

Ex Industries

BS5308 cables are the most popular cables we sell. They may be the most used instrumentation cables for IEC/ATEX applications in the world.

The most common problems we see in the specifications we receive from our customers are described here. Hopefully this information will help you sort out the differences with your customers.

1. BS5308 cables are a British Standard. Like any manufacturing standard it tells how the cables are to be manufactured.
2. The BS5308 that are stocked in the UK for our consumption are made for the most part based on and adhere this standard.
3. The most common exception is BS5308 cables made with XLPE insulation. These cables are often available even though the standard is for either a polyethylene or PVC insulation.
4. Conductor color cores. This is the most problematic specification we see. (in all cable types). There are standard colors that the BS5308 specifications indicate and these are what are available from stock. **PERIOD!!!** The most common incorrect call out we see is BS5308 cables that are Black/White and numbered and this is just not normally available from stock. Your customer needs to understand that if they cannot deviate from this, the cable has to be custom made with anywhere from a 1500 to 5000 meter minimum and lead times in excess of 10 weeks.
5. Voltage. This is the second most difficult area. BS5308 cables are available in 300/500 volts. We often see specifications asking for 600/1000V. This higher voltage is very common the North American cables but is very rare in IEC cables and again, we just cannot get it from stock.