

Heat-shrinkable joints for screened plastic and rubber insulated cables for up to 36 kV

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For jointing plastic insulated cables for up to 36 kV Raychem offers a system based on heat-shrinkable materials which is fast and simple to install, eliminates shelf-life limitations even in severe climates and permits immediate backfilling of the trench and switching on of power.

#### Reliability in installation

The insulating, screening and electrical field control layers of the joint are made of cross-linked polymeric materials with precisely defined electrical characteristics. The cross-linking process results in an "elastic memory", activated simply by heating. The memory then causes the components to shrink to a pre-determined diameter; the correct insulation thickness is thus achieved in one step automatically.

#### A simple fast jointing technique

The joint components are supplied as a pre-engineered set of heat-shrinkable tubings, which means the cable fitter does not have to check the thickness or length of the system. The Raychem system thus ensures accurate installation work while enabling the joint to be installed in significantly less time than many alternative techniques.

#### **Proven technology**

The long-term performance of Raychem heat-shrinkable materials has been demonstrated by the well-proven Raychem termination system. Millions of cable accessory installations for up to 36 kV in some of the severest service-conditions have confirmed their reliability under high electrical, thermal and environmental stress.

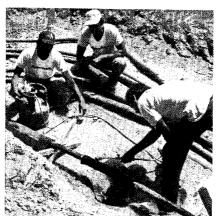
#### A universal system

Cable preparation and installation techniques for Raychem medium voltage joints are identical to those for Raychem heat-shrinkable terminations. The same basic design is also shared by Raychem joints for MIND paper insulated cables for up to 36 kV. In this respect, again, the heat-shrinkable system sets new standards of efficiency and simplicity for the cable fitter's work.

#### Rational stock-keeping

The performance and ease of installation of Raychem high voltage heat-shrinkable materials are not sensitive to storage time or normal storage conditions. A few kits cover the standard size range of cables, including single core cables for 36 kV up to 630 mm², allow the use of various types of connectors and shrink to fit either round or sector-shaped cores and different constructions.





#### **Mechanical strength**

For steel wire or tape armoured cables. Raychem joints incorporate a light-weight impact-resistant galvanized steel joint case which is quick to install and provides earth fault current capacity. Heat-shrinkable sleeves provide outer sealing and corrosion protection of the joint.

#### Technical field service

Raychem power cable joints are the result of continuous research efforts and long experience in this field. Raychem supports its customers at every step, from specific product development and selection through laboratory and field testing, to training of the customer's operators in cable preparation and installation techniques. As the leader in heat-shrinkable materials and one of the largest cable accessory manufacturers, Raychem offers a wide range of jointing, sealing and corrosion protection systems to meet the demands of the growing world of energy.

Cover photo: During extension of an urban transportation system, 12 kV cables with sector-shaped cores are connected using Raychem joints. The photo shows the installation of a dualwall tubing with an inner red insulation layer and integral outer black conductive screen

- 1 A 24 kV plastic insulated cable being jointed in Scandinavia after the electrical components have been installed. The joint is permanently sealed and mechanically protected with adhesive-lined heat-shrinkable tubing.
- 2 The ease and speed of installation of the Raychem system has led to wide adoption in developing countries. Moreover, the system is not subject to storage limitations in hot climate. The photo shows a 36 kV Raychem joint being installed on a 400 mm² single core cable.

## Construction and electrical design of Raychem joints for plastic insulated cables for up to 36 kV

#### Installation procedure

Pre-packed in the correct nested sequence, the joint components are slid over the prepared cable end.

After jointing the conductors, each tubing is positioned over the connector and shrunk into place. In three core cable joints one heat-shrinkable sleeve (unarmoured cable) or joint case (armoured cable) over all three cores replaces the outer sealing sleeve shown in the single core cable joint below.

All kits are complete with illustrated installation instructions.

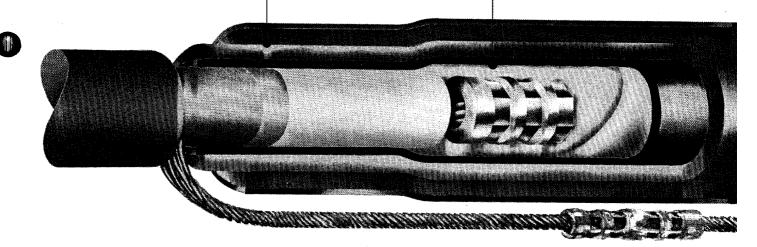
#### Insulation

High voltage insulating tubings and the inner wall of the screened tubing restore the conductor insulation. The elastic memory of the heat-shrinkable components ensures the correct wall thickness is obtained.

#### **Electrical field control**

Heat-shrinkable tubing with a precisely defined impedance characteristic smoothes the electrical field over the connector and screen ends.

The shrinking action during installation causes the special low viscosity void filler to flow into position around the connector area at the same time, Pencilling of the conductor insulation at the connector is not necessary.



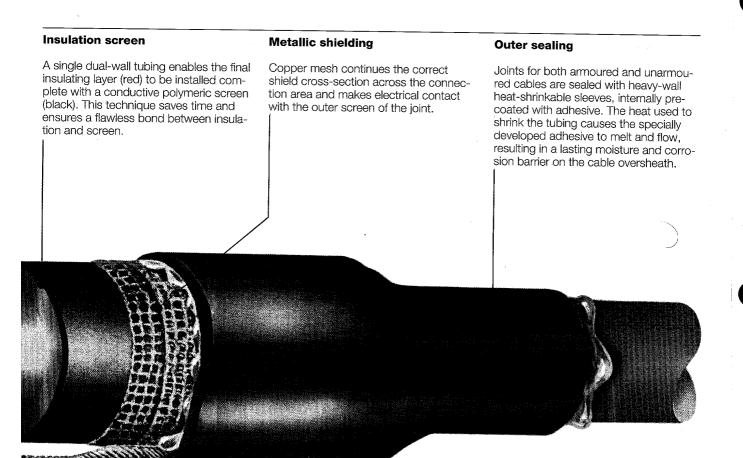
#### **Electrical field distribution**

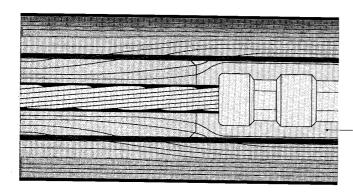
At the cable screen ends and over the connector itself, the electrical field is controlled by a material already proven in Raychem terminations for up to 36 kV. The connector area is first smoothed electrically and mechanically with a

special low viscosity void filler. Installation of a heat-shrinkable tubing then causes the void filler to flow into position. The tubing is made of material with a carefully controlled volume resistivity and permittivity, smoothing out the electrical

field at the screen ends and over the conductor joint. The resulting field distribution between the outer conductive layer and the inner field control tubing is shown in the computer study below.

joint insulation screen	
joint insulation	
field control tubing	
cable insulation	
conductor	
cable screen	





void filler

#### Minimum performance of Raychem joints for screened plastic and rubber insulated cables for up to 36 kV

Test sequence		<b>Test Voltage</b> Result  Highest voltage for Cable $U_m(kV)$			t		
					e U <sub>m</sub> (kV)		
		7.2	12	17.5	24	36	
mpact	4 kg wedge dropped 6 times from 2 m armoured cables only						no functional damage
A.C. Voltage Withstand	1 min	27	35	45	55	75	no breakdown and no flashover
Partial Discharge		4.5 7.2	7.5 12	10.9 17.5	15 24	22.5 36	≤ 3 pC ≤ 20 pC
lmpulse Voltage Withstand	10 positive and 10 negative, 1.2/50 µs, between conductor and grounded screen	70	95	110	150	200	no breakdown and no flashover
Load Cycling	63 cycles, 5 h heating, 3 h cooling Conductor temperature: PE, PVC cables: 75 °C XPE cables: 95 °C	9	15	22	30	45	no breakdown and no flashover
Partial Discharge		4.5 7.2	7.5 12	10.9 17.5	15 24	22.5 36	≤ 3 pC ≤ 20 pC
Thermal Short Circuit	s symmetrical fault with conductor temperature as for cable specification      s earth fault with armour temperature						no visible signs of damage
Load Cycling	as for cable specification as above, with cable in 1 m water, oversheath removed	9	15	22	30	45	no breakdown and no flashover
Partial Discharge		4.5 7.2	7.5 . 12	10.9 17.5	15 24	22.5 36	≤ 3 pC ≤ 20 pC
A.C. Voltage Withstand	4 h	14	24	36	48	72	no breakdown and no flashover
Impulse Voltage Withstand	repeat	70	95	110	150	200	no breakdown and no flashover
D.C. Voltage Withstand	30 min	28	48	72	96	144	no breakdown and no flashove
Notes:		U <sub>m</sub> is the highest phase to phase voltage. All other voltages are stated as phase to ground values.					2. Further details are given in Raychem specification PPS 3013.

#### **Ordering information**

Raychem joint kits are available for single core and 3-core plastic insulated cables with and without armour up to 36 kV and for all standard cross-sections. A full selection table is available on request.

For further details on this or any other Raychem products please contact your local Raychem sales engineer. Raychem is a trademark of Raychem Corporation.

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All the above information, including drawings, illustrations and graphic displays, reflects our present understanding and is to the best of our knowledge and belief correct and reliable. It does, however, under no circumstance constitute an assurance of any particular qualities. Such an assurance is only provided in the context of our product specifications.

Our liability for this product is set forth in our standard terms and conditions of sale.

At Raychem we are committed to continuous quality improvement in every aspect of our business.



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