



Cable Type 125

CAI Certification Specification

Ref: CAI-008-C / 125 / 12-2016

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INDEX

1 GENERAL3

2 MECHANICAL SPECIFICATION.....3

3 CABLE MEASURING.....3

4 TESTING (ELECTRICAL).....3

 4.1 CONDUCTOR RESISTANCE 3

 4.2 REGULARITY OF IMPEDANCE..... 4

 4.3 LONGITUDINAL LOSS (ATTENUATION)..... 4

 4.4 RETURN LOSS..... 4

 4.5 CAPACITANCE..... 4

 4.6 RELATIVE PROPAGATION VELOCITY 5

 4.7 CHARACTERISTIC IMPEDANCE..... 5

 4.8 STATIC BEND TEST..... 5

 4.9 Repeated BENDING TEST..... 5

 4.10 SCREENING ATTENUATION 6

 4.11 FLEXING TEST..... 6

 4.12 CRUSH RESISTANCE 6

REGULARITY OF IMPEDANCE TEST PROCEDURE..... APPENDIX....A

CERTIFICATION SUMMARY: CAI-008-C / 125 APPENDIX....B

**CERTIFICATION DOCUMENT
HISTORY/REGISTER.....APPENDIX....C**

1 General

This specification defines the pass/fail criteria for the testing of cable type 125, and references the relevant sections of BS EN 50117-1: 2002 where appropriate. The methods of BS EN 50117-6:1997 are used as appropriate.

All details, where applicable, will be recorded on CAI-010-C: Cable Testing Result Sheet. When a cable fails any section, the details of the failure will be fully recorded.

High quality connectors are to be used to test the cable as required throughout this procedure, referencing the correct method of connection in the VHF/UHF Handbook.

2 Mechanical Specification

The mechanical specifications for the cable as follows:

Inner Conductor	: To be copper
Diameter of Inner Conductor	: 1.25 +/-0.03mm
Outer Braid / Tape	No dissimilar metals except the foil may be aluminium and the braid copper and where the foil is aluminium the copper braid must be tin plated 0.75 microns +/- 0.25
External Diameter of Sheath	: 8.0 +/-0.4mm
Bending Radius	: 50mm
Flexing Radius	: 100mm

3 Cable Measuring

Physically measure and cut 100m (+/-25cm), 30m (+/-6cm) and 3m (+/-3cm) from the cable to be tested using a tape measure, when required. Once measured, put onto reels as required for the tests to be carried out.

4 Testing (Electrical)

Carry out the following tests with 100m of cable on the drum

4.1 Conductor Resistance

(Reference BS EN 50117-1: 2002 Section 4.1)

Measure the DC resistance of the cable under test, and using the formula in section 5.2 normalise the result to 20°C, of both the inner and outer conductors.

Using the formula in section 5.1 convert the reading to Ω/km .

The DC resistance of the inner conductor should be <15 Ω /km.

The DC resistance of the outer conductor should be <13.5 Ω /km.

4.2 Regularity of Impedance

(Reference BS EN 50117-1: 2002 Section 5.1.2.5)

In the absence of any content in the above clause the interim procedure is detailed in appendix A

Using a TDR, enter the velocity ratio of the cable under test as specified by the manufacturer into the TDR, and observe the cable regularity of impedance.

Regularity of Impedance should be < 1% throughout the test specimen.

4.3 Longitudinal Loss (Attenuation)

(Reference BS EN 50117-1: 2002 Section 5.1.2.2)

The attenuation of the cable under test at 20° C should meet the following:

5 MHz	:	< 1.5 dB/100m
50 MHz	:	< 3.5 dB/100m
100 MHz	:	< 5.0 dB/100m
200 MHz	:	< 7.5 dB/100m
460 MHz	:	< 11.5 dB/100m
860 MHz	:	< 15.5 dB/100m
1000 MHz	:	< 17.0 dB/100m
1750 MHz	:	< 22.0 dB/100m
2150 MHz	:	< 26.0 dB/100m

4.4 Return Loss

(Reference BS EN 50117-1: 2002 Section 5.1.2.4)

The return loss of the cable under test at 20° C should meet the following:

5 - 30 MHz	:	> 23 dB
30 - 470 MHz	:	> 23 dB
470 - 862 MHz	:	> 20 dB
862 - 2150 MHz	:	> 18 dB

In each frequency band, 3 peak return loss values up to 4dB lower than the specified limit are permissible.

Carry out the following tests with 30m of cable cut from the drum

4.5 Capacitance

Measure the capacitance of the cable under test at 20° C using a capacitance meter and convert the reading to give pF/m.

4.6 Relative Propagation Velocity

(Reference BS EN 50117-1: 2002 Section 5.1.2.1)

Calculate the required values at 20° C using BS EN 50117-1: 2002 Section 5.1.2.1.

Express the final value using BS EN 50117-1: 2002 Section 5.1.2.1.

4.7 Characteristic Impedance

(Reference BS EN 50117-1: 2002 Section 5.1.2.3)

Using the values obtained in section 4.6 above, and capacitance value obtained in section 4.5 above. Apply the values using BS EN 50117-1: 2002 section 5.1.2.3 to calculate the mean characteristic impedance of the cable under test.

The Characteristic Impedance should be $75\Omega \pm 3\Omega$.

Carry out the following tests using new cable from the drum

4.8 Static Bend Test

(Reference BS EN 50117-1: 2002 Section 5.2.9)

Using a 20m (minimum) piece of the cable under test, wrap a section 180° around a 100mm diameter mandrel - ensuring the cable touches all the required parts of the mandrel.

Using a TDR, ensure that the regularity of impedance is < 1%.

After testing, there should be no cracks, or breaks in the dielectric, metallic elements or sheath.

4.9 Repeated Bending Test

(Reference BS EN 50117-1: 2002 Section 5.2.10)

Using a 10m (minimum) piece of the cable under test, bend a section 90° around the 100mm diameter mandrel, then straighten and bend again 3 times. Wind the same section of cable three turns around the same mandrel. Ensure the cable touches all the required parts of the mandrel for these tests.

Using a TDR, ensure that the regularity of impedance is < 1%.

After testing, there should be no cracks, or breaks in the dielectric, metallic elements or sheath.

Carry out the following tests using a new 3m section of cable

4.10 Screening Attenuation

(Reference BS EN 50117-1: 2002 Section 5.1.2.7)

Using the formula specified in BS EN 50289-1-6: 2002 section 9.3.1 equation, the result +6 dB of the cable under test should meet the following attenuation levels:

30 - 300 MHz	:	> 85 dB
300-470 MHz	:	> 80 dB
470 - 1000 MHz	:	> 75 dB
1000 - 2150 MHz	:	> 65 dB

Carry out the following tests using 15m section of new cable

4.11 Flexing Test

(Reference BS EN 50117-1: 2002 Section 5.2.10)

Mark the middle 10m (minimum) of the cable under test as the test area, and pull the cable through the 150 mm diameter pulleys backwards and forwards 5 times, with a force of 10 to 20 N, at a rate of not less than 1m/minute.

Using a TDR, ensure that the regularity of impedance is < 1%.

Re-check the screening attenuation on a 3m length of the 10m of cable tested using the set up in Section 4.10, and the formula specified in BS EN 50117-1: 2002 section 11.10.6 equation (31), the result +6dB of the cable under test should meet the following attenuation levels:

30 - 300 MHz	:	> 85 dB
300-470 MHz	:	> 80 dB
470 - 1000 MHz	:	> 75 dB
1000 - 2150 MHz	:	> 65 dB

After testing, there should be no cracks, or breaks in the dielectric, metallic elements or sheath.

4.12 Crush Resistance

(Reference BS EN 50117-1: 2002 Section 5.2.3)

Using a TDR and a torque wrench set to 13.6Nm, ensure the cable has no lateral movement and apply a crush load to the cable for 2 minutes.

Ensure that the regularity of impedance is < 1% and record any magnitude variations.

Appendix A Regularity of Impedance Test Procedure

A.1 Method A: Pulse return loss

A.1.1 Principle

The test determines in the time domain the return loss of coaxial cables using a pulse signal.

NOTE. The pulse return loss is displayed against time to show the local irregularities of the characteristic impedance at the ends of the cable to be determined. The procedure normally is used with long cable lengths relative to the pulse width

A.1.2 Definitions

Pulse return loss a_p is defined as

$$a_p = 20 \log (u_s / u_{r,x}) \quad \text{in dB}$$

Where

u_s is the voltage of the pulse at the input end.

$u_{r,x}$ is the voltage of the pulse reflected by an irregularity at a distance x from the cable input end and measured at the input end of the cable

The corrected pulse return loss, $a_{p,c}$ is the return loss measured at the input end minus the pulse attenuation by travelling $2x$. It is defined by

$$a_{p,c} = a_p - (2ax / 100) \quad \text{in dB}$$

Where

a is the attenuation constant in dB/100 m at the frequency f_e around which the main part of the pulse energy is concentrated and x is the measured distance in m. For a sensitive determination of $a_{p,c}$ it should be noted that the pulse attenuation may not vary linearly with length due to the pulse distortion

The resolution, dl is the minimum distance between two faults which can be distinguished on a return loss curve

The pulse width t_p , is characterised by the value of the pulse width at half height.

A.1.3 Test equipment

The test equipment shall be assembled generally in accordance with the figure below

A.1.4 Procedure

The pulse is an approximately sine square pulse. Unless otherwise specified in the relevant cable specification, the width of the pulse shall be ≤ 10 ns.

The resolution dl is determined by

$$dl = 0.15 t_p v_r \quad \text{in m}$$

Where

t_p is the pulse width in ns,

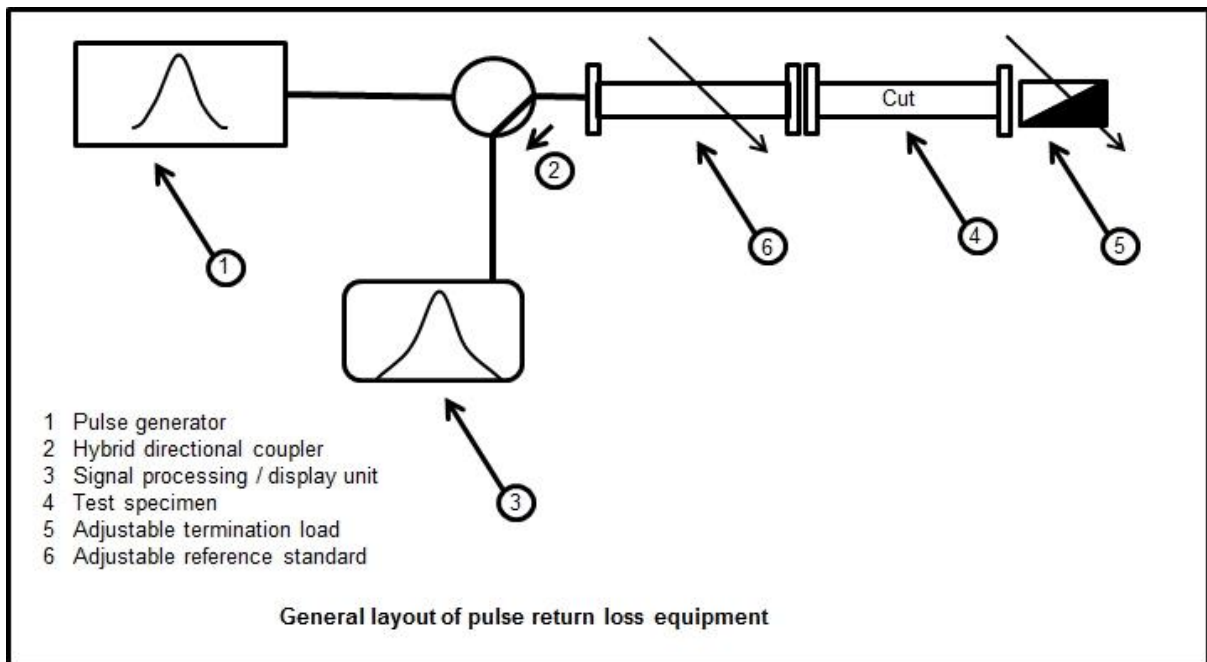
v_r is the velocity ratio of the test sample

The frequency $f_e = 250 / t_p$ in MHz

Items 5 and 6 in figure 8 shall be adjusted for minimum reflection and the return loss shall be displayed and recorded

A. 1.5 Requirements

The regularity of impedance shall not exceed the value stated in the relevant cable specification



A. 2. Method B : Step function return loss

A. 2.1 Principle

The test determines in the time domain the return loss of cables using a step function signal

Note the step function return loss is displayed against time to show the local distribution of magnitude and phase of irregularities of the characteristic impedance near the input end of the test specimen.

A. 2.2 Definitions

The step reflection coefficient is defined as

$$r_s = u_{r,x} / u_s * 100 \quad \text{in \%}$$

Where

$ur.x$ is the step voltage reflected by an irregularity at a distance x from the input end of the cable

U_s is the step voltage applied to the test specimen.

For a step function the rise time t_r , is defined as the difference between the 10% and 90% value of step amplitude. The rise time affects the resolution.

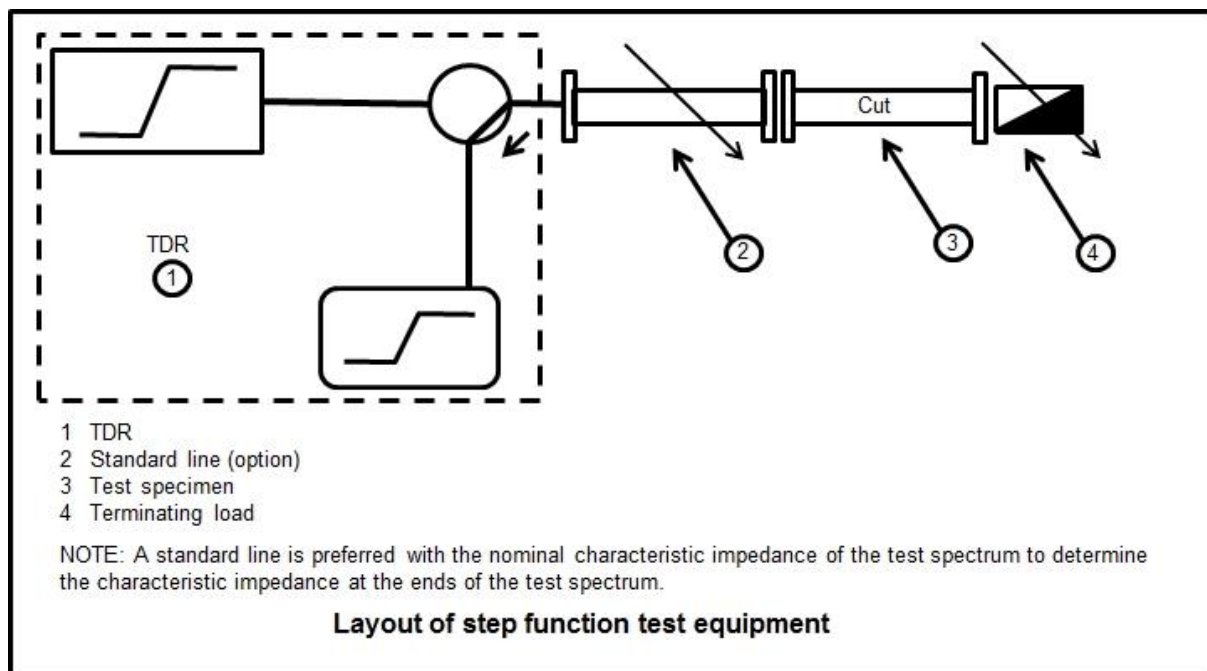
The resolution dl can be determined by:

$$dl = 150 * 10^{-6} * t_r * v_r \quad \text{in m}$$

where

t_r is the rise time in ps;

v_r is the velocity ratio of the test specimen



A.2.3 Test procedure

The test equipment shall be assembled generally in accordance with the figure

A.2.4 Procedure

The step function used to test the test specimen shall have a rise time of ≤ 5 ns.

A.2.5 Requirements

The step reflection coefficient shall comply with the value indicated in the relevant specification.

Appendix B

Certification Summary: CAI-008-C / 125 / 09-2013 Cable Type 100

Standard : BS EN50117-1: 2002
Coaxial Cables Generic Specification

MECHANICAL SPECIFICATION

Inner Conductor	:	Copper
Diameter of Inner Conductor	:	1.25 +/-0.03 mm
Outer Braid/Tape	:	No dissimilar metals except the foil may be aluminium and the braid copper and where the foil is aluminium the copper braid must be tin plated 0.75 microns +/- 0.25
External Diameter over Sheath	:	8.0 +/-0.4mm
Bending Radius	:	50mm
Flexing Radius	:	100mm

ELECTRICAL SPECIFICATION

Nominal Impedance	:	75 Ω +/- 3 Ω
DC Resistance (20°C)	:	Inner <15 Ω /km Outer <13.5 Ω /km

Attenuation:

5 MHz	:	< 1.5 dB / 100 m
50 MHz	:	< 3.5 dB / 100 m
100 MHz	:	< 5.0 dB / 100 m
200 MHz	:	< 7.5 dB / 100 m
460 MHz	:	< 11.5 dB / 100 m
860 MHz	:	< 15.5 dB / 100 m
1000 MHz	:	< 17.0 dB / 100 m
1750 MHz	:	< 22.0 dB / 100 m
2150 MHz	:	< 26.0 dB / 100 m

Return Loss:

5 - 30 MHz	:	> 23 dB
30 - 470 MHz	:	> 23 dB

470 - 862 MHz	:	> 20 dB
862 - 2150 MHz	:	> 18 dB

Screening Attenuation:

30 - 300 MHz	:	> 85 dB
300-470 MHz	:	> 80 dB
470 - 1000 MHz	:	> 75 dB
1000 - 2150 MHz	:	> 65 dB

Screening Attenuation following Flexing Test:

30 - 300 MHz	:	> 85 dB
300-470 MHz	:	> 80 dB
470 - 1000 MHz	:	> 75 dB
1000 - 2150 MHz	:	> 65 dB

Flexing: Maintain minimum impedance regularity <1%, and screening performance.

Static Bend Test: Maintain minimum impedance regularity <1%.

Crush Resistance: Maintain impedance regularity <1%.

Appendix C

Certification Document/History Register: CAI-008-C / 125 / 09-2013 Cable Type 125

History start date:	Revision No:	Comments:
September2013-09-16	Rev-4	History start date.
September2013-09-16	Rev-4	History change date.
September2013	Rev-4	*Updated to Rev-4 September 2013
December2016-12-09		Removed term Benchmark replaced with Certification

*Revision updated to revision 4 date September 2013

Reference to BS EN 50117 part 1 1997 and part 6 1997 removed and updated to BS EN 50117 part 1 2002

Mechanical specification changed to from "Outer Braid / Tape No contact between dissimilar metals" to "Outer Braid / Tape No dissimilar metals except the foil may be aluminium and the braid copper and where the foil is aluminium the copper braid must be tin plated 0.75 microns +/- 0.25"

Update measurement procedures to current British Standard BS EN 50117-1
Affecting clauses -- All measurement and test clauses

Screening attenuation figure at
30 - 470 MHz : > 75 dB
changed to
30 - 300 MHz : > 85 dB
300-470 MHz : > 80 dB

Appendix A changed to B and screening attenuation figures updated

New appendix A added incorporating previous test procedure for regularity of impedance missing from the current British Standard.

New appendix C added with change history

End this change details.