



SAFETY ALERT

Defective B&S OQFRN Range of High Voltage Fuses

Number: SA 05/10

Strategy & Policy Directorate Sponsor: Robin Cawthorne

Date of issue: 05 Oct 10

Contact if different from above sponsor:
Hom Limbu
Senior Electrical Engineer
Professional & Technical Services
Defence Estates, Kingston Road, Sutton Coldfield B75 7RL
94421 3214 / 0121 311 3214
Email: hombahadur.limbu@de.mod.uk

Who Should Read this: CEstOs, Top Level Budget Holders, Prime Contractors, Private Finance Initiatives, Public, Private Partnership and other traditionally procured contracts, Site Estate Authority Teams and Property Managers with responsibility for MOD projects and Property Management Works Services (including the legacy work of EWCs/WSMs), Coordinating Authorising Engineers, Authorising Engineers Electrical, Authorised Persons Electrical, purchasers and installers of final electrical distribution equipment.

When it takes effect: Immediately

When it is due to expire: No Expiry

Document Aim:

To inform responsible persons that, as a result of a manufacturing defect to the B&S OQFRN range of fuses, Ring Main Units may be incorrectly fitted with fuses with striker pins pointing in the wrong direction. Advice is provided on the appropriate precautionary measures to be taken.

Product	High Voltage B&S Fuse Links – OQFRN range
Manufacturer/Supplier	B&S (now Cooper Bussmann (UK) Ltd)
Problem	Striker pin ejected, but at opposite end to indication on fuse body (see photograph below), so did not trip the Reyrolle ROKS switch that the fuse was fitted to.
Scope	This type of fuse is usually installed in oil-filled Ring Main Units (RMU). Manufacturers of such RMU include Reyrolle, Lucy, Long Crawford, Yorkshire Switchgear and South Wales Switchgear.
Risk	Switch will not trip on downstream faults thus relying on the upstream protection to operate with consequential wider supply disruption
Action	<p>During annual maintenance of the RMU check the fuses to ensure they are correctly installed with the striker pin pointing in the correct direction.</p> <p>This should be carried out by visually checking that the arrow on the label points to the end cap with the counter-bore (approx 12 mm in diameter). On the more modern fuses the counter-bore may be a protrusion on the end cap rather than forming a depression.</p>

1. Introduction

- a. COMPLIANCE WITH THE CONTENTS OF THIS ALERT WILL ENABLE COMPLIANCE WITH THE HEALTH & SAFETY AT WORK ETC ACT 1974 AND ITS SUBORDINATE REGULATIONS.
- b. The appropriate MOD officer shall arrange for the RPC/ Maintenance Management Organisation (MMO) contractor to carry out all actions in accordance with this Alert.
- c. Any work required as a result of this Alert must be carried out in accordance with JSP 375 Volume 3 – MOD Safety Rules & Procedures.
- d. On MOD Establishments occupied by United States Visiting Forces (USVF) responsibility is jointly held by USVF and DE (USF). At base level this jointly managed organisation is to take appropriate action to implement the contents of this Alert. Where this Alert contains procedures which differ significantly from USVF practice DE (USF) code of practice will be issued.

2. Background

- a. Dangerous Incident Notice (DIN) 2010/0057/00 notified the following incident:
- b. HV fuse (type OQFRN) operated. Striker pin ejected, but at opposite end to indication on fuse body, so did not trip the switch (Reyrolle ROKS).

3. Requirement:

- a. This Safety Alert has been raised in response to DIN 2010/0057/00.
- b. Addressees of this Safety Alert are to bring its contents to the attention of their Authorising Engineers (Electrical), or equivalent, who are required to take appropriate action.
- c. Although the B&S OQFRN fuses are no longer manufactured they will still be widely in use.
- d. Where incorrectly marked B&S OQFRN fuses are found, the manufacturer will provide free replacement fuses (fully interchangeable Cooper Bussmann OEFMA range). The manufacturer can be contacted as follows:

Cooper Bussmann (UK) Ltd
Burton-On-the-Wolds
Loughborough
Leicestershire
LE12 5TH

Tel: 01509 882600
Fax: 01509 882737

Point of Contact: Gareth Cooper

Email: Gareth.Cooper@CooperIndustries.com



Photograph showing striker pin ejection in opposite direction to that indicated on fuse body.