...
Installation of EEx ‘d’ barrier gland

Seal required to withstand a pressure of 450 PSI (31 bar) for 2 minutes

Epoxy Resin Compound

Flame Path

Exhaust Routes

Pressure Flame Hot Gases

Direct Entry into Zone 1, EEx ‘d’ enclosure over 2 liters volume With Arcing Sparking Devices...
Which type is suitable for use with Flameproof Ex d equipment using a gland with an ELASTOMERIC seal?

- **Cable A**: Incorrect Shape, Cables Should be Round
- **Cable B**: No Inner Sheath, Extruded Bedding or Suitable Fillers
- **Cable C**: Correct Cable, e.g. has an extruded inner bedding
- **Cable D**: Inappropriate
- **Cable E**: Inappropriate
GLANDING & EARTHING MISCELLANEOUS DETAILS ‘A’ & ‘B’

GREEN/YELLOW COLOURED EARTH TERMINALS (E.G. KLIPPPON TYPE EK) MOUNTED ON COPPER DIN RAIL. STEEL IS NOT ACCEPTABLE POWER, SIGNAL OR SCREEN TERMINALS MUST BE MOUNTED ON A SEPARATE RAIL.

MIDDLE SCREW CLAMPS TERMINAL TO DIN RAIL. THIS CLAMP PROVIDES THE CONTINUITY REQUIRED BETWEEN THE TERMINALS VIA THE DIN RAIL.

COPPER BRAID USED AS P.E. CONDUCTOR

POWER OR SIGNAL OR SCREEN TERMINALS MOUNTED ON A SEPARATE RAIL FROM THE EARTH TERMINALS

EARTH CONTINUITY WIRE

ONLY ONE P.E. CONDUCTOR IS TO BE TERMINATED IN EACH SIDE OF EACH TERMINAL.
In general, about 90% of the application for hazardous location cable glands can be fulfilled with the use of a non-barrier compound gland...
Wiring Methods – Typical Norwegian Installation Practice

START

YES

IS ENCLOSEMENT CERTIFIED (Exia)

NO

METAL

IS ENCLOSEMENT METAL OR PLASTIC

PLASTIC

USE EXIA CERTIFIED ARMOURED CLAMPING GLAND WITH EXTRA CORE IN THE CABLE AS THE PE CONDUCTOR.
SEE ANNEX S3.56A

USE BRASS THROUGH GLAND WITH COPPER Braid OF CABLE AS THE PE CONDUCTOR.
SEE ANNEX S3.56A

USE PLASTIC THROUGH GLAND WITH COPPER Braid OF CABLE AS THE PE CONDUCTOR.
SEE ANNEX S3.56A
Direct and Indirect Entry EEx e & EEx d Enclosures

Direct Entry, Gland Type EEx d Barrier Type if volume > 2 litres

Ignition Source

Indirect Entry, Gland Type EEx e or Dual Certified EEx e/EEx d gland
Direct Entry EEx nR Equipment

Gland Type EEx D Barrier Type providing gas tight Bi-Directional seal

Gland Type EEx d/EEx e incorporating internal seal that provides Bi-Directional Gas-tight seal. Diaphragm Seals or compression seals not recommended

Due to this...
Wiring Methods – Cable Gland usage UK

UK Offshore Hazardous Areas

Market Sector

Equipment

Braid Armor 98%

Unarmored 2%

Cable

Cable Glands

Brass "Armored" EExd / EEx e Cable Gland 99%

Brass "Armored" EEx d Compound Barrier Gland 1%

Brass "Unarmored" EEx d / EEx e Cable Gland 99%

"Unarmored" Plastic EEx e Cable Gland 1%
Thread Information and Accessories

The standardization of thread type in the IEC world is typically around the Metric straight thread. However, other thread types do exist in the IEC world and if not Metric or a variation of, are a PG, BSP or BST thread type.

Accessories that are commonly used are:

Cable Shrouds – Becoming increasingly less used as they have a tendency to hold water in and cover up potential corrosion with glands.

Earth Tags – Otherwise known as “Banjos” or “Frying Pans”. Used to provide a means to ground the cable gland typically when used in non-metallic enclosures.

Locknuts – Typically used to secure the cable gland to the enclosure.
Thread Information and Accessories (Cont.)

With the various threads used, thread adaptors and reducers are a common accessory widely used. One key point is that it is not allowed to reduce a reducer...

Shaker Washers – Typically used between the locknut and inside of an enclosure, shaker washers are used to provide a means to keep vibrations from loosening the cable gland to the enclosure.

IP washers – As the name implies, IP washers help maintain the IP rating between the cable gland and the enclosure...

If you have a cable gland in a clearance hole, you have a metal to metal (or plastic) surface that provides no better than IP54 protection. IP washers go between the face of the gland and the outside of the enclosure.

Drains – EEx e drains that allow condensation to drain from the inside of enclosures due to moisture buildup during the normal heating and cooling process during the day and night.
Cable glands clearance holes need to be considered when determining number and sizes of glands installed in enclosures. Always confirm gland cross corner clearance with manufacturer and template size of enclosure to confirm whether enough space exists for gland entries...
Traditional use of cable glands entering into an Ex e enclosure need a significant amount of excess space to allow for the use of a spanner or wrench to tighten the gland. The use of cabinet seals certified to Ex e can reduce the footprint of the enclosure required by as much as 50% or allow a doubling of cables to enter in the same space as traditional cable glands.
Ex ‘d’ Seals and Conduit Systems

Conduit Seals are commonly used with conduit systems for direct entry into EEx d enclosures. The maximum allowed distance from enclosure is 450mm. Like the US, installations also require seal fittings at boundaries.

Conduit systems have a slightly different requirement in that countries typically mandate max. fill. In the case of most of the southern European countries, a max. fill of 60% is allowed. This differs with US regulations of typically 40% maximum conduit fill. Conduit systems are usually limited to 3000V or less. Above 3000V, cable systems are required.
Typical Wiring Practices with Conduit

All switching mechanisms should be omni polar where the neutral wire is always cut
-MINIMUM allowed wire sizes:
- Auxiliary Circuits (Controls) 1.5 mm/sq.
- Power Circuits 2.5 mm/sq.
- Cables should be 3000V min. and “flame-retardant” type

Cables MUST protected against insulation damage generally due to:
- Impact damage
- Heat sources that could damage cables insulation
- Chemical substances that could cause insulation cables corrosion

In order to comply with above mentioned requirements, a proper choice of cables and cable routing is very important.

If “Cables Pass” far away from any place with risk of corrosion or accidental damage (i.e. cables for ceiling mounted lighting fixtures) a standard PVC insulated cables in proper cable trays are allowed. When cables come down to working areas, or pass beside to valves or other equipment that might release heat or corrosive substances that might damage cables insulation, it is recommended to pass relevant cables inside a galvanized steel pipes. If cables go to vibrating machines (example: electrical motors) pipes should be flexible hoses, for the last 500mm approx. connected to special cable glands with female threaded head which allow for flexible hoses direct connection to the gland nut, without leaving any part of cables uncovered.

This is very similar to US installations whereby the use of conduit acts as a means of mechanical protection.
Typical Wiring Practices with Conduit

Flexible Conduit for vibration and mechanical protection

Conduit for mechanical protection
IEC 61386 is the new European standard governing the performance of flexible conduit (and rigid) systems in electrical installations.

Tensile test for IEC 61386.

Superseding the current European flexible conduit systems standards, EN 50086, IEC 61386 covers performance requirements for use of such products in electrical installation applications. The performance requirements covered include fatigue life, bend radius, operating temperature, non-flame propagation, IP ratings, impact resistance and pull-off strength. Full implementation of IEC 61386 is being phased in throughout 2006, and it is expected that the standard will fully replace EN 50086 by 2007.

Those manufacturers of flexible conduit and trunking which can demonstrate full compliance with the new standard (for example, in the UK via BSI and the Kitemark scheme), especially if confirmed by independent third party certification, will be in a good competitive situation in terms of sales. This is because such manufacturers' customers will be able to confidently specify flexible conduit systems complying with IEC 61386 for the complete range of suitable applications, knowing that they have been approved to the new scheme. Such customers often face strict controls on their working environments, and may typically include food processing, healthcare, hazardous area, MOD and other specialist markets.
Typical Wiring Practices with Conduit

Tests to be carried out under IEC 61386:

The new IEC 61386 standard requires a number of tests to be carried out on specimen conduit materials. These include:

**The Impact Strength Test** - This is carried out on conduits over a range of different temperatures. The test is made on each specimen using an impact head with a defined profile. Conventionally, fracture behavior is studied, but under this test, it is the deformation (buckling) behavior that is also determined. The specimen passes the test if no fracture occurs after impact, and there is also no excessive permanent deformation.

**The Peak Load Test** - Under the requirements of this test, carried out on conduit specimens under standard ambient conditions (which is specified as 23°C at 50% relative humidity), the conduit is deformed by a defined amount between two plates.

**The Reverse Bending Test (With Swinging Movements)** - This test is based on a cyclic reversed bending of conduits under various temperatures. Under the requirements for the test, conduits are dynamically loaded and evaluated over the temperature limits. The number of bending cycles taken to fracture the conduit determines its strength.

**The Self-Extinguishing Test** - Under the requirements for this test, the conduit is exposed to a flame (from a standard burner). The time to ignition (if any), the flame propagation, and the time to self-extinguishing after flame removal are all parameters measured.
Typical Wiring Practices with Cable

A typical method of making final terminations to enclosures is to leave excess cable in a loop configuration to relieve any potential undue strain on the cable gland, and allow easier modifications if equipment needs to be replaced or repaired.
Typical Wiring Practices with Cable