

No. 1067

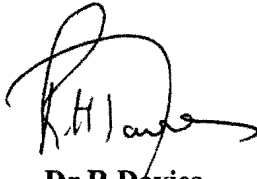
13 November 2009

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

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF THE COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION FOR
APPLIANCE COUPLERS FOR HOUSEHOLD AND SIMILAR PURPOSES
(VC 8012)**

It is hereby made known under section 13(4) of the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act, (Act 5 of 2008), that the Minister of Trade and Industry, on the recommendation of the NRCS Board, intends to amend the compulsory specification for *Appliance Couplers for Household and Similar Purposes*, as set out in the attached Schedule.

Any person, who wishes to comment on the intention of the Minister to thus amend the Compulsory Specification concerned, shall submit their comments, in writing, to the Chief Executive Officer, National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications, Private Bag X25, Brooklyn, 0075, on or before the date two (2) months after the publication of this notice.



Dr R Davies
Minister of Trade and Industry

SCHEDULE

VC 8012

COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION FOR APPLIANCE COUPLERS FOR HOUSEHOLD AND SIMILAR GENERAL PURPOSES

1 SCOPE

This specification covers the safety requirements for *Appliance couplers for household and similar general purposes* intended for the connection of single or 3 – phase cords to electrical appliances or other light industrial equipment operating at a low voltage mains supply conforming to the standard applicable in the Republic of South Africa i.e. 230 V +/- 10% single phase a.c., or 400 V +/- 10% three phase a.c.

Note: In this compulsory specification the term "Appliance coupler" means *Appliance coupler for household and similar general purposes*.

2 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this compulsory specification, the following definitions apply:

- 2.1 Appliance coupler: The definition in Clause 3.1 of SANS 60320-1 shall apply.
- 2.2 Applicant: The manufacturer or importer, manufacturer or importer seeking approval of Appliance couplers. The applicant shall be an established legal entity within the Republic of South Africa.
- 2.3 Regulator: The body appointed by the Minister to administer Compulsory Specifications.
- 2.4 Proof of conformity: Documented evidence of conformity with the requirements of this compulsory specification.

- 2.5 **Conformity of production:** Proof that Appliance couplers offered for sale have been manufactured to the approved design and continue to comply with the requirements of this compulsory specification.
- 2.6 **Valid certificate of conformity:** Authentic copy of an original certificate of conformity.
- 2.7 **Valid test report:** Authentic copy of an original test report.
- 2.8 **Declaration report:** Authentic report, that is issued by an accredited conformity assessment body, indicating the equivalence of products and/or standards.

3 REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 Appliance couplers shall comply with the safety requirements of SANS 60320-1 (IEC 60320-1) *Appliance couplers for household and similar general purposes Part1: General requirements*, together with the applicable safety requirements of the relevant Part 2, if any.
- 3.2 The applicant shall ensure that every type and model of appliance coupler has been approved by the Regulator before offering it for sale, in accordance with the requirements of Annexure A.
- 3.3 The applicant shall inform the Regulator of any change in design or components affecting any mandatory requirement in terms of this compulsory specification. In the event of such change/s the Regulator may, at its discretion, demand the submission of fresh evidence of conformity or a new application for approval.
- 3.4 The applicant shall on request provide the Regulator within 2 working days with satisfactory proof of approval in respect of any Appliance coupler included in the scope of this compulsory specification.
- 3.5 The applicant shall on request provide the Regulator within 5 working days with satisfactory proof of conformity of production.

3.6 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 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 REFERRED STANDARDS

5.1 For the purposes of this compulsory specification, a new edition of a referred standard shall become effective 2 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 referred to standard is published, approvals of products in accordance with the previous edition(s) of that/those standard(s), shall remain valid for five years, unless declared, otherwise, by the Minister.

6 EVIDENCE OF CONFORMITY

The following alternative forms of evidence shall be submitted to the Regulator 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 Regulator 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 Regulator's conformity assessment policy
- 6.2 The certificate or test report shall prove conformity with all the applicable mandatory requirements.
- 6.3 Evidence of conformity shall be traceable to the specific model and type of Appliance coupler in question.

ANNEX A - APPROVAL OF APPLIANCE COUPLERS

1 APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL

An application for approval of each type of appliance coupler intended for sale shall include:

- 1.1 Details of the type of appliance coupler for which approval is sought and the standard/s to which it is claimed to conform;
- 1.2 Details of the manufacturing plant/s in which the appliance coupler is produced;
- 1.3 For new applications, proof of conformity, with all the requirements of the relevant compulsory specification, issued less than 36 months before the date of submission to the Regulator;
- 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 Regulator, shall be required.
- 1.5 Identification markings and other information appearing on the product.
- 1.6 Any reasonable additional information as may be requested by the Regulator.

2 APPROVAL

- 2.1 The Regulator shall assess the evidence of conformity supplied by the applicant and shall decide to grant approval or not, at its sole discretion.
- 2.2 The Regulator shall assign a unique number to each approval.
- 2.3 The Regulator 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 3 years and 2 years for an extension.
- 2.4 The approval granted in respect of appliance couplers pursuant to this compulsory specification may be withdrawn at any time, without prior notice, if the requirements have not been met or maintained.