

Innovators - Developers - Manufacturers
Passive Fire Prevention Products



Envirograf®
Protecting the irreplaceable

Guide to Amendment 3



Guide

How to comply with Amendment 3 (regarding Consumer Units)



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Complying with new Amendment 3 of the IET 17th edition wiring regulations

WHAT ARE THEY ABOUT?

As of the 1st of July 2015, Amendment 3 to BS7671:2008 Requirements for Electrical Installation (IET Wiring Regulation) came into effect, outlining a new set of regulations which affect all of the consumer units put in new builds in the UK.

The amendment says:

"Within domestic (household) premises, consumer units and similar switchgear assemblies shall comply with BS EN 61439-3 and shall:

- I. Have their enclosures manufactured from non-combustive material, or**
- II. Be enclosed in a cabinet or enclosure constructed of non-combustible material and complying with regulation 132.12."**

What this means for you

Following numerous reports from fire investigators concerning the increasing number of fires centred around electrical consumer units with moulded thermoplastic enclosures, Regulation 421.1.201 was introduced.

The intent of Regulation 421.1.201 is the containment of any fire starting within the enclosure or cabinet, minimising the escape of flames as far as is reasonably practicable.

For domestic new builds, this translates to a choice between installing an enclosure manufactured from non-combustible materials around combustible consumer units (or similar switchgear assemblies), or installing more expensive units made from non-combustible materials. In real terms, the former is the more economical option, saving money whilst still meeting the requirements of Regulation 421.1.201.

PVC Consumer unit



During an indicative fire test the unit started to burn very vigorously which resulted in a thick black smoke.



Envirograf® Metal Consumer Unit Cover

The Envirograf® product range includes metal enclosures for plastic consumer units, as well as fireproof linings for cable entries on non-combustible units

Metal Consumer Unit Enclosure for plastic CU to comply with Amendment 3 of BS 7671 : 2008



ECU Cover



Electrical Fire Protection Units for plastic consumer units & distribution boards.

Plastic units have always been a fire hazard, as normally they are placed in escape routes in flats, houses and intakes etc. Overloading of cables and fuses can cause overheating, leading to fires which can easily spread out of control.

Envirograf® ECU units are made in different sizes to suit your consumer unit & distribution board. Around the unit is a red band of cloth housing intumescent that can be cut with a sharp knife to accommodate cables, conduits and trunking which are already fitted to your units, forming a complete fire seal barrier.

The units are lined with Envirograf® fireproof paper covered with a PVC material. This product is essential in preventing fire damage and, more importantly, in allowing time to evacuate the building, saving lives.



The unit fitted over existing trunking



Can be easily opened and closed when necessary



Fire rated linings for sealing cable entries to metal consumer units

WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

The intent of Regulation 421.1.201 is considered to be, as far as is reasonably practicable, to contain any fire within the enclosure or cabinet and to minimise the escape of flames, and this is as true of metal consumer units as it is of plastic ones.

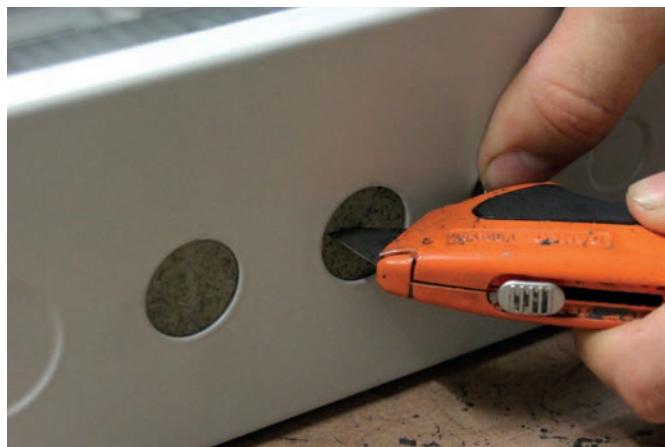
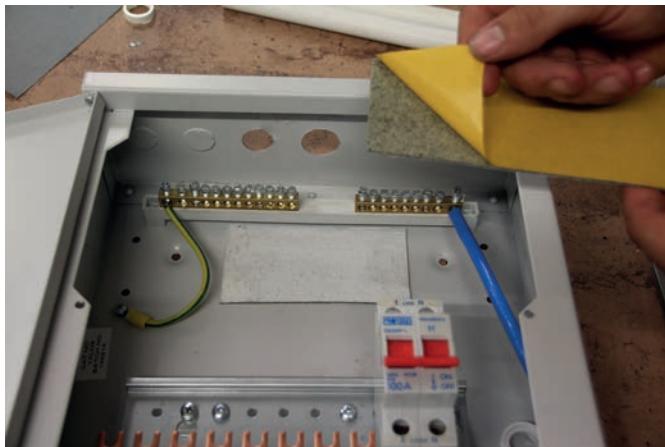
Envirograf® manufactures a range of intumescent linings, which in the event of a fire will seal up the weak points of non-combustible consumer units (cable entries, for example), containing the fire within the non-combustible box.



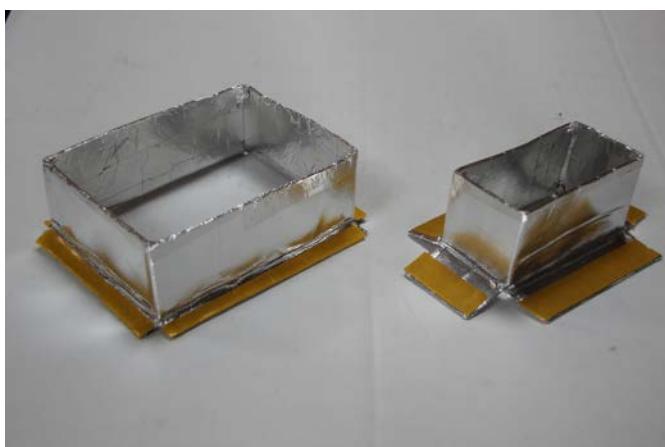
Back Entry Intumescent liner (SCU/B)



Top and bottom cable entry lining (SCU)



Hollow wall back entry sleeve (SCU/S)

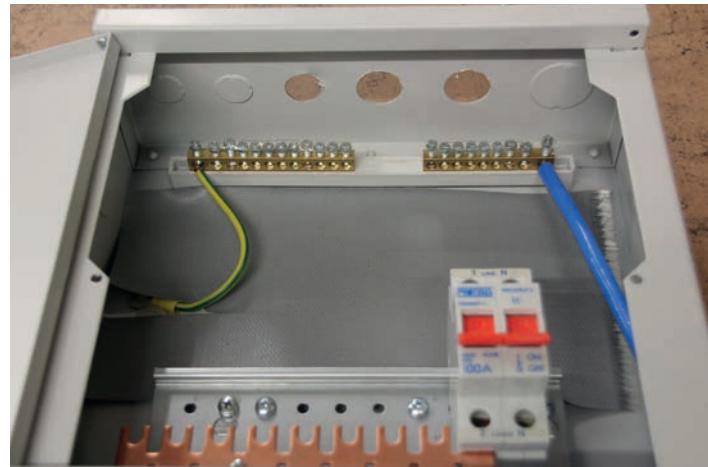


Insulation liner for metal consumer unit to prevent loose cabling causing the unit to become live

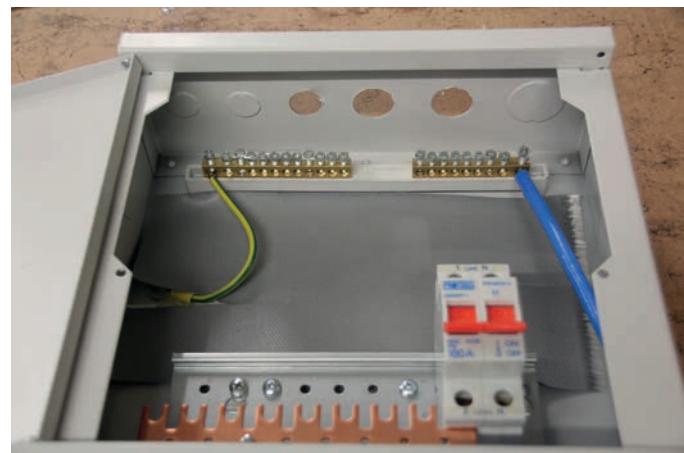
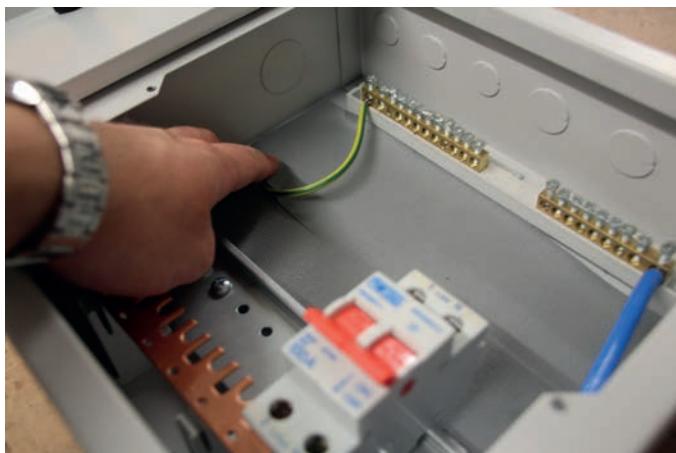
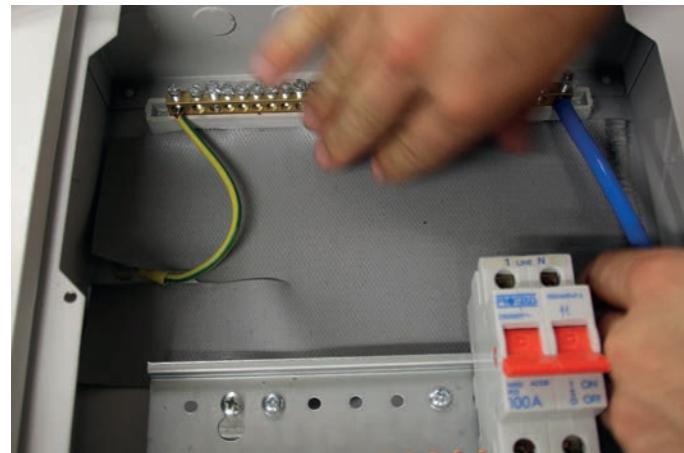
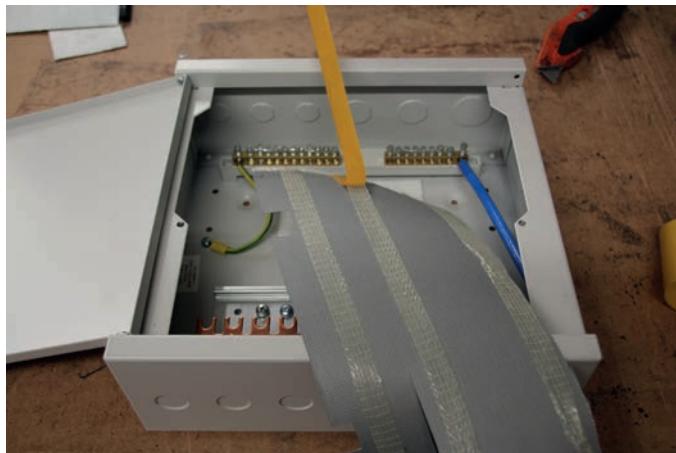
WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Metal consumer units pose a great risk of becoming live due to overheated cables loosening up and touching the box, which hasn't been properly earthed. Therefore there is a need for an insulation material to be placed inside the unit to prevent this from happening.

Envirograf® insulation liners consist of a silicone cloth material which should be fitted to the back of the unit using the attached double sided tape.



Insulation liner for metal consumer units (SLM)



EnviroBurst Automatic Fire Suppression System

WHY YOU SHOULD USE ONE?

Could you be without your consumer unit, distribution or switch fuse & board for days or hours?

EnviroBurst can immediately put out the fire, causing virtually no damage.

EnviroBurst Automatic Fire Suppression System consists of a sealed thermoplastic tube which will begin to soften when exposed to high temperatures. Once the fire reaches 70°C the tube will burst, releasing a liquid extinguishant into the heart of the fire.



EnviroBurst extinguishing the flames

The system is ideal for protecting enclosed areas which pose a high risk of igniting, such as distribution boards or consumer units which can be prone to overheating. It is compact and lightweight, meaning it is easily adaptable to a wide range of purposes. The unit is designed to extinguish fires in the early stages, meaning that in many cases the consumer unit, as well as the wiring, will take only minimal damage and will not need replacing.



Fixing instructions

The tube units are supplied with fixing clips, nuts and bolts. Fixings should be placed about 30-40mm from both ends.

Take off the lid, drill 2 holes near the top. Fit the clips around the tube & bolt to the inside of the lid. Refit the lid back.

Most standard consumer units up to 250mm wide will only require **EBU1**. For larger distribution boards, use **EBU2** (300mm wide) or **EBU3** (505mm wide).

This is the quickest and safest way of stopping a fire in consumer units.

Specifications and Prices



Electrical Consumer Unit Metal Cover

ECU2	340mm	480mm	180mm	internal	£236.08
ECU3	580mm	280mm	180mm	internal	£246.24
ECU4	390mm	280mm	180mm	internal	£227.39
ECU5	330mm	260mm	130mm	internal	£206.56
ECU6	410mm	245mm	140mm	internal	£204.92



Intumescent Strip for metal consumer unit protecting the back of the box

SCU/B1	100mm x 60mm	£2.50 each
SCU/B2	150mm x 60mm	£3.00 each
SCU/B3	150mm x 100mm	£3.42 each



Intumescent Strip for metal consumer unit protecting the top and bottom of the box

SCU1	300mm x 50mm	£2.00 each
SCU2	300mm x 75mm	£3.00 each



Hollow wall back entry sleeve

SCU/S1	105mm x 85mm x 40mm deep	£4.20 each
SCU/S2	85mm x 40mm x 40mm deep	£3.60 each



Lining for metal consumer unit

SLM1	100mm x 300mm	£2.41 each
SLM2	150mm x 300mm	£2.62 each
SLM3	100mm x 400mm	£2.82 each
SLM4	200mm x 300mm	£3.20 each



EnviroBurst fire suppression system

EBU1	195mm long	£11.19
EBU2	300mm long	£15.99
EBU3	505mm long	£21.67