

**NATIONAL REGULATOR FOR COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS ACT  
(Act 5 of 2008)**

**AMENDMENT OF THE COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION FOR  
CORD SETS, INTERCONNECTION CORD SETS AND CORD EXTENSION SETS  
(VC8029)**

I, Dr Rob Davies, the Minister of Trade and Industry, hereby under section 13 (1) (a) of the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act, (Act 5 of 2008), and on the recommendation of the NRCS Board, withdraw the current compulsory specification for cord sets, interconnection cord sets and cord extension sets and replace it with the compulsory specification as set out in the attached Schedule, with effect from the date two (2) months after publication of this notice. The requirements for a Letter of Authority (LOA), as set out in Annex A of the Schedule, shall be effective from the date six (6) months after publication of this notice.



**Dr R Davies MP  
Minister of Trade and Industry**

**VC 8029****COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION FOR CORD SETS, INTERCONNECTION  
CORD SETS AND CORD EXTENSION SETS****1 SCOPE**

- 1.1** This compulsory specification covers the requirements for cord sets, interconnection cord sets and cord extension sets with a rated current not exceeding 16 A and a rated single-phase voltage not exceeding 250 V a.c., intended for household and similar general purpose equipment.
- 1.2** This compulsory specification does not apply to cord sets, interconnection cord sets and cord extension sets for industrial purposes (incorporating plugs, connectors and socket-outlets in accordance with SANS 60309).

**2 DEFINITIONS**

- 2.1** For the purposes of this compulsory specification the definitions in SANS 60799: *Electrical accessories - Cord sets and cord interconnection sets*, and SANS 1661: *Cord extension sets*, shall apply.
- 2.2** In addition, the following definitions shall apply:
- 2.2.1 applicant:** The manufacturer or importer seeking approval of any cord sets, interconnection cord sets, and/or cord extension sets. The applicant shall be an existing legal entity within the Republic of South Africa.
- 2.2.2 approval:** Confirmation by the NRCS that a particular cord set, interconnection cord set, or cord extension set satisfies the requirements of this compulsory specification.

- 2.2.3 conformity of production:** Proof that cord sets, interconnection cord sets, and/or cord extension sets offered for sale have been manufactured to the approved design and continue to comply with the requirements of this compulsory specification.
- 2.2.4 declaration report:** a report, that is issued by an accredited conformity assessment body, indicating the equivalence of products and/or standards.
- 2.2.5 NRCS:** the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications as established by the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act, 2008 (Act No. 5 of 2008).
- 2.2.6 proof of conformity:** documented evidence of conformity with the requirements of this compulsory specification.
- 2.2.7 valid certificate of conformity:** a certified copy of an original certificate of conformity.
- 2.2.8 valid test report:** a certified copy of an original test report.

### **3 REQUIREMENTS**

- 3.1** A cord set or interconnection cord set shall comply with the requirements of SANS 60799.
- 3.2** A plug fitted to a cord set shall comply with the requirements of SANS 164-0: *Plugs and socket-outlet systems for household and similar purposes for use in South Africa - Part 0: General and safety requirements.*
- 3.3** A cord extension set shall comply with the requirements of SANS 1661.
- 3.4** The applicant shall ensure that every type of cord set, interconnection cord set, and/or cord extension set has been approved by the NRCS before offering it for sale, in accordance with the requirements of Annex A.

- 3.5 The applicant shall inform the NRCS of any change in design or materials affecting any mandatory requirement in terms of this compulsory specification. In the event of such change/s the NRCS may, at its discretion, demand that the applicant submit a new application for approval.
- 3.6 The applicant shall, on request, provide the NRCS, within five working days, with satisfactory proof of approval in respect of any cord set, interconnection cord set, and/or cord extension set included in the scope of this compulsory specification.
- 3.7 The applicant shall on request provide the NRCS, within five working days, with satisfactory proof of conformity of production.
- 3.8 Failure to provide such proof shall constitute reasonable grounds for suspicion of non-compliance with the requirements of this compulsory specification.

#### **4 EQUIVALENCE OF STANDARDS**

Standards issued by different standardization bodies such as ISO, IEC and EN, will only be accepted if it is proven, in the form of a declaration report from an accredited conformity assessment body, to be technically equivalent to the relevant South African National Standard. The applicant shall be responsible for obtaining such a declaration report. Proof of conformity with such a standard shall be accepted as conformity with the corresponding South African National Standard.

#### **5 CONFORMITY TO REFERENCED STANDARDS**

- 5.1 For the purposes of this compulsory specification, a new edition of a referenced standard shall become effective six months from the date of publication as a South African National Standard.
- 5.2 New products, or products resubmitted for approval because of a change in design or materials, shall in all cases be evaluated against the requirements of the latest edition of any referenced standard.

- 5.3** When a new edition of a referenced standard is published, products originally approved in accordance with the previous edition of that standard may have their approval extended for up to five years from the effective date of the new standard, subject to the requirements of Annex A, unless declared otherwise by the Minister.

**6 EVIDENCE OF CONFORMITY**

The following forms of evidence shall be submitted to the NRCS as proof of conformity with the requirements of this compulsory specification:

- 6.1** Test reports and certificates in IEC format or any equivalent format acceptable to the NRCS and issued by an appropriately accredited and internationally recognized body being a member of an IAF/ILAC/IECEE mutual recognition scheme in accordance with the NRCS's conformity assessment policy.
- 6.2** The certificates and test reports shall prove conformity with all the applicable mandatory requirements.
- 6.3** Evidence of conformity shall be traceable to the specific type of cord set, interconnection cord set, and/or cord extension set.

## **ANNEX A - APPROVAL OF CORD SETS, CORD EXTENSION SETS AND/OR INTERCONNECTION CORD SETS**

### **A.1 APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL**

An application for approval of each type of cord set, interconnection cord set, and/or cord extension set intended for sale shall include:

**A.1.1** Details of the type of cord set, interconnection cord set, and/or cord extension set for which approval is sought and the standard/s to which it is claimed to conform;

**A.1.2** Details of the manufacturing plant/s in which the cord set, interconnection cord set, and/or cord extension set is produced;

**A.1.3** For new applications, proof of conformity, with all the requirements of this compulsory specification, issued less than 36 months before the date of submission to the NRCS;

**A.1.4** On expiry of the approval, an application for an extension may be granted, provided that all the conditions of the previous approval were met. In this case, proof of compliance, with all the requirements of the relevant compulsory specification, issued less than 60 months before the date of submission to the NRCS, shall be required;

**A.1.5** Identification markings and other information appearing on the product; and

**A.1.6** Any reasonable additional information as may be requested by the NRCS.

### **A.2 APPROVAL**

**A.2.1** The NRCS shall assess the evidence of conformity supplied by the applicant and shall decide to grant approval or not, at its sole discretion.

**A.2.2** The NRCS shall assign a unique number to each approval.

**A.2.3** The NRCS shall issue a letter of authority certificate (LOA) for each successful application, to the applicant, when all the requirements have been met. The validity period of an LOA shall be three years and two years for an extension.

**A.2.4** The approval granted with respect to cord sets, interconnection cord sets, and/or cord extension sets pursuant to this compulsory specification may be withdrawn at any time, after the manufacturer has been notified in writing, if the requirements have not been met or maintained.

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