

## **Cable and Drum Handling**

**BS8512:2008** is a Code of practice for the storage, handling, installation and disposal of cables on wooden drums. This standard was written to provide guidance on how to handle cables from point of manufacture to point of installation.

Cables supplied by Prysmian group are wound onto either a metal or more commonly, a wooden drum. Wooden battens are fitted across the drum flanges. The wood used in the drum construction contains a preservative to ensure long life.

For long term storage, we would advise the following:

- 1) The cable drums should be mounted on a suitably drained hard standing
- 2) The cable ends should remain sealed to prevent the ingress of moisture.
- 3) The wooden drum batons should remain fixed to the drum to shield the cable sheath from excessive temperatures and UV light. Damaged wooden batons should be replaced.
- 4) The drums should be stored vertically i.e. not laid on the drum flange, with wedges to prevent movement (rolling) of the flanges.
- 5) If the cable is stored at a temperature lower than recommended for installation in the relevant cable standard, it should not be subjected to any mechanical stress such as bending, impact etc.
- 6) A system of regular inspection is important. If the drum has become damaged, the cable should be rewound onto a replacement drum.
- 7) We would recommend the drum is rotated by 90° every six months
- 8) The cable drum label should remain fixed to the drum.

For cables manufactured to the **BS 7870** (DNO) suite of standards, Prysmian support the Guide to Use given in **Annex A of BS 7870-1** along with the specific Annex A in each part of **BS 7870-3.40; - 3.50; 4.10; 4.11 or 4.20** relating to those particular cables.

The Guide to Use document covers amongst other things:-

1. System Categories
2. Storage & Transport
3. Minimum drum barrel diameter
4. Handling, Winding and Rewinding of drums
5. Installation route and operating conditions
6. Preparation of cable route
7. Cable fixing
8. Minimum installation temperatures
9. Bending radii
10. Pulling Force
11. Prevention of moisture ingress
12. After Installation testing