



Coms Cabling Regulations & Standards

Published by Australian Cabler Registration Service (ACRS) in the interests of the cabling industry and for the benefit of registration cabler and others that have a need for this information

September 2004

Issue

Regulations by ACA

ACA releases cabling compliance report for 2003-04

The results of ACA monitoring activity in 2003-04 (622 random inspections and 400 audits) indicated that the level of compliance with the cabling requirements is 64 per cent. Compliance decreased slightly in 2003-04 but remains higher than it was in 2001-02.

The major areas of non-compliance are the failure to adequately separate communications cabling from electrical cabling (45 per cent), incorrect placement of cable distributors and record keeping (13 per cent) and the performance of cabling work by unregistered or unsuitably qualified cabling providers (12 per cent).

The ACA's compliance results are generally consistent with the results of a survey the ACA

commissioned to seek the views of cablers on the perceived level of industry compliance with cabling regulation.

Whereas, 55 per cent of cablers surveyed believed that the level of cabling compliance is good or better, 17 per cent believed that the level of cabling compliance is poor.

The ACA expects that improvements in cabling compliance will follow from the positive steps that industry is taking to increase participation and awareness of the industry-developed *Cabling Requirements for Business Code*. The code is an excellent self-regulatory outcome for industry.

The Report identifies a number of strategies to improve the level of cabling compliance, and you are invited to provide feedback by **Friday 1 October 2004**. These strategies include facilitating the development of a skills maintenance program for the cabling industry and promoting greater awareness of industry regulatory arrangements.

A copy of the report is available by contacting the Customer Cabling Team on 03 9963 6823 or by visiting the ACA website www.aca.gov.au.

Cabling audits and inspections undertaken, 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04

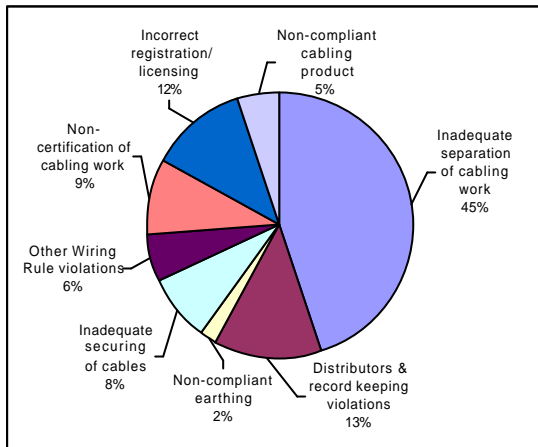
Job details	Number of jobs			Percentage of jobs**		
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Commercial/industrial/campus	n/a	n/a	529	n/a	n/a	52%
Residential jobs	n/a	n/a	492	n/a	n/a	48%
Total	1,268	1,189	1,022	100%	100%	100%
Compliant audits/inspections	725	804	650	57%	68%	64%
Non-compliant audits/inspections	543	385	372	43%	32%	36%
Total sites audited/inspected	1,268	1,189	1,022	100%	100%	100%
Total number of violations*	853	468	533	-	-	-

* There may be more than one violation per non-compliant job.

** Percentages have been rounded off. Note: Comparisons between the years should only be made in percentage terms because of the difference in the number of audits undertaken.

n/a not available.

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Breakdown of violations by violation type in 2003-04

Ask ACA

"I have an overseas trade qualification - how can I become a registered cabler?"

To qualify for registration, all cablers must undertake the appropriate training modules or have their prior cabling qualifications and experience recognised by an accredited assessor.

Your overseas trade qualification can be assessed for recognition in Australia by Trades Recognition Australia (TRA) (www.workplace.gov.au/tra), and may provide full or partial qualification for one of the three cabling registration types (open, restricted or lift). If further training is required following this assessment, it may be undertaken at one of a number of Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) around Australia. More information on training can be found at http://www.aca.gov.au/aca_home/registers/cabling_licences/training.htm.

The ACA has produced brochure providing general information on cabling registration entitled *So you want to be a registered cabler*. This brochure can be found on ACA's website at http://www.aca.gov.au/consumer_info/publications/brochures/newcablerbrochure.pdf.

Technical

By

Milcom Communications P/L

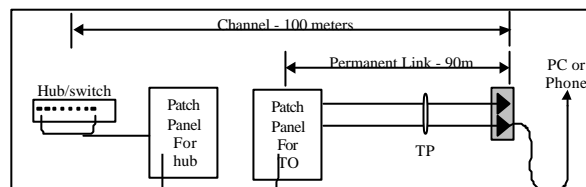
Cat 5 & 5e

In the last Technical issue we identified the main differences and testing requirements between Cat 5 and Cat 5e.

The additional tests required are:

- ◆ Far End Crosstalk (FEXT)
- ◆ Power Sum NEXT
- ◆ Equal Level FEXT (ELFEXT)
- ◆ Skew delay
- ◆ Propagation delay

But before we can look at what each test is doing, we need to look at what we are testing. You've probably heard terms like "link", "Basic Link", "Channel" in relation to what is to be tested and certified. It's important that we all work to the standards and in this case the standard comes from AS3080



The testing needs to be conducted on what is now known as the "Permanent Link". The permanent link consists of the cabling from the Patch Panel to the Telecommunications outlets inclusive of one Transition Point (TP). The TP is used when you are converting from a large cable size to a smaller cable size. For example, a Transition Point would be used when using 25 pair cable from the Patch Panel out toward the Telecommunications Outlets. As the telecommunications outlets require only 4 pair, a Transition Point is installed in the ceiling space to convert from the 25 pair to 4 pair cable.

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