



UL 2250

STANDARD FOR SAFETY

Instrumentation Tray Cable

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UL Standard for Safety for Instrumentation Tray Cable, UL 2250

Third Edition, Dated March 30, 2017

SUMMARY OF TOPICS

This revision of ANSI/UL 2250 dated March 30, 2022 includes the introduction of optional suffixes HF, LSHF and ST1 and deletion of LS; [29.1](#), [35.4.1](#), [42.1](#)

Text that has been changed in any manner or impacted by UL's electronic publishing system is marked with a vertical line in the margin.

The new and revised requirements are substantially in accordance with Proposal(s) on this subject dated November 5, 2021 and February 11, 2022.

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1

UL 2250

Standard for Instrumentation Tray Cable

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Second Edition – April, 2006

Third Edition

March 30, 2017

This ANSI/UL Standard for Safety consists of the Third Edition including revisions through March 30, 2022.

The most recent designation of ANSI/UL 2250 as an American National Standard (ANSI) occurred on March 30, 2022. ANSI approval for a standard does not include the Cover Page, Transmittal Pages, and Title Page.

Comments or proposals for revisions on any part of the Standard may be submitted to UL at any time. Proposals should be submitted via a Proposal Request in UL's On-Line Collaborative Standards Development System (CSDS) at <https://csds.ul.com>.

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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

1	Scope	5
2	Units of Measurement	6
3	References	6

CONSTRUCTION

4	Materials	6
5	Conductors	6
6	Size, Temper, and Assembly	6
7	Conductor Diameter and Cross-Sectional Area	6
8	Metal Coating	7
9	Separator	7
10	Joints	7
11	Resistance	7
12	Stranding	8
13	Insulation	9
	13.1 Material and application	9
	13.2 Properties	11
	13.3 Thicknesses	11
	13.4 Individual covering	13
14	Optical-Fiber Member(s)	14
15	Assembly	14
	15.1 Optical-fiber member(s)	14
	15.2 Circuit and grounding conductors	14
	15.3 Fillers	15
	15.4 Binders	16
	15.5 Shield	16
16	Overall Jacket	16
	16.1 Material and application	16
	16.2 Properties	18
	16.3 Thicknesses	18
17	Metal Covering	19
	17.1 General	19
	17.2 Smooth metal sheath	20
	17.3 Welded and corrugated metal sheath	21
	17.4 Extruded and corrugated metal sheath	21
	17.5 Interlocked armor	21
18	Jacket over Metal Covering	22

PERFORMANCE

19	Continuity Test of Conductors	23
20	Heat Shock and Flexibility Tests	23
	20.1 Heat shock	23
	20.2 Flexibility test	25
21	Deformation Test	25
22	Cold Bend Test of Insulation	26
23	Cold Bend Test of Complete Cable	27
24	Spark Test after Insulating	28
25	Dielectric Voltage-Withstand Test	29
26	Insulation Resistance Test at 60.0°F (15.6°C)	29

27	Test Procedure for Determining the Multiplying-Factor Column for Adjusting Insulation Resistance	31
28	Long Term Insulation-Resistance Test in Water	33
29	Sunlight Resistance Test	34
30	Crushing Test for Cable Marked for Direct Burial	34
31	Water Absorption Test of Insulation in Direct-Burial Cable	35
32	Impact Test for Type ITC Cable Marked "-ER"	35
33	Crushing Test for Type ITC Cable Marked "-ER"	37
34	Changes in Construction	38
35	Vertical-Tray Flame Tests on Cables	38
	35.1 General	38
	35.2 UL test	38
	35.3 FT4/IEEE 1202 test	39
	35.4 Vertical-tray fire and smoke-release test for cables with "-ST1" marking	39
36	Copper Sulphate Test of Zinc Coating on Steel Strip for and from Interlocked Steel Armor	39
37	Tension Test of Interlocked Armor	41
38	Flexibility Test for Cable Having Interlocked Armor or a Smooth or Corrugated Metal Sheath	43
39	Durability Test of Ink Printing	45

MARKINGS

40	Intervals	45
41	Coding	45
42	Information on or in the Cable	45
43	Information on the Tag, Reel, or Carton	48
44	Multiple Markings	48
45	Date of Manufacture	49

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INTRODUCTION

1 Scope

1.1 These requirements cover Type ITC instrumentation control cables consisting of two or more current-carrying copper or thermocouple alloy conductors with or without either or both:

- a) Grounding conductor(s), bare or insulated, and
- b) One or more optical-fiber members, all under an overall jacket.

These electrical and composite electrical/optical-fiber cables are intended for use (optical and electrical functions associated in the case of a hybrid cable) on circuits rated 150 V or less and 5 A or less in accordance with Article 727 and other applicable parts of the National Electrical Code (NEC).

1.2 These cables are rated 300 V but are not so marked. Cables for direct-burial are so marked. Jacketed Type ITC cables comply with one of the following 70,000 Btu/h (20.5 kW) vertical-tray flame tests:

- a) The UL test referenced in [35.2.1](#) – [35.2.2](#) of these requirements. These paragraphs apply the test method described as the UL Flame Exposure (smoke measurements are not applicable) in the Standard for Vertical-Tray Fire-Propagation and Smoke-Release Test for Electrical and Optical-Fiber Cables, UL 1685.
- b) The FT4/IEEE 1202 test referenced in [35.3.1](#) of these requirements. This paragraph applies the test method described as the FT4/IEEE 1202 Type of Flame Exposure (smoke measurements are not applicable) in UL 1685.
- c) For limited-smoke cable, either the UL test or the FT4/IEEE 1202 test referenced in [35.4.1](#) and [35.4.2](#) of these requirements. These paragraphs apply the test methods described in UL 1685 with smoke measurements included.

1.3 A cable that contains one or more electromagnetic shields may be surface marked or have a marker tape to indicate that it is "shielded". A cable that contains one or more optical-fiber members has "-OF" supplementing the type letters and is limited (see [14.3](#)) to carrying optical energy that has been ruled not hazardous to the human body.

1.4 All Type ITC cables qualify for exposure to sunlight (a 720-hour sunlight-resistance test is required – see [29.1](#)). A marking is not required; however, where used, the marking consists of "sun res" or "sunlight resistant" on the tag and either on the overall cable jacket or legible through the jacket [see [42.1](#)(i)].

1.5 These cables may have a metal sheath or armor over the required non/metallic jacket.

1.6 These requirements do not cover the optical or other performance of any optical-fiber member or group of such members.

1.7 The overall jacket on Type ITC cable is a "gas/vaportight continuous sheath" in the sense discussed in Sections 501.15 (D) and 501.15 (E) of the National Electrical Code, ANSI/NFPA 70, (see [16.1.1](#)).

1.8 Cables that are surface marked "-ER" are for use as exposed runs of not more than 50 ft (15.2 m) between a cable tray and equipment where the cables are supported and secured every 6 ft (1.8 m).

2 Units of Measurement

2.1 In addition to being stated in the inch/pound units that are customary in the USA, each of the requirements in this Standard is also stated in units that make the requirement conveniently usable in countries employing the various metric systems (practical SI and customary). Equivalent – although not necessarily exactly identical – results are to be expected from applying a requirement in USA or metric terms. Equipment calibrated in metric units is to be used when a requirement is applied in metric terms.

3 References

3.1 Wherever the designation "UL 1581" is used in this Standard, reference is to be made to the designated part(s) of the Reference Standard for Electrical Wires, Cables, and Flexible Cords, UL 1581.

CONSTRUCTION

4 Materials

4.1 Each material used in a cable shall be compatible with all of the other materials used in the cable.

4.2 Instrumentation tray cable shall comply in all respects with the applicable requirements for construction details, test performance, and markings.

5 Conductors

5.1 The conductors shall be of soft-annealed copper or thermocouple alloy. Soft-annealed copper shall comply with ASTM B3. A metal coating that is provided on soft-annealed copper, in compliance with Section 8 shall be of tin complying with ASTM B33, of a tin/lead alloy complying with ASTM B189, of nickel complying with ASTM B355, of silver complying with ASTM B298 or of another metal or alloy (evaluation required). Thermocouple alloys are not specified.

5.2 Each conductor shall be continuous throughout the entire length of the finished cable – see test in [19.1](#) and [19.2](#).

6 Size, Temper, and Assembly

6.1 Conductors shall be solid or stranded 22 – 12 AWG copper or solid size 22 – 12 AWG thermocouple alloy. The sizes of thermocouple-extension wire are nominal and are intended only for use in the cable marking that is described in [42.1](#)(g). The conductor in a thermocouple-extension wire is not required to comply with a diameter or resistance value.

7 Conductor Diameter and Cross-Sectional Area

7.1 The diameter of a solid conductor shall not be smaller than indicated in Table 20.1 of UL 1581 when determined as described in 200.1 and 200.2 of UL 1581. The cross-sectional area of a stranded conductor shall not be smaller than indicated in the 0.98X nominal column Table 20.1 of UL 1581 when determined as required in [7.2](#).

7.2 The cross-sectional area of a stranded conductor is to be determined either:

- a) As the sum of the areas of its component strands, or
- b) By the weight method outlined in 210.1 – 210.4 of UL 1581.