



TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

BULLETIN

No. 106
February 2014

Applications for Metal-Clad Cable Type MC and NEMA WC-70 Metal-Clad Cable

The purpose of this Bulletin is to explain the different applications for Metal-Clad Cable Type MC manufactured in accordance with UL 1569 Standard for Metal-Clad Cables and NEMA WC 70 manufactured in accordance with NEMA WC 70/ICEA S-95-658 Standard for Power Cables Rated 2000 Volts or Less for the Distribution of Electric Energy.

Metal-Clad Cables Type MC are designed, manufactured, tested and certified in accordance with UL Standard UL 1569 and are intended for use in accordance with the National Electrical Code (NEC®) Article 330 and other applicable parts of the NEC.

NEMA Standards Publication WC 70 was originally an Insulated Power Cable Engineers Association Standard (IPCEA later ICEA) designated ICEA S-95-658. The cable designs covered by this Standard are intended for use where the application of the cable and its installation are engineered and are not required to comply with the NEC.

The NEMA WC 70/ICEA S-95-658 Standard is a prescriptive standard, whereas the UL 1569 Standard is a performance-based standard. The manufacturers of Metal-Clad Cable type MC manufacture and list their products in accordance with the UL 1569 Standard. These cables may be used anywhere they are permitted by the NEC.

Whereas the NEC directs where and how Metal-Clad Cable Type MC is used, installed and electrically loaded (allowable ampacity), NEMA WC 70 Metal-Clad Cables are intended for use in accordance with engineered installation specifications.

Although there are products on the market that will meet both UL 1569 and NEMA WC 70 requirements, because of the differences in end use application, commercially available Metal-Clad Cable Type MC typically does not comply with the requirements for NEMA WC 70/ICEA S-95-658.

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