

Part 4 – Protection for Safety

**411 Fault Protection (Indirect Contact)
 Automatic Disconnection (ADS)
 SELV, PELV, FELV**

The use of: RCD

Class II Equipment

These are additional measures added to ADS and ELV

Automatic disconnection of supply is a protective measure in which

- (i) basic protection is provided by basic insulation of live parts or by barriers or enclosures, in accordance with Section 416, and
- (ii) fault protection is provided by protective equipotential bonding and automatic disconnection in case of a fault in accordance with Regulations 411.3 to 6.

Where this protective measure is applied, Class II equipment may also be used.

Where specified, additional protection shall be provided by a residual current device (RCD) with rated residual operating current not exceeding 30 mA in accordance with Regulation 415.1.

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Why is RCD protection used for ordinary persons?

(Electricity is the same in the USA as in Europe!)

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Part 4 – Protection for Safety

Just A Little Current Can Kill

millamps*	Effect
1	Can first feel it
5	Can't let go
10	
20	
30	Possibly fatal
40	
50	
60	Probably fatal
75-watt Christmas tree light	
70	
12-watt electric shaver	
90	
100	Probably fatal
100-watt bulb	
800	
1000-watt hair dryer	8000

* A milliamp is 1/1000th of an ampere, a measure of electrical current.

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411.3.3 Additional requirements for socket-outlets and for the supply of mobile equipment for use outdoors

In AC systems, additional protection by means of an RCD with a rated residual operating current not exceeding 30 mA shall be provided for:

- (i) socket-outlets with a rated current not exceeding 32A, and
- (ii) mobile equipment with a rated current not exceeding 32A for use outdoors.

An exception to (i) is permitted where, other than for an installation in a dwelling, a documented risk assessment determines that RCD protection is not necessary.

The requirements of Regulation 411.3.3 do not apply to FELV systems according to Regulation 411.7 or reduced low voltage systems according to Regulation 411.8.

NOTE 1: See also Regulations 314.1(iv) and 531.3.2 concerning the avoidance of unwanted tripping.

NOTE 2: See Appendix 2, item 11 in respect of risk assessment.

NOTE 3: A lighting distribution unit complying with BS 5733, luminaire track system, installation coupler, LSC or DCL is not regarded as a socket-outlet for the purposes of this regulation.

Now becomes a general requirement for all socket outlets unless specifically specified and underwritten by a technically skilled person

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Additional Protection 411.3.3



30mA RCDs to be used on Socket outlets

Where...

1. All Socket outlets <32A
2. Mobile equipment used outside < 32A

Exceptions permitted to 1. above:

1. Amendment 3 now discounts 'under the supervision of a competent person'
2. Identified and labelled for a specific item of equipment (freezers, fire alarm, sprinklers)
3. Documented Risk assessment justifying no RCDs

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Shock Protection for Special Locations

410.3.3

- Automatic disconnection of supply
- Class II Equipment (**Double or Reinforced Insulation**)
- Electrical Separation (one item of equipment)
- SELV, PELV

Additional Protection - RCDs, Protective Bonding

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411.3.3 Additional Protection for ADS in accordance with 415

Two methods are used:

- 415.1 Protection by Residual Current Devices
 - 415.1.1 max value = 30mA, At 5 $I_{\Delta n}$ < 40ms
 - 415.1.2 Not recognized as a sole means of protection
- 415.2 Supplementary Bonding
 - 415.2.1 Supplementary Bonding to localised and generalized zones
 - 415.2.2 Where doubt exists to the effectiveness of supplementary bonding then it should be tested against

"I Δ Delta n" simply describes the way the RCD operates, i.e. "In" is normally the operating current of an OPD in terms of the current in any of the current carrying conductors in which the device is installed, whereas in this case...5 "I Δ Delta n" describes a "Difference" 5 x, i.e. residual currents, in the current-carrying conductors that pass through the device.

$R \leq 50 / I_a$ for AC systems and $R \leq 120V / I_a$ for DC systems

Electric shock

When a current exceeding 30 mA passes through a part of a human body, the person concerned is in serious danger if the current is not interrupted in a very short time.

The protection of persons against electric shock in LV installations must be provided in conformity with appropriate national standards, statutory regulations, codes of practice, official guides and circulars etc.

Relevant IEC standards include: IEC 60364 series, IEC 60479 series, IEC 61008, IEC 61009 and IEC 60947-2.

An electric shock is the pathophysiological effect of an electric current through the human body. Its passage effects essentially the muscular, circulatory and respiratory functions and sometimes results in serious burns. The degree of danger for the victim is a function of the magnitude of the current, the parts of the body through which the current passes, and the duration of current flow.

IEC publication 60479-1 updated in 2005 defines four zones of current-magnitude/duration, in each of which the pathophysiological effects are described (see Fig. F1).

Any person coming into contact with live metal risks an electric shock.

Curve C1 shows that when a current greater than 30 mA passes through a human being from one hand to feet, the person concerned is likely to be killed, unless the current is interrupted in a relatively short time.

The point 500 ms/100 mA close to the curve C1 corresponds to a probability of heart fibrillation of the order of 0.14%.

The protection of persons against electric shock in LV installations must be provided in conformity with appropriate national standards and statutory regulations, codes of practice, official guides and circulars, etc. Relevant IEC standards include: IEC 60364 series, IEC 60479 series, IEC 60755, IEC 61008 series, IEC 61009 series and IEC 60947-2.

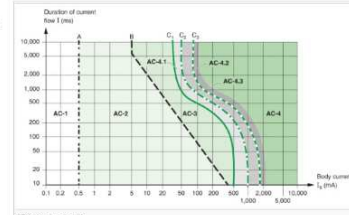


Fig. F1. Zones of current-magnitude/duration of AC current on human body when passing from left hand to feet

Part 4 – Protection for Safety

The use of Supplementary bonding (415.2.2)

Where doubt exists regarding the effectiveness of extraneous conductive parts having the same potential then:

$$\text{AC Systems : } R \leq \frac{50V}{I_a} \quad \text{DC Systems: } R \leq \frac{120V}{I_a}$$

Where protection is given by a RCD then:

$$R = \frac{50}{30 \times 10^{-3}} = 1.67k\Omega$$

Protection given by a 20A type B MCB (EN 60898) or RCBO (61009-1)...

$$I_a = \frac{218.5}{2.19} = 100A \quad \text{or Appendix 3 Fig 3A4 Page 325} \quad R_2 = \frac{50}{100} = 0.5\Omega$$

If the impedance of the circuit (exposed conductive part) is < 0.5Ω then the touch voltage on any simultaneously touchable metalwork for the time the fault is in operation will not rise above 50V

Part 4 Protection for Safety

The use of Supplementary bonding (415.2.2)

Protection against Shock

Stop the voltage potentials on exposed and extraneous conductive parts rising beyond the safety voltage - touch voltage – in fault conditions – 415.2

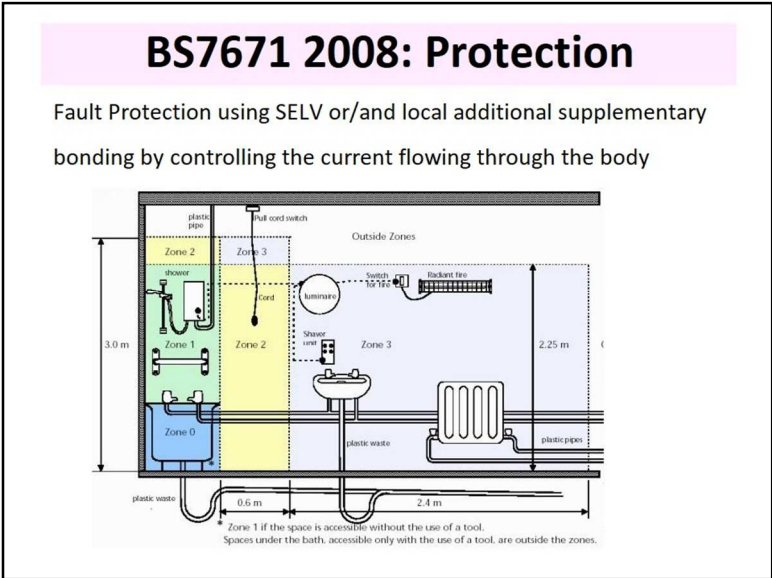
$$\text{AC Systems : } R \leq \frac{50V}{I_a} \quad \text{DC Systems: } R \leq \frac{120V}{I_a}$$

Where R is the resistance between two simultaneously touchable exposed/extraneous metalwork

Use an RCD for additional protection to detect earth fault currents at...

$$50V \geq Z_s \times I\Delta N - 415.1.1$$

(Where $I\Delta N \leq 30mA, t \leq 40ms$ at $5I\Delta N$)



Protection against Shock

411.3.2 Automatic disconnection in case of a fault

411.3.2.1 Except as provided by Regulation 411.3.2.5, a protective device shall automatically interrupt the supply to the line conductor of a circuit or equipment in the event of a fault of negligible impedance between the line conductor and an exposed-conductive-part or a protective conductor in the circuit or equipment within the disconnection time required by Regulation 411.3.2.2, 411.3.2.3 or 411.3.2.4.

The protective device shall be suitable for isolation of at least the line conductor.

NOTE: For IT systems, automatic disconnection is not necessarily required on the occurrence of a first fault (see Regulation 411.6.1). For the requirements for disconnection in the event of a second fault, occurring on a different live conductor, see Regulation 411.6.5.

411.3.2.2 Maximum disconnection times stated in Table 41.1 shall be applied to final circuits with a rated current not exceeding:

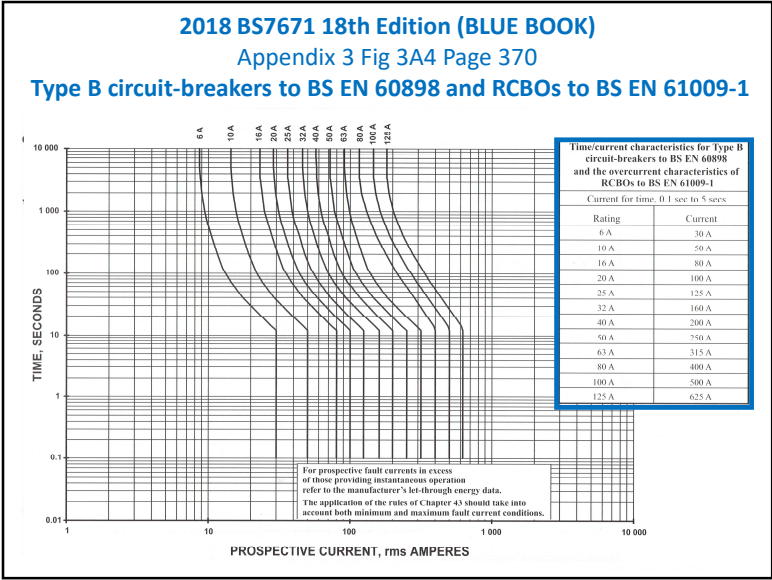
- (i) 63 A with one or more socket-outlets, and
- (ii) 32 A supplying only fixed connected current-using equipment.

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TABLE 41.1 – Maximum disconnection times

System	50 V < U ₀ ≤ 120 V		120 V < U ₀ ≤ 230 V		230 V < U ₀ ≤ 400 V		U ₀ > 400 V	
	(s)		(s)		(s)		(s)	
	AC	DC	AC	DC	AC	DC	AC	DC
TN	0.8	NOTE 1	0.4	1	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1
TT	0.3	NOTE 1	0.2	0.4	0.07	0.2	0.04	0.1

NOTE 1: Disconnection times not required for shock, but for thermal effects



- ## Part 4 – Protection for Safety
- Protection provided by a Residual Current Device.
 - Following condition applies:
 - Regulation 411.5.2:
 - Z_s = Earth fault loop impedance in Ohms;
 - $I_{\Delta n}$ = rated residual operating current in Amps
 - Protection in TT systems.
 - The use of over current protective devices are not excluded although it is preferred to use a RCD with a disconnection time of not greater than 1 sec 411.3.2.4
 - Regulation 411.5.3
 - R_A = sum of all the resistances of earth electrode and protective conductors connected to the exposed conductive parts;
 - Regulation 411.5.4
 - I_a = the current causing automatic operation of the protective device

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411.5 TT system

411.5.1 Every exposed-conductive-part which is to be protected by a single protective device shall be connected, via the main earthing terminal, to a common earth electrode. However, if two or more protective devices are in series, the exposed-conductive-parts may be connected to separate earth electrodes corresponding to each protective device.

The neutral point or the midpoint of the power supply system shall be earthed. If a neutral point or midpoint is not available or not accessible, a line conductor shall be earthed. 63

411.5.4 Where an overcurrent protective device is used the following condition shall be fulfilled:

$$Z_s \times I_a \leq U_0 \times C_{min}$$

where:

Z_s is the impedance in ohms (Ω) of the earth fault loop comprising:

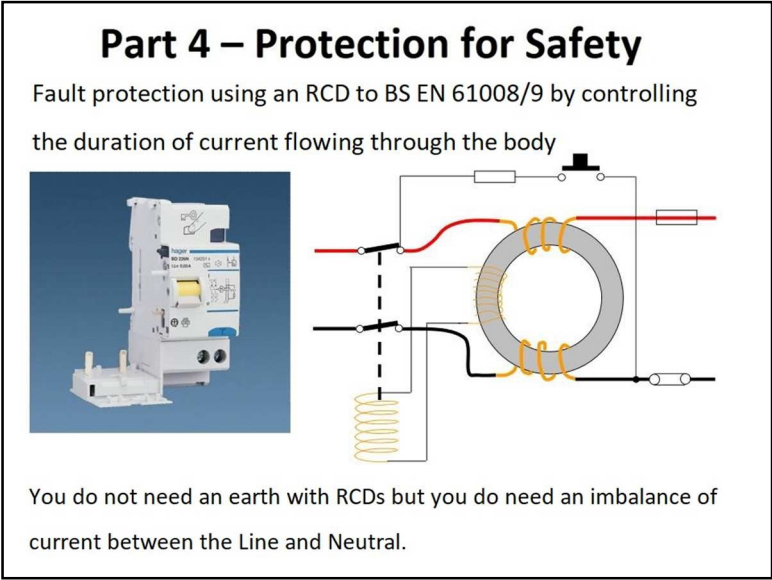
- the source
- the line conductor up to the point of the fault
- the protective conductor from the exposed-conductive-parts
- the earthing conductor
- the earth electrode of the installation and
- the earth electrode of the source

I_a is the current in amperes (A) causing the automatic operation of the disconnecting device within the time specified in Regulation 411.3.2.2 or 411.3.2.4

U_0 nominal AC rms or ripple-free DC line voltage to Earth

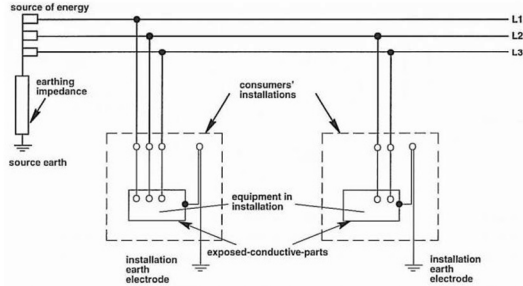
C_{min} is the minimum voltage factor to take account of voltage variations depending on time and place, changing of transformer taps and other considerations.

NOTE: For a low voltage supply given in accordance with the Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations as amended, C_{min} is given the value 0.95. 64



Protection against shock and Fire

The use of and terminology of IT systems are more prevalent in the 18th Edition (411.6.1). What is an IT system? In an **IT system or network**, the electrical distribution system has no connection to earth at all, or it has only a high impedance connection.

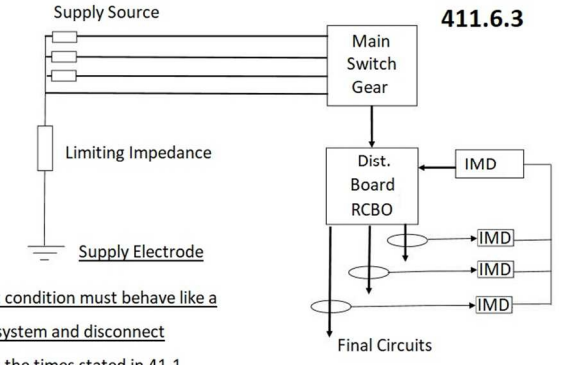


All exposed-conductive-parts of an installation are connected to an earth electrode.
 The source is either connected to Earth through a deliberately introduced earthing impedance or is isolated from Earth.

Basic and fault protection in IT systems

IT systems – Insulation Monitoring Devices IMDs

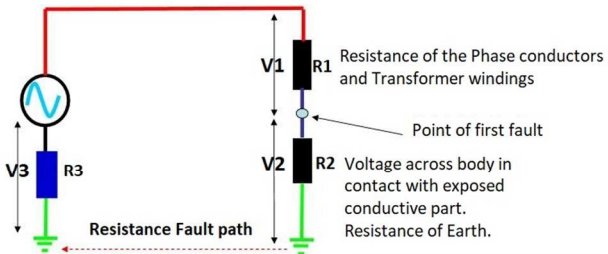
411.6.3



Single fault condition must behave like a
TN system and disconnect
 within the times stated in 41.1

Basic and fault protection in IT systems

IT system of protection $V_{poc(V2)} = V_s \times (R_2 / R_1 + R_2 + R_3) = 4.5V$



Where R_3 is fixed by the distributor around **50,000 Ohms** $V_{poc(V2)} = V_s \times (R_2 / R_1 + R_2 + R_3)$
 R_2 is the resistance of the earth path across a human body **(1.0kOhms)**
 and R_1 is the resistance of the phase conductor **(1.0 Ohm)**

The Max voltage across body to the source = $230 \times \frac{1000 (1.0kOhms)}{1.0 Ohm + 1000 + 50000} = 4.5 V$
 (Voltage drop sits outside EQBZ)

Basic and Fault protection

Methods of protection IT systems

High impedance to earth means that the majority of the volt drop under fault conditions is outside of the equipotential bonding zone of the installation

(Earth to phase monitoring device < 50kΩ causes an alarm to sound IEC 60364)

Suitable Protective Devices 411.6.3

1. Insulation Monitoring Device (IMD)
2. Residual Current Monitoring Device (RCM)
3. Insulation Fault Location System
4. Overcurrent Protective Device (OPD)
5. Residual Current Device (RCD)