



## STORAGE of CABLE DRUMS

If drums of cable are left standing for any period of time e.g. prior to shipment or installation, the following points should be noted:

The site for storage of drums should be well drained, hard packed soil or preferably a concrete surface, which will not allow the drums to sink and so give rise to damage due to the extreme difficulty in moving drums when they have sunk into the ground.

All drums should be stored with the battens intact, and in such a manner as to leave sufficient space between drums for air circulation. It is important that the nuts on all tie-bolts are checked for tightness at regular intervals (particularly in warm climates).

All drums during installation (i.e. when the battens have been removed) should be 'wedged' so that there is no danger of the flanges of drums coming into accidental contact with unprotected cable on other drums. The cable should not be left unprotected.

### Long Term Storage:

The drum flange should be raised off the ground to prevent water collecting underneath which may cause rotting of the various timbers to occur. In addition, protection against termites and other insects should also be considered.

.To avoid the continuing use of drums that have deteriorated to the point where it would be dangerous to keep them in service, a proper system of inspection and action should be followed. This should include the regular inspection of drums that have been left in open stock yards for long periods.

.Cable drums should be rotated through 90 Deg. at annual intervals. It is recommended that appropriate year markings should be made at 90 Deg. intervals around the drum to facilitate checking. A visual inspection of the drums is to be carried out at annual intervals to check their general condition.

If deterioration of wooden cable drums has taken place, the cables should be redrummed onto replacement drums. This should not be left until the wooden drum becomes dangerous to handle or transport. Metal drums should be checked for excessive rusting.

### SEALING of CABLE ENDS

Once a cable has been cut the danger of moisture ingress into the cable end is increased. Cable ends should be sealed immediately to prevent this happening.

The use of tapes for sealing cable ends are considered unsuitable as they offer no guarantee of integrity. Pre-formed or heat shrinkable end caps should be used as they offer the best protection from the ingress of moisture. Heat shrinkable types must be used on cables having voltage ratings above 600/1000V.