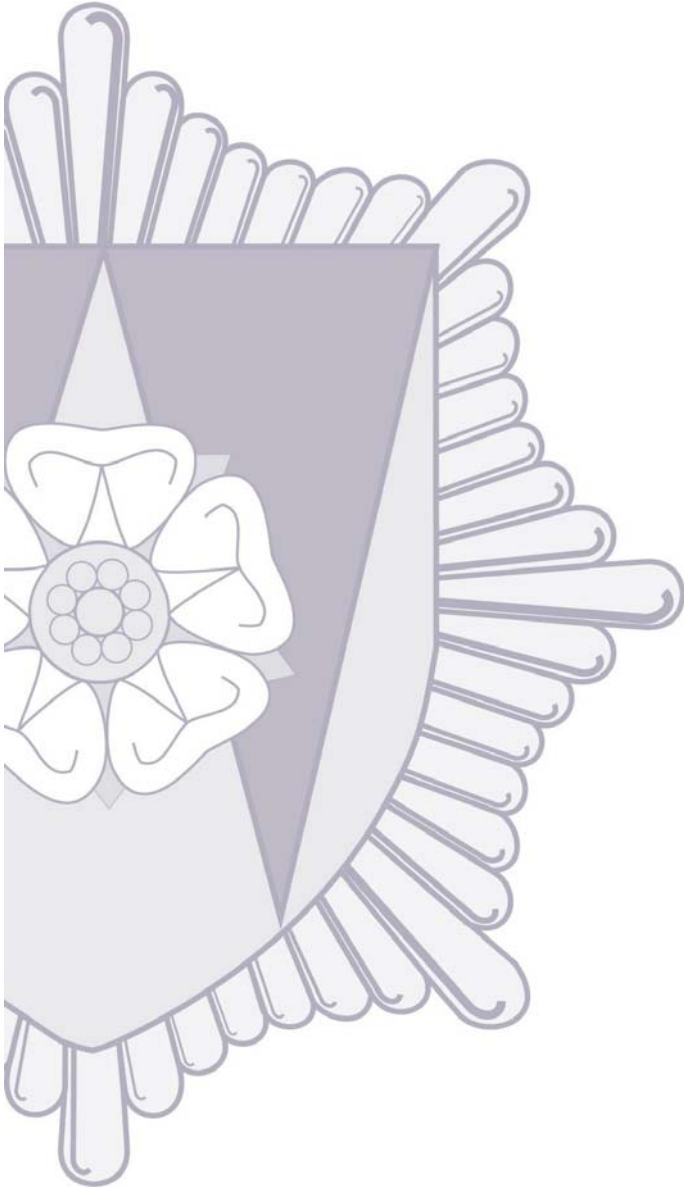


West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service

Fire Safety - Information Note FS-INF015

(Previously Supplementary Information Note No 2)

Earthing Systems



Date Reviewed:

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www.westyorkshire.gov.uk

PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING

West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service – Information Note FS-INF015

Earthing systems are often referred to by electrical contractors in various terms, either in words or by abbreviation.

To assist Officers collating the return of electrical test certificates (571) for systems not complying with HS(G)41, the various methods of earthing are detailed below.

EARTHING ARRANGEMENTS

1. TN-S system (also known as Cable Sheath)

For a TNS system, means shall be provided for the main earthing terminal of the installation to be connected to the earthed point of the source of energy. Part of the connection may be formed by the supplier's lines and equipment.

Acceptable to HS(G)41 (clause 217).

2. TN-C-S system (also known as PME)

For a TNCS system, where Protective Multiple Earthing is provided, means shall be provided for the main earthing terminal of the installation to be connected by the supplier to the neutral of the source of energy.

Not acceptable to HS(G)41 (clause 218).

NB

This system superseded the TNS (cable sheath) method and is used to supply a great number of filling stations in the West Yorkshire Fire Authority area.

3. TT or IT (on site isolating transformer) system

For a TT or IT system, the main earthing terminal shall be connected via an earthing conductor to an earth electrode.

Acceptable to HS(G)41 (clause 219).

NB

i Definitions extracted from the Regulations for Electrical Installations: 16 th Edition, issued by the Institute of Electrical Engineers.

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