

BS1363 Part 1 Amendment 2 – Precis of changes

On 9th October 2003 BS1363:1995 was reissued incorporating its second amendment. As well as general updates, the amendment makes significant changes to certain clauses.

BS1363 Part 1:1995 of the standard contains the most radical amendments. The major modifications to are as follows:-

ISOD BS1363-1 now includes a definition and tests for plugs where the brass earth pin is replaced with a pin made of insulating material – an “Insulated Shutter Opening Device”.

The requirements and tests follow ASTA Standard 121 and should not cause any problems for a manufacturer who already has approved products of this type.

Clauses affected:- 1; 3.23; 6; 12.1; 12.2; 12.2.1; 12.9; 12.9.1; 12.9.4, 12.9.4.1; 12.9.4.3, 12.9.5, 12.9.5.2; 12.9.6, 22.2.1; 23.2; Table 1; Figure 4; Figure 8

Clearance, Creepage and Solid Insulation

Clause 8 has been updated to align with BS7822-1 *Insulation coordination for equipment within low-voltage systems. Principles, requirements and tests*. While this gives manufacturers greater freedom, it is a major change to the standard. Two new considerations need to be made. The rated impulse voltage must be declared by the manufacturer. This can be ascertained by referring to Annexes E and F which give guidance on overvoltage categories and pollution factor.

Note that in the absence of other information, and to meet the requirements of Clause 2 d), ASTA will expect a Pollution Factor of 2, an Overvoltage Category III and Rated Impulse Voltage of 4000V.

Clauses affected:- 2; 3.21; 3.22; 3.24; 3.25; 3.26; 3.27; 8 (complete) Table 8; Table 9; Annex B, Annex C; Annex D; Annex E; Annex F.

“Snatch” Test

An additional test has been included for non moulded on, non-rewirable plugs to prove that the cover will remain attached in the event of a sudden pull on the cord.

Clauses affected:- 12.6.1 c)

Other changes

The opportunity has been taken to clean and update a selection of clauses. These are:- Clause 4; 9; 10; 11.3; 11.7; 11.7.1; 12.4; 12.7.1, 14.1.1; 14.2.1; 16.1.2; 19.1; 19.1.1, 19.2, 19.4, 20.1.3; 21.3; 23.3 Table 2, Annex A

In general, we would expect current products to comply with the requirements of the new amendment, however this can only be proven by test.

The new amendment is effective immediately, however for certification purposes, we are permitted to use the version with Amendment 1 until **31st December 2005**. There is therefore a 2 year period to confirm products comply with the modified requirement and tests.