

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES' CABLE CLEANING SOLVENT SPECIFICATIONS

1.0 SCOPE

This specification covers the criteria and properties required for the proper selection of cable cleaning solvents for use on medium voltage electrical cables and components. The specification does not address safe work methods for the use of cable cleaning solvents. Acceptable products must not present health or fire risks to users.

2.0 FLASHPOINT & FLAMABILITY

Acceptable cable cleaning solvents must have a closed-cup flashpoint greater than 140 degrees Fahrenheit. Flammable solvents are permitted only when appropriate measures can be taken to mitigate the risk of fire. Flammable propellants in aerosol cans are not acceptable.

3.0 COMPATIBILITY

Cleaners must not degrade the cable properties or splice/termination components. The solvent manufacturer must provide compatibility statements from cable and cable accessory manufacturers.

4.0 EVAPORATION RATE

Evaporation rate is recommended to be greater than or equal to 0.10 (assuming n-Butyl Acetate = 1.0). If less than 0.10, longer drying times and/or additional drying steps may be required; manufacturer's procedures should be followed to ensure proper use of cleaner. Product must not leave any residue after evaporation.

5.0 DIELECTRIC STRENGTH

For safety purposes and to prevent arcing or tracking, the dielectric strength of the cable cleaner must be greater than or equal to 10,000 volts without breakdown as measured per ASTM Test Method D877 (latest version).

6.0 CLEANING EFFECTIVENESS

The cable cleaner must be an effective solvent in cleaning semi-conducting particles, grease, dust and other residue from medium voltage cables and splice/termination components.

7.0 EMPLOYEE EXPOSURE LEVELS

Employee permissible exposure levels as established by ACGIH and OSHA must not be exceeded.

8.0 TOXICITY

Solvents considered by OSHA to be carcinogenic may be used only after giving proper consideration to SDS risk communication and recommended exposure controls. Products defined as hazardous by OSHA should be handled and disposed of as per the manufacturers' instructions and in accordance with all federal, state and local regulations. Citrus based cleaners such as d'limonene and terpenes are not permitted.

9.0 PACKAGING

The Vendor/Supplier must furnish a current SDS (MSDS) with each order and must supply an updated SDS within 30 days of any revisions. A shelf life of at least 24 months is recommended (shorter shelf lives are acceptable but could be less practical). The Product should be used within the manufacturers' recommended useful shelf life. Cable cleaner solvents must be packaged in a solvent proof container in one of the following formats:

- A. An individual prepackaged non-linting saturated solvent wipe
- B. A tandem pack that includes a saturated solvent wipe and a separate non-linting towelette
- C. Aerosol can (propellant shall not be an environmental hazard or flammable)
- D. Non-aerosol solvent proof pump spray bottle
- E. Other Solvent Proof Container (Bulk)

NOTE: If the solvent is purchased in bulk, the container in which the solvent is transferred into needs to be properly labeled and solvent proof.