



# Low Smoke Zero Halogen (LSZH) Cables

The cable you can trust with  
the service you deserve!





# What are Halogens?

- Halogens, Group 17 on Periodic Table, include:
  - Chlorine
  - Fluorine
  - Bromine
  - Iodine
  - Astatine
- Highly reactive
  - Produce bio-accumulative and toxic chemicals
  - Fire – hydrogen chloride/fluoride/ bromide/iodide
    - ✓ **Water – hydrochloric/flouric/bromic/iodic acids**
  - toxic to environment and humans in sufficient quantities

# What are Halogens?

## Persistent Bio-Accumulative (PBT) and Toxic Chemicals

- PBT pollutants are chemicals that are
  - ❖ Toxic
  - ❖ persist in the environment and
  - ❖ bio-accumulate in food chains
- Pose risks to human health and ecosystems
- Transfer rather easily among air, water, and land, and span boundaries of programs, geography, and generations.

*Source: US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)*



# Effects of Halogens

## Environmental Example

- Chlorine exposed to hydrogen in a fire
  - Hydrogen Chloride: Toxic, corrosive, colorless gas
  - Attacks metals & limestone, resulting in corrosion to buildings, monuments and natural rock forms
  - Contributes to acid rain, resulting in pollutants being transported throughout the atmosphere
- In the upper atmosphere, chlorine-containing molecules have been implicated in the destruction of the ozone layer

# Why are Halogens used?

Materials that contain halogens

PVC, CPE, Neoprene, FEP, and flame retardants are commonly used because they are durable, resistant to fire, and relatively inexpensive

<b>Compound</b>	<b>Use</b>
<b>Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)</b>	<b>Jacket (CMR &amp; CMP)</b>
<b>Flame retardants</b>	<b>Cross-web members, insulating materials and jackets</b>



# What is a LSZH Cable?

- A Low Smoke Zero Halogen (LSZH) Cable burns cleanly and does not contain halogens.
- Manufacturers must ensure that their cable designs incorporate non-halogenated materials for both cable insulation and the cable jacket.
- IEC has developed International Standards which state what constitutes a Low Smoke and Non Halogen Cable
  - IEC 61034-2
  - IEC 60754 Part 1 and 2

# IEC 61034-2

- Measurement of smoke density of cables burning under defined conditions
  - A minimum light transmission value, expressed as a percentage light transmittance, is recorded during a fire in a 3 metre cube area.
  - The recommended light transmission value is greater than 60%.



# IEC 60754-1

Test on Gases evolved during combustion of materials from cables

- Part 1: Determination of amount of halogen acid gas
  - Halogen acid evolved after 60 minutes burn time is captured, absorbed into a solution and analyzed for pH and conductivity.
  - The level of hydrochloric acid measured in the test solution must be less than 5mg/g.



# IEC 60754-2

Test on Gases evolved during combustion of materials from cables

- Part 2: Determination of degree of acidity of gases for materials by measuring pH and conductivity
  - Gases produced after 30 minutes burn time are captured, absorbed into a test solution and analyzed for pH and conductivity.
  - The pH value of the test solution should not be less than 4.3
  - The conductivity value of the test solution should not exceed 10 $\mu$ S/mm.

# LSZH - Benefits

## ○ Safety

LSZH minimizes the effects from smoke and harmful corrosive gases in event of combustion

- ✓ *Low smoke* - easier visibility in exiting area & reduced danger of smoke inhalation
- ✓ *low toxicity* - no harm to people from halogenated gases

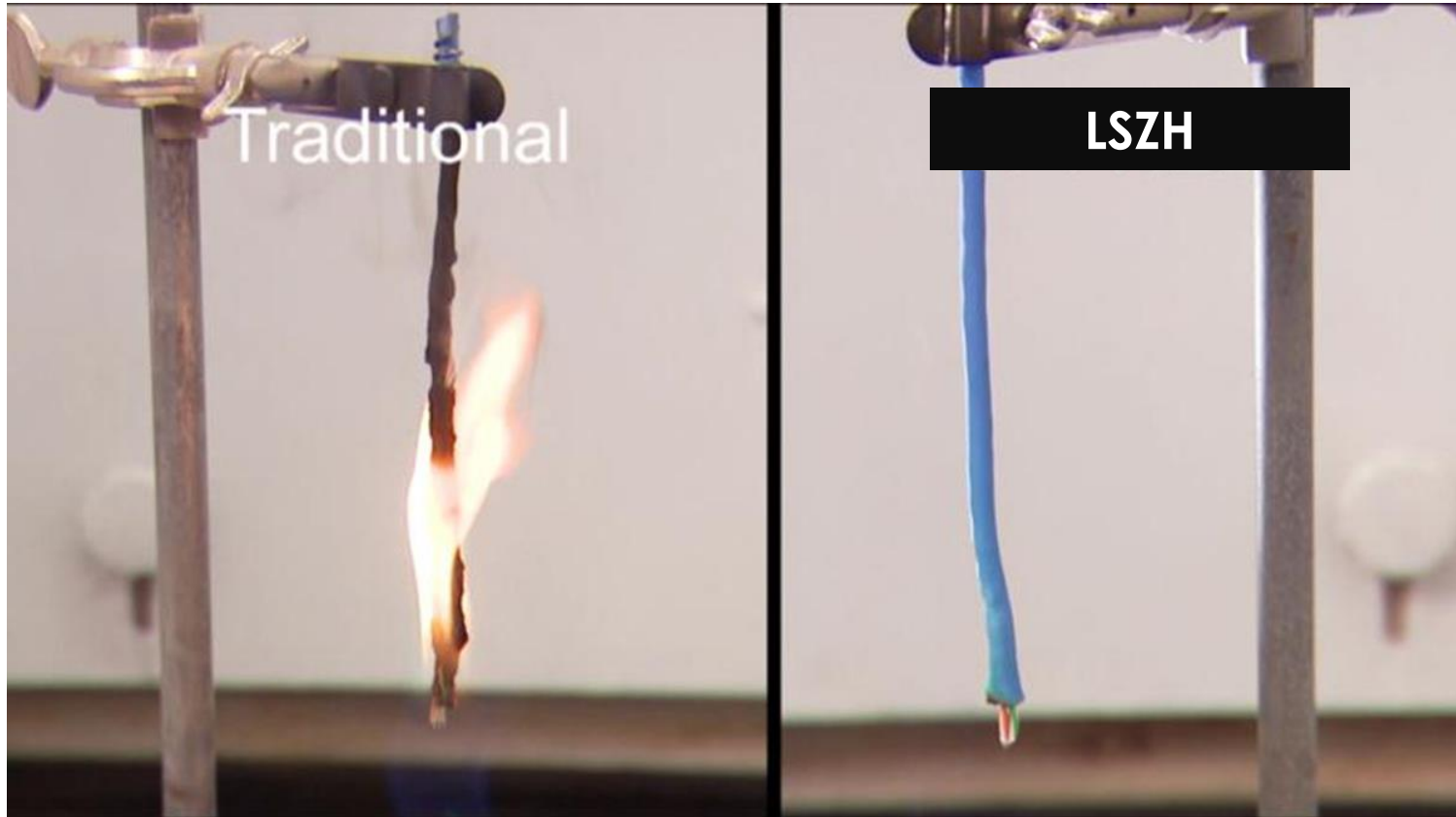
## ○ Superior flame retardancy

- to reduce spread of fire

## ○ Durability

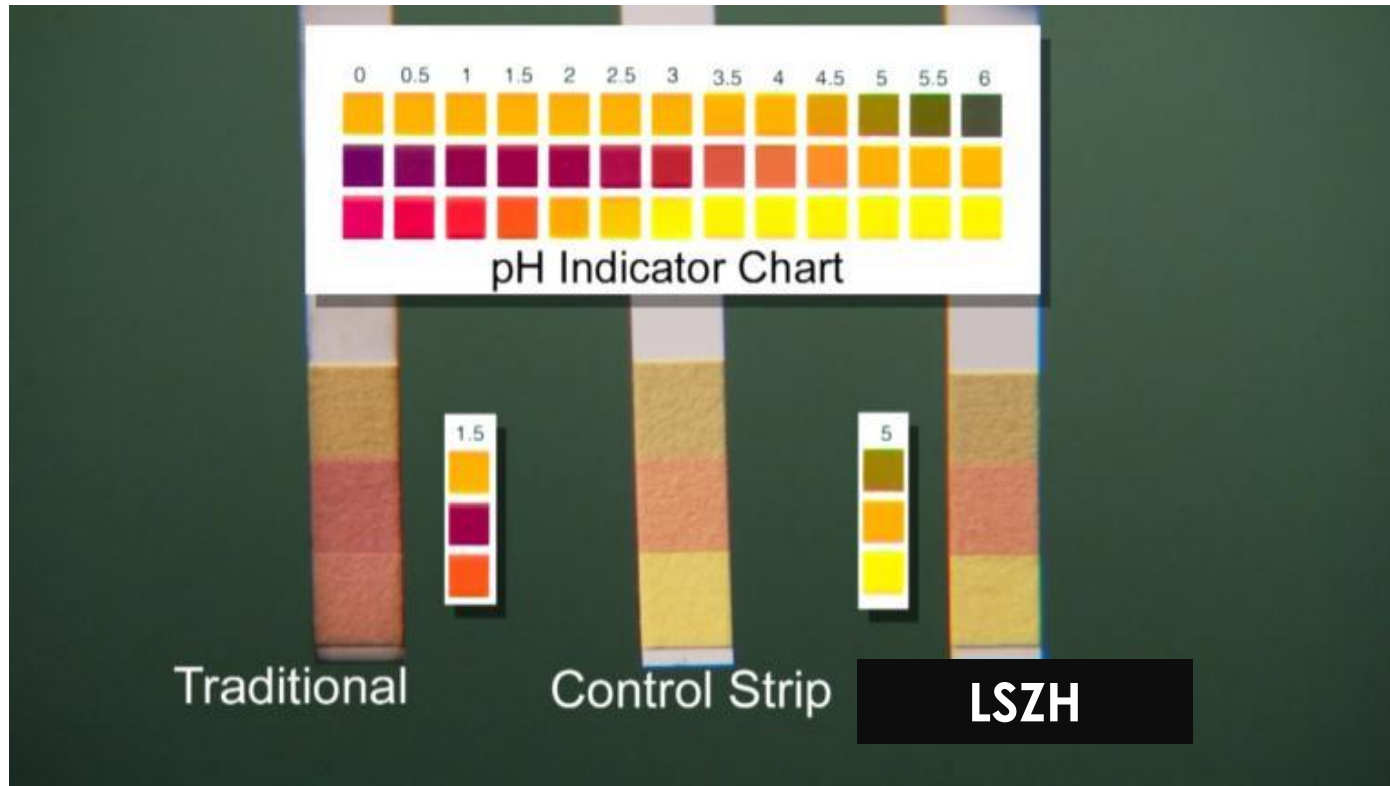


# LSZH - Benefits



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## Acidity Indicator Test





# LSZH - Applications

LSZH cables are suited to applications such as

- Rapid transit
- Industrial
- Commercial (high rise buildings, shopping malls, cinemas, hotels, etc.)

& similar confined-space applications.



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