



Important changes affecting the UK Electrical Safety Matting market

If you are buying Electrical Safety Matting it is important that you understand the recent changes to the standards required. Please read on for important information on the recent decision by the BSI [British Standards Institute] on the withdraw of the original and longstanding BS921/1976 standard and the recommended replacement.

if you intend to start buying the latest approved standard, IEC61111, then it is essential you are confident that your purchase fully conforms to the full IEC61111 standard, including additional testing for Oil Resistance, Mechanical Puncture and Acid Resistance to name just a few. It has come to our attention that Switchboard/ Electrical Safety matting is entering the UK which is only tested for voltage compliance, **this is no longer sufficient !!!**

European Standard IEC:61111:2009. Details on how the new introductions affect you:

IMPORTANT Change in UK Specifications As from January 2013 the British Standards Institute [BSI] withdrew the long standing BS921:1976 standard and it now becomes obsolete. In its place they are now endorsing, as replacement, the European Standard IEC61111:2009 in harmony with the rest of the European Union.

This is not a new product for **CORUBA** as we have been supplying this, in various classes and formats for a number of years made to special order so we are fully conversant with the compounds and test procedures required. At present the new IEC specification does not directly define thickness - only 'maximum' allowable against the relevant class. This has left it a little confusing for clients choice and also for suppliers in deciding stock holdings but we expect this to settle when later safety guidelines are introduced.

Based on this information CORUBA will initially be holding stocks, in various formats, based on previous demands and a general overview of the current market situation, details of which can be viewed here on www.coruba.co.uk. In the interim period, and also to satisfy clients whereby the new standard does not directly apply, we shall be continuing, for the foreseeable future, to offer and stock the original CORU550 BS921/1976 'METAR' tested to 15,000v, the CORU551 standard 6.0mm tested to 11,000v and the CORU580 grey VDE0303. These will be made to the original standard but cannot be designated accordingly. In addition to the above CORUBA, as for many years now, will continue to offer electrical safety mattings to the American standard ASTM D178 JS.7 in various classes and types. These run very closely in line with IEC61111:2009 so we do expect to see a gradual phasing out of the American standards.

All standard finishes are Fine Ribbed [corrugated] unless stated, but we would be pleased to offer on other pattern types such as Broad Fluted, Circular Stud, Pyramid or Diamond designs. We would like to remind our valued clients that CORUBA has in excess of 20 flawless years history in the supply of electrical safety mattings fully in compliance with all current international standards. We also have a bespoke policy and would be pleased to offer for any custom or specialised requirements you may have.