XLPE Submarine Cable Systems
Attachment to XLPE Land Cable Systems - User´s Guide

Rev 5

Power and productivity
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XLPE Submarine Cable Systems

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CURRENT RATING FOR XLPE SUBMARINE CABLE SYSTEMS

The XLPE cable should at least have a conductor cross section adequate to meet the system requirements for power transmission capacity. The cost of energy losses can be reduced by using larger conductor.

Load losses in XLPE cables are primarily due to the ohmic losses in the conductor and the metallic screen. XLPE cables can be loaded continuously to a conductor temperature of 90°C.

The dielectric losses of XLPE insulation are present also at no load. Those losses depend on the operation voltage applied and shall be considered above 100 kV.

Dielectric losses in XLPE cables are lower than for EPR and fluid-filled cables.

The current rating of submarine cables follows the same rules as for land cables. However there are some differences:

- Three-core submarine cables usually have steel wire armour. Single-core cables have non-magnetic armour.
- Single-core cables can be laid separated or close. Close laying gives lower losses. Separation eliminates mutual heating but means higher losses in the armour. The induced current in the armour can be high, up to the same value as in the conductor.

Single-core cable with lead sheath and wire armour

Three-core cable with optic fibers, lead sheath and wire armour

Continuous current ratings for three-core submarine cables are given in Tables 33-34 and for single-core cables in Tables 35-36. The continuous current ratings are calculated according to IEC 60287 series of standards and with the following conditions:

- One three-core cable or one three-phase group of single-core cables
- Temperature in sea bed 20°C
- Laying depth in sea bed 1.0 m
- Sea bed thermal resistivity 1.0 K x m/W

Rating factors for sea bed temperature - see Tables 7-11 in the brochure “XLPE Land Cable Systems - User’s guide”.

Current rating for three-core submarine cables with steel wire armour

Table 33

10-90 kV XLPE 3-core cables		
Cross section mm²	Copper conductor	Aluminium conductor
	A	A
95	300	235
120	340	265
150	375	300
185	420	335
240	480	385
300	530	430
400	590	485
500	655	540
630	715	600
800	775	660
1000	825	720

Table 34

100-300 kV XLPE 3-core cables		
Cross section mm²	Copper conductor	Aluminium conductor
	A	A
300	530	430
400	590	485
500	655	540
630	715	600
800	775	660
1000	825	720

CURRENT RATING FOR XLPE SUBMARINE CABLE SYSTEMS

Current rating for single-core submarine cables

Table 35

Cross section Cu conductor	Rated voltage 10 - 90 kV	
	Wide spacing	Close spacing
mm²	A	A
95	410	315
120	465	355
150	520	395
185	585	435
240	670	495
300	750	545
400	840	610
500	940	670
630	1050	740
800	1160	805
1000	1265	870

Table 36

Cross section Cu conductor	Rated voltage 100 - 420 kV	
	Wide spacing	Close spacing
mm²	A	A
185	580	445
240	670	505
300	750	560
400	845	620
500	950	690
630	1065	760
800	1180	830
1000	1290	895

Note 1: Calculations were performed assuming single layer of 5 mm copper armour wire.
Note 2: Aluminium cables (conductor made of aluminum and armouring made of aluminium alloy) will have a rating of 75 to 80 % for the same conductor area.
Note 3: The rating data given in the above tables should be regarded as indicative only.
Note 4: Cross sections larger than 1000 mm² can be offered on request.

TECHNICAL DATA FOR XLPE SUBMARINE CABLE SYSTEMS

Single-core cables with lead sheath

Cross-section of conductor	Diameter of conductor	Insulation thickness	Diameter over insulation	Lead sheath thickness	Outer diameter of cable	Cable weight (Aluminium)	Cable weight (Copper)	Capacitance	Charging current per phase at 50 Hz	Inductance ●●●
mm²	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	kg/m	kg/m	µF/km	A/km	mH/km

Table 37

Single-core cables, nominal voltage 220 kV (Um = 245 kV)										
500	26.2	24.0	77.6	2.9	111.0	19.1	29.3	0.14	5.8	1.42
630	29.8	23.0	79.2	3.0	112.8	20.0	31.2	0.16	6.4	1.40
800	33.7	23.0	83.1	3.1	117.5	21.9	34.5	0.17	6.9	1.37
1000	37.9	23.0	87.3	3.1	121.9	23.5	37.7	0.19	7.4	1.35
1200	41.2	23.0	90.6	3.1	125.2	24.8	40.4	0.20	7.8	1.33
1400	44.4	23.0	93.8	3.1	128.6	26.1	43.2	0.21	8.2	1.32
1600	47.4	23.0	96.8	3.1	131.8	27.5	46.0	0.22	8.6	1.31

Table 38

Single-core cables, nominal voltage 275 kV (Um = 300 kV)										
500	26.2	26.0	81.6	3.0	115.2	20.5	31.1	0.14	6.8	1.42
630	29.8	24.0	81.2	3.0	114.8	20.6	31.8	0.16	7.7	1.40
800	33.7	24.0	85.1	3.1	119.5	22.5	35.2	0.17	8.3	1.37
1000	37.9	24.0	89.3	3.1	123.9	24.1	38.4	0.18	9.0	1.35
1200	41.2	24.0	92.6	3.1	127.4	25.5	41.6	0.19	9.5	1.33
1400	44.4	24.0	95.8	3.1	130.6	26.8	44.4	0.20	10.0	1.32
1600	47.4	24.0	98.8	3.1	133.8	28.1	47.2	0.21	10.4	1.31

Table 39

Single-core cables, nominal voltage 330 kV (Um = 362 kV)										
630	29.8	28.0	89.2	3.1	123.4	23.3	35.2	0.14	8.8	1.40
800	33.7	27.0	91.1	3.1	125.9	24.3	37.5	0.15	9.7	1.37
1000	37.9	26.0	93.3	3.1	128.1	25.3	39.9	0.17	10.7	1.35
1200	41.2	25.0	94.6	3.1	129.4	26.1	42.0	0.18	11.1	1.33
1400	44.4	25.0	97.8	3.1	132.8	27.4	44.9	0.19	11.6	1.32
1600	47.4	25.0	100.8	3.1	135.8	28.7	47.7	0.20	12.1	1.31

Table 40

Single-core cables, nominal voltage 400 kV (Um = 420 kV)										
630	29.8	32.0	98.2	3.1	132.8	26.1	38.8	0.13	9.6	1.40
800	33.7	30.0	98.1	3.1	133.1	26.5	40.2	0.15	10.7	1.37
1000	37.9	29.0	100.3	3.1	135.3	27.5	42.6	0.16	11.7	1.35
1200	41.2	27.0	99.6	3.1	134.6	27.7	44.0	0.18	12.9	1.33
1400	44.4	27.0	102.8	3.1	138.0	29.0	46.9	0.19	13.5	1.32
1600	47.4	27.0	105.8	3.1	141.0	30.4	49.7	0.19	14.1	1.31

TECHNICAL DATA FOR XLPE SUBMARINE CABLE SYSTEMS

Three-core cables with copper wire screen

Cross-section of con-ductor	Diameter of con-ductor	Insulation thickness	Diameter over insulation	Cross section of screen	Outer diameter of cable	Cable weight (Aluminium)	Cable weight (Copper)	Capaci-tance	Charging current per phase at 50 Hz	Inductance
mm²	mm	mm	mm	mm²	mm	kg/m	kg/m	µF/km	A/km	mH/km

Table 41

Three-core cables, nominal voltage 10 kV (Um = 12 kV)										
70	9.6	3.4	18.8	16	80.7	13.7	15.0	0.31	0.6	0.41
95	11.2	3.4	20.4	16	84.2	14.4	16.2	0.34	0.6	0.39
120	12.6	3.4	21.8	16	87.2	14.9	17.2	0.37	0.7	0.37
150	14.2	3.4	23.4	16	90.6	15.7	18.5	0.40	0.7	0.36
185	15.8	3.4	25.0	16	94.1	16.5	19.9	0.44	0.8	0.35
240	18.1	3.4	27.3	16	99.1	17.7	22.2	0.48	0.9	0.33
300	20.4	3.4	29.6	16	104.0	18.9	24.5	0.53	1.0	0.32
400	23.2	3.4	32.4	16	110.1	20.8	28.2	0.59	1.1	0.31
500	26.2	3.4	35.8	16	117.4	22.7	32.1	0.66	1.2	0.30

Table 42

Three-core cables, nominal voltage 20 kV (Um = 24 kV)										
70	9.6	5.5	23.0	16	89.8	15.1	16.4	0.21	0.8	0.44
95	11.2	5.5	24.6	16	93.2	15.8	17.6	0.23	0.9	0.41
120	12.6	5.5	26.0	16	96.2	16.6	18.8	0.25	0.9	0.40
150	14.2	5.5	27.6	16	99.7	17.3	20.1	0.27	1.0	0.38
185	15.8	5.5	29.2	16	103.2	18.2	21.6	0.29	1.1	0.37
240	18.1	5.5	31.5	16	108.1	19.3	23.7	0.32	1.2	0.35
300	20.4	5.5	33.8	16	113.1	20.6	26.2	0.35	1.3	0.34
400	23.2	5.5	36.6	16	119.1	22.5	29.9	0.39	1.4	0.33
500	26.2	5.5	40.0	16	126.5	24.5	33.8	0.43	1.6	0.32
630	29.8	5.5	43.6	16	134.3	26.7	38.5	0.48	1.7	0.31

Table 43

Three-core cables, nominal voltage 30 kV (Um = 36 kV)										
70	9.6	8.0	28.0	16	100.6	16.9	18.2	0.16	0.9	0.46
95	11.2	8.0	29.6	16	104.0	17.7	19.5	0.18	1.0	0.44
120	12.6	8.0	31.0	16	107.0	18.4	20.7	0.19	1.0	0.42
150	14.2	8.0	32.6	16	110.5	19.3	22.1	0.21	1.1	0.41
185	15.8	8.0	34.2	16	114.0	20.1	23.6	0.22	1.2	0.39
240	18.1	8.0	36.5	16	118.9	21.4	25.9	0.24	1.3	0.38
300	20.4	8.0	38.8	16	123.9	22.6	28.2	0.26	1.4	0.36
400	23.2	8.0	41.6	16	129.9	24.6	32.0	0.29	1.6	0.35
500	26.2	8.0	45.0	16	137.3	26.7	36.0	0.32	1.7	0.34
630	29.8	8.0	48.6	16	145.1	29.2	40.9	0.35	1.9	0.32
800	33.7	8.0	52.5	16	154.4	32.2	47.2	0.38	2.1	0.31

TECHNICAL DATA FOR XLPE SUBMARINE CABLE SYSTEMS

Three-core cables with lead sheath

Cross-section of conductor	Diameter of conductor	Insulation thickness	Diameter over insulation	Lead sheath thickness	Outer diameter of cable	Cable weight (Aluminium)	Cable weight (Copper)	Capacitance	Charging current per phase at 50 Hz	Inductance
mm²	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	kg/m	kg/m	µF/km	A/km	mH/km

Table 44

Three-core cables, nominal voltage 45 kV (Um = 52 kV)										
95	11.2	8.0	29.6	1.3	109.0	19.1	20.8	0.18	1.5	0.43
120	12.6	8.0	31.0	1.3	112.0	20.0	22.3	0.19	1.6	0.42
150	14.2	8.0	32.6	1.4	116.0	21.6	24.4	0.21	1.6	0.40
185	15.8	8.0	34.2	1.4	119.0	22.7	26.2	0.22	1.8	0.39
240	18.1	8.0	36.5	1.5	124.0	25.0	29.5	0.24	2.0	0.37
300	20.4	8.0	38.8	1.6	130.0	27.3	32.9	0.26	2.2	0.36
400	23.2	8.0	41.6	1.7	136.0	30.4	37.9	0.29	2.3	0.35
500	26.2	8.0	45.0	1.8	144.0	33.8	43.2	0.32	2.6	0.33
630	29.8	8.0	48.6	1.9	152.0	37.8	49.7	0.35	2.9	0.32
800	33.7	8.0	52.5	2.1	162.0	43.5	58.6	0.38	3.1	0.31
1000	37.9	8.0	57.3	2.2	173.0	49.3	68.1	0.42	3.5	0.30

Table 45

Three-core cables, nominal voltage 66 kV (Um = 72.5 kV)										
95	11.2	9.0	31.6	1.3	113.0	19.8	21.6	0.17	2.0	0.44
120	12.6	9.0	33.0	1.4	116.0	21.6	23.8	0.18	2.1	0.43
150	14.2	9.0	34.6	1.4	120.0	22.9	25.7	0.19	2.3	0.41
185	15.8	9.0	36.2	1.4	124.0	24.5	28.0	0.20	2.4	0.40
240	18.1	9.0	38.5	1.6	129.0	26.8	31.3	0.22	2.6	0.38
300	20.4	9.0	40.8	1.6	134.0	28.7	34.3	0.24	2.8	0.37
400	23.2	9.0	43.6	1.7	141.0	31.7	39.2	0.26	3.1	0.35
500	26.2	9.0	47.0	1.9	149.0	36.0	45.4	0.29	3.5	0.34
630	29.8	9.0	50.6	2.0	157.0	40.1	52.0	0.32	3.7	0.33
800	33.7	9.0	54.5	2.1	167.0	45.1	60.1	0.35	4.1	0.32
1000	37.9	9.0	59.3	2.3	178.0	51.8	70.7	0.38	4.6	0.31

Table 46

Three-core cables, nominal voltage 110 kV (Um = 123 kV)										
185	15.8	16.0	50.2	2.0	156.0	37.4	40.9	0.14	2.8	0.46
240	18.1	15.0	50.5	2.0	157.0	38.0	42.5	0.15	3.0	0.43
300	20.4	14.0	50.8	2.0	157.0	38.5	44.1	0.17	3.5	0.41
400	23.2	13.0	51.6	2.0	159.0	39.7	47.2	0.20	3.9	0.38
500	26.2	13.0	55.0	2.1	167.0	43.6	53.0	0.22	4.3	0.37
630	29.8	13.0	58.6	2.3	176.0	48.8	60.7	0.24	4.7	0.36
800	33.7	13.0	62.5	2.4	185.0	54.4	69.5	0.26	5.2	0.34
1000	37.9	13.0	67.3	2.6	197.0	61.6	80.5	0.28	5.6	0.33

TECHNICAL DATA FOR XLPE SUBMARINE CABLE SYSTEMS

Three-core cables with lead sheath

Cross-section of conductor	Diameter of conductor	Insulation thickness	Diameter over insulation	Lead sheath thickness	Outer diameter of cable	Cable weight (Aluminium)	Cable weight (Copper)	Capacitance	Charging current per phase at 50 Hz	Inductance
mm²	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	kg/m	kg/m	µF/km	A/km	mH/km

Table 47

Three-core cables, nominal voltage 132 kV (Um = 145 kV)										
185	15.8	18.0	54.2	2.1	165.0	41.4	44.9	0.13	3.0	0.47
240	18.1	17.0	54.5	2.1	166.0	41.8	46.3	0.14	3.4	0.44
300	20.4	16.0	54.8	2.1	167.0	42.4	48.0	0.16	3.8	0.42
400	23.2	15.0	55.6	2.1	168.0	43.6	51.1	0.18	4.3	0.40
500	26.2	15.0	59.0	2.3	176.0	48.6	58.0	0.20	4.6	0.38
630	29.8	15.0	62.6	2.4	185.0	53.3	65.2	0.21	5.1	0.37
800	33.7	15.0	66.5	2.5	194.0	59.0	74.0	0.23	5.6	0.36
1000	37.9	15.0	71.3	2.7	206.0	66.6	85.4	0.25	6.1	0.35

Table 48

Three-core cables, nominal voltage 150 kV (Um = 170 kV)										
240	18.1	21.0	62.5	2.4	184.0	51.1	55.5	0.13	3.4	0.47
300	20.4	20.0	62.8	2.4	185.0	51.7	57.3	0.14	3.7	0.44
400	23.2	19.0	63.6	2.4	187.0	52.9	60.5	0.15	4.1	0.42
500	26.2	18.0	65.0	2.5	190.0	55.7	65.1	0.17	4.7	0.40
630	29.8	17.0	66.6	2.5	194.0	57.8	69.7	0.19	5.3	0.38
800	33.7	17.0	70.5	2.7	204.0	64.7	79.8	0.21	5.7	0.37
1000	37.9	17.0	75.3	2.8	215.0	71.6	90.5	0.23	6.3	0.36

Table 49

Three-core cables, nominal voltage 220 kV (Um = 245 kV)										
500	26.2	24.0	77.6	2.9	219.0	71.8	81.3	0.14	5.7	0.43
630	29.8	23.0	79.2	3.0	224.0	74.9	86.7	0.16	6.4	0.41
800	33.7	23.0	83.1	3.1	234.0	80.2	95.3	0.17	6.9	0.40
1000	37.9	23.0	87.3	3.1	241.0	85.1	104.0	0.19	7.4	0.38

Table 50

Three-core cables, nominal voltage 275 kV (Um = 300 kV)										
500	26.2	26.0	81.6	2.9	229.0	75.3	84.7	0.14	6.8	0.44
630	29.8	24.0	81.2	3.0	228.0	77.0	88.9	0.16	7.7	0.42
800	33.7	24.0	85.1	3.1	237.0	82.5	97.6	0.17	8.3	0.40
1000	37.9	24.0	89.3	3.1	247.0	87.4	106.3	0.18	9.0	0.39

Notes

Notes

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