



## MULTIduct™ Cable Protection

Material & Product Properties

## BRIEF

The purpose of this document is to provide product characteristics and key material properties for the black High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) MULTIduct™ product range.

## CONTENTS

1. General
2. Mechanical Characteristics
3. Thermal Characteristics
4. Electrical Characteristics
5. Fire Behaviour
6. Other Properties
7. ENATS 12-24 - Mechanical Property Tests
8. UV Stability
9. Chemical Resistance
10. Ingress Protection



### 1. GENERAL

*General properties of the material used to manufacture MULTIduct™.*

- HDPE
- UV Stabilised (2% Carbon Black)
- Classed as Non-Hazardous to the Environment
- Fully Recyclable - Commodity Polymer (Recycling Symbol: 2)
- Parts produced from up to 100% recycled HDPE

### 2. MECHANICAL CHARACTERISTICS

*Key mechanical properties of the material used to manufacture MULTIduct™, from both in house tests and generically known values.*

| Characteristic               | Test Method  | Value                            |
|------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Tensile Strength             | ISO 527      | 22 - 26 MPa                      |
| Young's Modulus              | ISO 527      | >800 MPa                         |
| Flexural Modulus             | ISO 178      | 800 to 1100 N/mm <sup>2</sup>    |
| Notched Izod Impact Strength | ISO 180 - 1A | 4 to 6 KJ/m <sup>3</sup>         |
| Density                      | ISO 1183-1   | 0.955 to 0.958 g/cm <sup>3</sup> |

### 3. THERMAL CHARACTERISTICS

*Relevant thermal properties of the material used to manufacture MULTIduct™, from both independent third party tests and generically known values.*

| Characteristic                     | Test Method           | Value                                    |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Thermal Conductivity (K-Factor)*   | ASTM E1530-11 at 23°C | 0.34 W·m <sup>-1</sup> ·K <sup>-1</sup>  |
| Thermal Resistance (R-Value)*      | ASTM E1530-11 at 23°C | 0.0091 m <sup>2</sup> ·K·W <sup>-1</sup> |
| Thermal Conductivity (K-Factor)*   | ASTM E1530-11 at 60°C | 0.33 W·m <sup>-1</sup> ·K <sup>-1</sup>  |
| Thermal Resistance (R-Value)*      | ASTM E1530-11 at 60°C | 0.0096 m <sup>2</sup> ·K·W <sup>-1</sup> |
| Melt Temperature (DSC)             | ASTM D3418            | +120 to +131 °C                          |
| Glass Transition Temperature (DSC) | ASTM D3418            | -120 to -110 °C                          |
| Service Temperature                |                       | -40 to +80 °C                            |
| Vicat Softening Temperature        | ASTM D1525            | +112 to +121 °C                          |

\*Test Performed: Resistance To Thermal Transmission Of Materials By The Guarded Heat Flow Meter Technique

## 4. ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Relevant electrical properties of the material used to manufacture MULTIduct™, conducted by an independent third party. HDPE is a Non-Polar Polymer.

| Characteristic                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Test Method                                   | Value                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Dielectric Strength                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | ASTM D149-09 (2013) Method A, Short-Time Test | > 462 V/mil           |
| Dielectric Breakdown Voltage                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | ASTM D149-09 (2013) Method A, Short-Time Test | 83.2 kV               |
| Note: ">" indicates no burn through - the electricity arced around the edge of the specimen near the voltage limit of the instrument.<br>Test Performed: Standard Test Method for Dielectric Breakdown Voltage and Dielectric Strength of Solid Electrical Insulating Materials at Commercial Power Frequencies |                                               |                       |
| Dielectric Constant                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | ASTM D150-11 at 1 MHz                         | 2.27 K                |
| Dielectric Constant                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | ASTM D150-11 at 1 KHz                         | 2.27 K                |
| Test Performed: A-C Loss Characteristics and Permittivity (Dielectric Constant) using a Guarded Parallel Plate Electrode Type                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                               |                       |
| Surface Resistivity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | ASTM D257-14                                  | > 5.24E+15 ohm/square |
| Volume Resistivity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | ASTM D257-14                                  | > 2.276.39E+15 ohm/cm |
| Note: ">" Means sample exceeded the measuring capabilities of the Megohmmeter.<br>Test Performed: D-C Resistance Of Insulating Materials using a Guarded Parallel Plate Electrode Type                                                                                                                          |                                               |                       |

## 5. FIRE BEHAVIOUR

Fire behavioural properties of the standard material used to manufacture MULTIduct™, from both in house tests and independent third party test houses.

| Characteristic                                                                                                  | Test Method | Value |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| Standard Product Supplied<br>Solid 190x90mm Test Specimens<br>(Unfoamed Samples)                                | DIN 53438-2 | K2    |
| Standard Product Supplied<br>Full Product Test Piece (Part of similar<br>wall thickness tested: Foamed Samples) | UL 94       | HB    |

## 6. OTHER PROPERTIES

Generic properties well known regarding HDPE.

| Characteristic                     | Test Method | Value                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chemical Resistance                | -           | Excellent - HDPE has excellent chemical resistance such as; ethanol, acetone, diesel etc. and is unaffected by sulphate ground conditions - See Chemicals Resistance Table in section 9 below. |
| Water Absorption Non-Polar Polymer | -           | 0.01%                                                                                                                                                                                          |

## 7. FINISHED PRODUCT TESTS TO ENATS 12-24 MECHANICAL PROPERTY TESTS

*In-house tests performed as per mechanical test requirements outlined in the ENATS 12-24 Technical specification for plastic ducts. Includes 5% deflection test at 75°C and cold drop impact tests at -5°C.*

**Note:** ENATS 12-24 is a technical specification for plastic ducts for buried electric cables. It has been designed to meet the requirements of the Electricity Industry and the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 (UK) for circular section plastic ducts. Any alterations in testing to suit a square / rectangular duct (i.e. MULTIduct™) shall be highlighted.

**Material:** MULTIduct™ is manufactured using HDPE material, as per permitted material type in section 1 of ENATS 12-24.

**Classification:** Class 1 Ducts as per section 6.1 of ENATS 12-24.

**Dimensions:** MULTIduct™ 4, 6 and 9 way (standard) meet the requirements of Class 1 duct - 100mm nominal inside diameter. The 4 way XL MULTIduct™ (160mm) falls between the preferred values of 150 to 188mm as per table 8.1 in ENATS 12-24.

|              | Section | ENATS 12-24 Requirements                                                                     | MULTIduct™                                                                               | Meets Requirements Y/N?                                                      |
|--------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Construction | 9.1 (a) | Circular cross section                                                                       | Square                                                                                   | Not circular, however it meets 100mm class 1 internal dimension requirements |
|              | 9.1 (a) | Smooth internal bore                                                                         | Smooth Inner walls                                                                       | Yes                                                                          |
|              | 9.1 (b) | Both ends of duct shall be cleanly cut perpendicular to the central axis of the duct         | Moulded in 1 m length joining sections                                                   | Yes                                                                          |
|              | 9.1 (c) | The material shall be free from cracks, inclusions, delamination's or other defects          | Manufacturing location has an accredited Quality Management System in place to ISO 9001. | Yes                                                                          |
|              | 9.1 (d) | Any profiled structure of a cellular wall shall be complete, with no break in the cell walls | Yes                                                                                      | Yes                                                                          |
|              | 9.1 (e) | Non-coilable duct sections shall be substantially straight                                   | 1 m moulded sections, not extruded.                                                      | Yes                                                                          |

### 7.1. ENATS 12-24, SECTION 10 - MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

*Section 10.2.5 Deflection Test to 5% at an Elevated Temperature of 75°C: For Class 1 Ducts.*

| Products Tested                                                                                                                                                               | Test Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Test Standard                                                                           | Key Equipment Used                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4 Way MULTIduct™<br>6 Way MULTIduct™<br>9 Way MULTIduct™<br>4 Way XL MULTIduct™<br><br>Cut to 200mm lengths, top & bottom ribs removed, manufactured at least 10 days before. | Class 1 Ducts - To confirm that the MULTIduct™ product range is capable of meeting resistance to compression as per BS EN 61386-24:2010 (section 10.2) and meet the technical specification ENATS 12-24 Section 10.2.5. This test determines the force applied at 5% deflection of the product is greater than 450 Newtons after conditioning at 75°C for over 1 hour. | BS EN 61386-24:2010 (section 10.2) & ENATS 12-24 Section 10.2.<br><br>For Class 1 Ducts | Universal Testing Machine (UTM) fitted with a 10KN (10,000 Newtons) load cell and flat steel compression test plates 250 * 150mm (Difference: Larger plate size than required as per section 10.2.4 in BS EN 61386-24).<br><br>Large Industrial Testing Oven |

## SUMMARY OF RESULTS: 75°C 5% DEFLECTION TEST

| Sample   | Test Speed | 1 <sup>st</sup> Measurement Avg.<br>(Before Test) | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Measurement Avg.<br>(After Test) | Applied Force at<br>5% Deflection<br>(End Strain Point) | ENATS 12-24<br>Permissible<br>Force | ENATS<br>Pass / Fail |
|----------|------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 4 Way    | 15 mm/min  | OD: 230 x 230 mm                                  | OD: 230 x 229 mm                                 | Avg 7123.3 N                                            | 450 N                               | Pass - Class 1       |
|          |            | ID: 215 x 215 mm                                  | ID: 215 x 214 mm                                 |                                                         |                                     |                      |
| 6 Way    | 15 mm/min  | OD: 230 x 343 mm                                  | OD: 230 x 342 mm                                 | Avg 9003.3 N                                            | 450 N                               | Pass - Class 1       |
|          |            | ID: 215 x 323 mm                                  | ID: 215 x 322 mm                                 |                                                         |                                     |                      |
| 9 Way    | 15 mm/min  | OD: 343 x 343 mm                                  | OD: 343 x 342.5 mm                               | Avg + 10000 N                                           | 450 N                               | Pass - Class 1       |
|          |            | ID: 323 x 323 mm                                  | ID: 323 x 322.5 mm                               |                                                         |                                     |                      |
| 4 Way XL | 15 mm/min  | OD: 343 x 343 mm                                  | OD: 343 x 341.5 mm                               | Avg 4857.8 N                                            | 450 N                               | Pass - Class 1       |
|          |            | ID: 323 x 323 mm                                  | ID: 323 x 321.5 mm                               |                                                         |                                     |                      |

## 7.2. ENATS 12-24, SECTION 10 - MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

## Section 10.3.2 Drop Impact Tests at a Min Temperature of -5°C

ENATS 12-24 Requirements: the impact energy values shall be as specified in Table 102 "Normal" column. The below table lists the relevant Class 1 requirements:

| Nominal Size of Conduit (mm) | NORMAL (N)                           |                                      |                 |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                              | Mass of Hammer (kg) (Tolerance: +1%) | Fall Height (mm)<br>(Tolerance: -1%) | Energy (Joules) |
| 91 - 140 mm ducts            | 5 kg                                 | 570 mm                               | 28J             |
| > 140 mm ducts               | 5 kg                                 | 800 mm                               | 40J             |

Difference: An In-House custom drop impact test rig was used for the test, the rig has a 21.5 kg hammer, therefore the potential energy (PE) formula was adjusted to reflect this increase in mass, this resulted in a reduced drop height of 200mm, equating to a energy value of over 42 Joules, which is greater than the maximum required energy for the largest sized duct. The maximum energy value of > 42J was used for testing all MULTIDUCT™ sizes, including ducts that are less 140mm, as a demonstration of the products toughness.

| Overall Dimension of Duct<br>(Internal Average) | Mass of Hammer (m) | Fall Height (h) | Gravity (g)        | Resultant Energy (PE) | ENATS Pass / Fail |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
|                                                 | Kg (Tol: 0 to +1%) | (Tol: 0 to -1%) | m/sec <sup>2</sup> | Joules                |                   |
| 4 Way Std: 215 x 215mm                          | 21.5 kg            | 200mm           | 9.81               | 42.183 J              | Pass - Class 1    |
| 6 Way Std: 215 x 323mm                          | 21.5 kg            | 200mm           | 9.81               | 42.183 J              | Pass - Class 1    |
| 9 Way Std: 323 x 323mm                          | 21.5 kg            | 200mm           | 9.81               | 42.183 J              | Pass - Class 1    |
| 4 Way XL: 323 x 323mm                           | 21.5 kg            | 200mm           | 9.81               | 42.183 J              | Pass - Class 1    |

## 8. UV STABILITY

Independent UV stability test conducted by third party, on material used to manufacture MULTIDUCT™.

A foamed HDPE product (of the same material composition at the time and a similar wall thickness) was exposed to accelerated UV Exposure as per ASTM D756 Procedure A; the test consisted of a repetitive cycle of 4 hours of UV light (UVB-313 lamp) at 60°C followed by 4 hours condensation (UV light off) at 50°C for a total of 1000 hours. Weight and Shape Changes of the part was determined and the flexural strength was determined before and after exposure as per ASTM D790. This test was performed by Calcoast Analytical Materials Chemistry Lab. Note: the material formulation has since been revised to enhance the UV performance of the MULTIDUCT™ product.



| Specimen                                                   | Average Weight Change (%) | Average Dimensional Changes (%) |           |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                                                            |                           | Length                          | Width     | Thickness |
| Specimens exposed to 1000 hours of Accelerated UV Exposure | -0.04                     | <0.05                           | No Change | No Change |

| Specimen           | Average Flexural Strength (PSI) | Average Change in Flexural Strength (%) |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Unexposed Specimen | 1472                            |                                         |
| Exposed Specimen   | 1561                            | 6.1                                     |

## 9. CHEMICAL RESISTANCE

*Independent chemical resistance test conducted by third party, on material used to manufacture MULTIDUCT™.*

Three samples of foamed HDPE product (of the same material composition and a similar wall thickness) were exposed to each of the listed chemicals for 168 hours. Weight and shape changes were determined before and after exposure to the chemical reagents as per ASTM D756. This test was performed by Calcoast Analytical Materials Chemistry Lab.

| Chemical Reagent              | Average Weight Change (%) | Average Dimensional Changes (%) |       |           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|-----------|
|                               |                           | Length                          | Width | Thickness |
| Acetic Acid (5%)              | 0.09                      | < 0.005                         | -0.61 | No Change |
| Hydrochloric Acid (0.1N)      | 0.02                      | 0.17                            | -1.78 | No Change |
| Sulphuric Acid (0.1N)         | 0.01                      | -0.09                           | -0.35 | No Change |
| Sodium Carbonate (0.1N)       | 0.06                      | <0.05                           | -0.35 | -0.12     |
| Calcium Carbonate (0.1N)      | 0.01                      | <0.05                           | -0.35 | No Change |
| Sodium Chloride (5%)          | 0.02                      | -0.08                           | 0.42  | No Change |
| Sodium Sulphate (0.1N)        | 0.04                      | -0.06                           | -0.74 | No Change |
| Sodium Hydroxide (0.1N)       | 0.03                      | < 0.05                          | -0.49 | -0.28     |
| Transformer Oil (Mineral Oil) | 0.56                      | < 0.05                          | 0.6   | 0.24      |

| Specimen                      | Average Flexural Strength (PSI) | Average Change in Flexural Strength (%) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Unexposed Specimen            | 1472                            |                                         |
| Acetic Acid (5%)              | 1411                            | 4.2                                     |
| Hydrochloric Acid (0.1N)      | 1457                            | 1                                       |
| Sulphuric Acid (0.1N)         | 1408                            | 4.4                                     |
| Sodium Carbonate (0.1N)       | 1459                            | 0.8                                     |
| Calcium Carbonate (0.1N)      | 1368                            | 7.1                                     |
| Sodium Chloride (5%)          | 1375                            | 6.6                                     |
| Sodium Sulphate (0.1N)        | 1353                            | 8.1                                     |
| Sodium Hydroxide (0.1N)       | 1433                            | 2.4                                     |
| Transformer Oil (Mineral Oil) | 1452                            | 2.3                                     |

## 10. INGRESS PROTECTION

*Independent ingress protection test conducted by third parties, on finished MULTIduct™ products.*

Six pairs of each MULTduct™ size were subjected to water flows for a standard time as per IEC 60529 and BS EN 60529: 1992 + A2: 2013: Degrees of Protection provided by Enclosures. The internal voids of the products were observed to witness any ingress of water. These tests were performed by Anecto-Steris Labs and Alphatech Labs.

| Sample      | Gasket | IP Rating | Pass/Fail |
|-------------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| 4 Way       | Yes    | IPX4      | Pass      |
|             | No     | IPX3      | Pass      |
| 6 Way       | Yes    | IPX4      | Pass      |
|             | No     | IPX3      | Pass      |
| 9 Way       | Yes    | IPX4      | Pass      |
|             | No     | IPX3      | Pass      |
| 4 Way XL    | Yes    | IPX4      | Pass      |
|             | No     | IPX3      | Pass      |
| 4 Way Micro | No     | IPX4      | Pass      |
| 6 Way Micro | No     | IPX4      | Pass      |