Wire Size Specifications

Table: UL486E

Amperage versus Wire Size

Table: UL486E – Assigned maximum ampere rating versus wire size for copper conductors. Values are for not more than three conductors in raceway or cable (reference: National Electrical Code, ANSI/NFPA 70-1999).

Wire Size and Cross-sectional Area

Approximate relationship between conductors of cross-sectional areas in mm² and AWG sizes as used in North America (reference: IEC 998-1).
Definitions

Unprepared Conductor:
A conductor which has been cut and the insulation of which has been removed for insertion into a terminal. The conductor end is bare.

Prepared Conductor:
A conductor, the strands of which are soldered or tinned, or the end of which is fitted with a cable lug, eyelet, quick-connect, ring terminal, spade terminal, or similar component, prior to insertion into the terminal.

Factory Wiring Terminal:
A terminal intended in the end application to be connected under controlled conditions, usually at a manufacturer’s location. Such terminations shall use prepared or unprepared conductors.

Field Wiring Terminal:
A terminal to which wiring connections are made in the field and that is subjected to the requirements of a terminal for field wiring as specified in the National Electrical Code, NFPA 70. Such terminations shall accept unprepared conductors.