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BEAMA Statement on IET-01:2024

BEAMA acknowledges the release of the IET-01:2024, which provides recommendations for the use of Open PEN Conductor Detection Devices (OPDDs) in Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE). BEAMA is fully committed to improving the safety of electrical installations by working with industry partners; however, we believe it is important to clarify the legal status of IET-01.

IET-01 should not be confused as having the same status as British Standards (BS) which are published in the UK by BSI, incorporated by Royal Charter, as the only National Standards Body (NSB) formally recognised by the UK Government. Unlike internationally produced standards such as BS EN IEC 61851-1:2019 (Electric Vehicle Conductive Charging System Part 1: General Requirements) which are developed through national and international consensus in accordance with World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules, IET-01 is a document developed by an organisation not holding the status of an NSB. It is therefore to be considered a guidance document. Guidance documents are useful for providing industry recommendations and best practices, but they cannot be legally enforced, nor can manufacturers claim "compliance or conformity" with them in the way they can with standards developed by BSI and Designated by the Secretary of State. Designated standards allow businesses to show their products, services or processes comply with essential requirements of legislation: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/designated-standards

Manufacturers have an obligation to ensure their products conform with legislation. The long-established industry recognised way to do this is it ensure their products conform to Standards published by BSI, for example, BS EN IEC 61851-1. Conforming to British Standards enables conformity with BS 7671 (Requirements for Electrical Installations). While IET-01 offers a framework for addressing specific issues within the UK context, it remains a voluntary reference point and should not be confused as a legal requirement.

BEAMA is actively engaging with relevant organisations to address any inconsistencies between UK-specific safety practices and international standards, including the ongoing amendment of BS EN IEC 61851-1.

Until such amendments are finalized, BEAMA members must continue to meet their legal obligation by conforming with applicable British Standards while using IET-01 as supplementary guidance where necessary.