CALMONT Wire & Cable

Glossary

Coaxial Cable	A cable consisting of a center conductor and a shield.
Cold Bend Test	Test to measure a cable's ability to withstand cold temperature.
Cold Flow	Permanent deformation of materials due to mechanical force or pressure (not due to heat softening).
Color Code	A color system for wire or circuit identification by use of solid colors, stripes, or surface printing.
Compound	An insulating or jacketing material.
Concentric Strand	A wire that consists of a central wire or core surrounded by one or more layers of spiral laid wires.
Concentricity	In a wire or cable, the measurement of the location of the center of the conductor with respect to the geometric center of the insulation. Expressed in percent.
Constantan	Constantan is an alloy used in making thermocouples wires. Constantan is an alloy of copper, nickel manganese, and iron.
Continuity Check	A test performed on finished wire or cable to determine if electrical current can flow continuously.
Copper	Copper is the most widely used electrical conductor in wires and cables. Some of the common types of electrical coppers and copper alloys are:

* Electrolytic tough pitch copper (ETPC) has a minimum copper content of 99.9%. Annealed conductivity averages 101% with a 100% minimum. It is widely used for wire and bus bars.

* Silver bearing copper with a 99.9% copper content provides nearly the same electrical conductivity as the ETP copper but offers a higher softening point, greater resistance to creep, and higher strength at elevated temperatures.

* Oxygen-free high-conductivity copper (OFHC) has 99.95% minimum copper content with an average annealed conductivity of 101%.

Copper-Covered Steel Wire	A wire having a steel core and an outer covering of copper.
Corona	A luminous discharge due to ionization of the gas surrounding a conductor.
Corona Resistance	The ability of an insulation to withstand a voltage without corona.
Coverage	The calculated percentage of braid shield that covers the underlying cable core.
CS-95	Phelps Dodge High Performance Conductors trade name for extra high strength copper alloy.
Crosstalk	Signal interference between nearby conductors caused by the pickup of stray energy.
CSA	Canadian Standards Association
Current Carrying Capacity	The maximum current a conductor can carry without heating beyond a safe limit.
Cut-Through Resistance	Resistance of insulation material to penetration by test blade under conditions of pressure, temperature, etc.
Cycle	The complete sequence including reversal of the flow of alternating electric current.
dB Loss	The loss of a signal in a conductor expressed in decibels.
Decibel (dB)	Unit to express differences of power level.
Denier	A term borrowed from the textile industry for sizing yarns. Denier is defined as the weight in grams of 9,000 yards of a yarn.
Dielectric Constant	The ratio of an insulations ability to hold a charge with respect to air. Expressed as a unitless number (i.e. 2.1).
Dielectric Strength	The voltage which an insulating material can withstand before breakdown occurs, usually expressed as a voltage gradient (such as volts per mil).
Dielectric Test	Test applying a voltage higher than the rated voltage for a specified time.
Direct Current (DC)	An electric current which flows in only one direction.
Direction of Lay	The lateral direction in which the conductors of a cable are wound.
Double Shield	Two shields, one over the other. Used to improve the shield effectiveness.
Drain Wire	In a cable an uninsulated wire laid over the component or components, usually under aluminized mylar and used for a ground connection.