



Technical Bulletin

TB 0213 – LV link pillar failures

Purpose

This technical bulletin has been issued following recent failures of LV link pillar terminations. In all cases investigated so far, installation error was found to be the cause of failure.

Background

In one case, links were unable to be removed during an isolation operation.

In two other cases, the securing screws were not tightened onto the conductor strands correctly. The screws were left protruding as shown in figures 1 and 2 below, instead of flush as shown in figure 4.

Actions

The installation instructions direct the installer to leave the links firmly locked in position (as shown in figure 3) while the securing screws are tightened. This will prevent the link housing twisting or distorting during tightening of the screws. After all cable connections are completed the required links may be removed according to the circuit design.

When making the cable connections, the screws must be hand tightened with a torque wrench to 50Nm. A power tool is only permitted for this function if the tool has an adjustable torque setting which can be set to 50 Nm.



Figure 1: The failed “A” phase connection with top screw not sufficiently



Figure 2: The failed “B” phase connection with the bottom screw not sufficiently tightened.



Figure 3: All links firmly locked into position during cable connection.



Figure 4: Torque wrench set at 50Nm used to tighten the connections. Note all screws finish flush with the housing when tightened correctly