
VDV Recommendation 515 “Cables for Electrical Power Installations of Urban DC Rail Systems and Trolleybus Systems”

Edition 03/2019

VDV Recommendation 515 deals with cables that transfer electrical energy to the equipment of electrical power installations of urban DC rail systems and trolleybus systems or connect this equipment internally.

To achieve high reliability and long useful lives, it is decisive to select the right type of cable, which depends on the field and location of application, and to lay the cables with great care.

Therefore, this VDV Recommendation, which includes information about the various types and characteristics of cables as well as instructions and design examples, is intended for the persons in charge of the planning, laying, operation and maintenance of cables with the public transport companies as well as for companies manufacturing or installing cables and engineering companies planning cable systems.

This new edition of VDV Recommendation 515 supersedes the 2008 edition, which was revised for the following main reasons:

- publishing of Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 laying down harmonised conditions for the marketing of construction products, which also lists power, control and communication cables as product areas in the sense of this Regulation in its Annex IV, Table 1, area code 31,
- consideration of the valuable experience gained at two expert seminars on cables as well as other events organised by the VDV Committee on Electrical Power Installations;
- update of the references to national, European and international standards on electrical cables in collaboration with the German Cable Makers' Association, which is a division of the German Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association (ZVEI).

This VDV Recommendation supersedes VDV Recommendation 515 from 2008.

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