

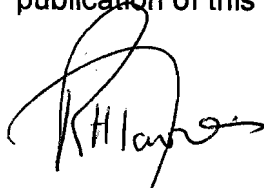
No. R. 1077

19 November 2010

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

**AMENDMENT OF COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION FOR
APPLIANCE COUPLERS
(VC 8012)**

I, Dr Rob Davies, the Minister of Trade and Industry, hereby under section 13 (1) (a) of the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act, (Act 5 of 2008), and on the recommendation of the NRCS Board, withdraw the Compulsory Specification for *Appliance couplers*, and replace it with the Compulsory Specification as set out in the attached Schedule, with effect from the date two months after publication of this notice. The requirements for an LOA, as set out in Annex A of the Schedule, shall be effective from the date six months after publication of this notice.



Dr Rob Davies, MP

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 ac., or 400 V +/- 10% three phase ac.

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

2 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this compulsory specification, the definitions in SANS 60320-1: *Appliance couplers for household and similar general purposes Part1: General requirements*, shall apply. In addition, the following definitions shall apply:

2.1 applicant: The manufacturer or importer seeking approval of plugs or socket-outlets or socket-outlet adaptors. The applicant shall be an existing legal entity within the Republic of South Africa;

2.2 approval: Confirmation by the NRCS that a particular appliance coupler satisfies the requirements of this compulsory specification;

2.3 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;

2.4 declaration report: A report, that is issued by an accredited conformity assessment body, indicating the equivalence of products and/or standards;

2.5 NRCS: The National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications as established by the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act, 2008 (Act No. 5 of 2008);

2.6 proof of conformity: Documented evidence of conformity with the requirements of this compulsory specification;

2.7 valid certificate of conformity: A certified copy of an original certificate of conformity;

2.8 valid test report: A certified copy of an original test report.

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 NRCS before offering it for sale, in accordance with the requirements of Annex A.

3.3 The applicant shall inform the NRCS 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 NRCS 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 NRCS within five 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 NRCS 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 REFERENCED STANDARDS

5.1 For the purposes of this compulsory specification, a new edition of a referenced standard shall become effective six 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 referenced standard is published, products originally approved in accordance with the previous edition of that standard may have their approval extended for up to five years from the effective date of the new standard, subject to the requirements of Annex A, unless declared otherwise by the Minister.

6 EVIDENCE OF CONFORMITY

The following alternative forms of evidence shall be submitted to the NRCS 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 NRCS 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 NRCS 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

A.1 APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL

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

A.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;

A.1.2 Details of the manufacturing plant/s in which each type of appliance coupler is produced;

A.1.3 For new applications, proof of conformity, with all the requirements of this compulsory specification, issued less than 36 months before the date of submission to the NRCS;

A.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 NRCS, shall be required;

A.1.5 Identification markings and other information appearing on the product; and

A.1.6 Any reasonable additional information as may be requested by the NRCS.

A.2 APPROVAL

A.2.1 The NRCS shall assess the evidence of conformity supplied by the applicant and shall decide to grant approval or not, at its sole discretion.

A.2.2 The NRCS shall assign a unique number to each approval.

A.2.3 The NRCS 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 three years and two years for an extension.

A.2.4 The approval granted with respect to each type of appliance coupler that is pursuant to this compulsory specification may be withdrawn at any time, after the manufacturer has been notified in writing, if the requirements have not been met or maintained.