



WHAT YOU SHOULD
KNOW ABOUT
SAFE CABLING
AT HOME



Universal Cable
Safety Through Quality

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Universal Cable

Safety Through Quality

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Using the wrong kind of cables could be dangerous

Behind every wall at home, an office or a building in general, there are cables that channel electricity for our daily consumption. These are housing cables and they connect all electricity-powered items and sockets to their main electricity source.

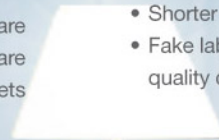
Often, many Malaysians make the mistake of paying little attention to the kind of cables that wire their homes. A cable is just a cable, some may think. But is it really that simple when there have been many documented incidences of fire, blackouts, short circuits and electrocution caused by unsafe cables? These cables are called substandard cables.

What are **substandard cables**?

Substandard cables are cables that are not designed, manufactured or test-approved to meet the requirements in safety standards. The flooding of substandard cables in the market is largely due to unscrupulous traders and manufacturers who skimp on quality and safety to produce cheaper cables.

Characteristics of a substandard cable include:-

- Reduced diameter of copper conductor
- Metal content does not meet specifications (using copper-clad aluminium instead of copper conductor)
- Substandard insulation
- Reduced thickness of insulation
- Shorter length per coil
- Fake labels & packaging, including quality certifications



The **dangers** of substandard housing cables

Cable Overheating

The smaller diameter of a substandard housing cable reduces its ability to conduct electricity effectively, thereby causing the cable to overheat. When that happens, it causes the cable to burn or melt.

Electrical Disruptions

The instability of substandard housing cables may result in short circuits and blackouts - posing hassle for home owners and danger to young and old in the family.

Electrocution

The reduced conducting ability of a substandard housing cable causes it to lose insulating properties. This leads to circuit malfunction and possible electrocution.

Fire Outbreak

Because of its general lacking in quality, substandard housing cables may create sparks which may then lead to outbreaks of fire.

In the first half of 2010 alone, more than **3,300 cases of fire** were reported

Perangkaan punca kebakaran di Malaysia bagi Januari hingga Jun 2010

Bil.	Punca Kebakaran	Jumlah
1.	ELEKTRIK	2889
2.	PUNTUNG ROKOK	1416
3.	PERCIKAN API	504
4.	MERCUN/BUNGA API	48
5.	UBAT NYAMUK/LILIN/COLOK	170
6.	DAPUR GAS/MINYAK	751
7.	REAKSI SPONTAN	409
8.	SENGAJA DIBAKAR: NIAT BAIK NIAT JAHAT	5587 1299
9.	TIDAK DIKETAHUI	2768
10.	TINDAK BALAS KIMIA	38
11.	MANCIS API	109
12.	LAIN-LAIN PUNCA	2056

Source: <http://www.bomba.gov.my/>



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What is considered
a **good cable** then?

5 WAYS

TO IDENTIFY A SAFETY- ASSURED HOUSING CABLE



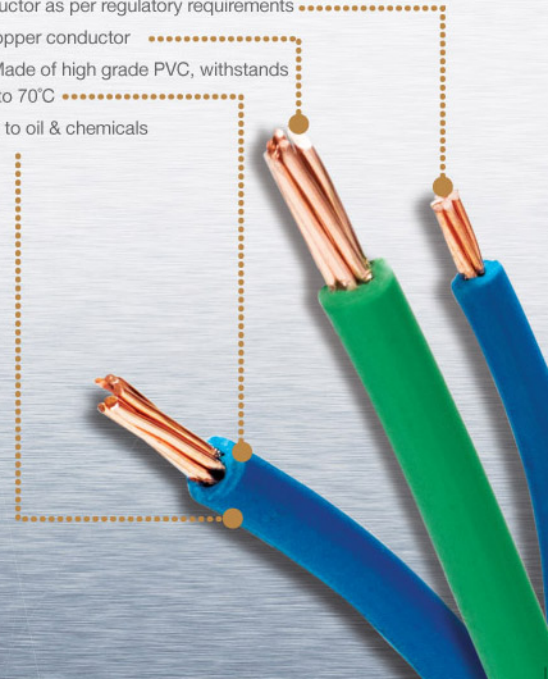
#1

Safety-assured housing cables have the **right stuff** inside

The first and most important characteristic of a safety-assured cable is the material used to produce it. In general, it should be made of 100% copper conductor and a high grade PVC-insulated layer.

A real safety-assured **housing cable** should have the following characteristics:

- Diameter of conductor as per regulatory requirements
- Made of 100% copper conductor
- Insulation layer: Made of high grade PVC, withstands temperatures up to 70°C
- Strong resistance to oil & chemicals









#2

Size does matter! Safety-assured housing cables have the right diameter

There are different cable diameters to support different electricity levels and requirements. Some cables may be safety-assured but if they are not using the minimum required diameter, they may cause the cable to overheat and pose other dangers.

Here is a guide to different cable diameters and their respective purposes:

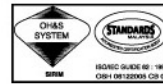
TYPE OF CABLE	AREA (mm ²)	BEST FOR
	1.5	Appliances such as lighting points
	2.5	Appliances such as plug points / water heater
	4	Appliances that require more electricity, such as air-conditioners
	6	Appliances such as water pump
	10	Appliances such as AC motor
	16 - 35	Used as channels to distribute electricity. Most commonly used outside the house.

NOTE: Applications in the 'Best For' column are recommended based on ideal usage conditions. Actual product may vary from the picture shown.

#3

Look out for quality certifications

This is the easiest way to identify a safety-assured cable from a substandard one. To know if a cable is certified safe, just look out for these stamps of approval:



Certified to OHSAS
18001:2007
(Cert. No.: SR 0325)



SIRIM
SIRIM QAS
International, Malaysia



Certified to ISO 9001:2008
(Cert. No.: AR 0772)



BE CAREFUL!

Some substandard housing cable brands fake their quality certifications. It is always better to find out more about a particular brand first before deciding.

#4

Ask your **contractor** just a bit more

As an end consumer, you can avoid substandard cables by simply asking. If you are building a new home, consider asking your contractor:

- Q1 What brand of cables will you be using / recommending?**
- Q2 Is it certified by SIRIM, Suruhanjaya Tenaga & other professional certifying bodies?** TIP: You can check if the brand is genuinely certified by local authorities by logging on to www.malaysiancertified.com.my
- Q3 Where else has the cable brand been used?**
TIP: Only a cable brand that has been genuinely certified locally and internationally is used in iconic locations and exported to other countries.
- Q4 Is the cable brand a member of the Malaysian Cable Manufacturers Association (MCMA)?** TIP: MCMA is a representative body of cable manufacturers in Malaysia. Most established brands are members.

#5

Save all the headache by **trusting** a renowned cable brand

The simplest rule of thumb is to trust a brand that has long been established in the market. You can always run an online search to check the brand's background out first!

And remember, never compromise on cost for peace-of-mind and the safety of your family!



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q1 How do I find out if my house is wired with substandard housing cables? *If your house has experienced incidences of blackouts and short circuits, this could be early symptoms of faulty cables. Best is to contact your contractor or electrician to conduct a thorough inspection.*

Q2 What should I do if my house has indeed been wired with substandard housing cables? *Talk to your contractor or electrician for the best solution. While rewiring may be most ideal, it is not necessary in all cases. You should also practice safer usage of electricity. Check out the Tips section in this booklet!*

Q3 Where can I get safety-assured housing cables from? *The easiest way is through your contractor or electrician. Just ask for a renowned cable brand such as Universal Cable.*

Q4 How can I ensure that my contractor is using the exact housing cable brand that I want? *Ask to have a look at the cable coil first before they are installed. Brands like Universal Cable have proper packaging and labelling on the coil.*



Q5 Do safety-assured housing cables mean higher price? *Not necessary. While substandard cables are generally cheaper (due to its low quality), there are other irresponsible manufacturers who price their products similarly to safety-assured ones.*

Trust the cable brand trusted all over the Asean region



Universal Cable (UC) is the single largest cable and wire manufacturer in Malaysia and the Asean region. A subsidiary of Leader Universal Holdings Berhad, Universal Cable (UC) was established in March 1967. Since then, it grew to be one of the most trusted cable manufacturers - thanks to its high commitment to safety and quality.

Products manufactured by Universal Cable are used by various industries, from oil & gas to residential and commercial.

Did you know that **Universal Cable** has wired these places?

Malaysia

Putrajaya, Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA), Petronas Twin Towers (KLCC), PLUS Highway, Petronas, Telekom, Tenaga Nasional Berhad, Iskandar Development Region, Kulim Hi-Tech Industrial Park, Malaysia's Light Rail Transit, Kuala Lumpur Sentral Station, Sepang Formula 1 Race Track, Ampang-Kuala Lumpur Elevated Highway and many more!

Italy

Australia

Hong Kong

Fiji

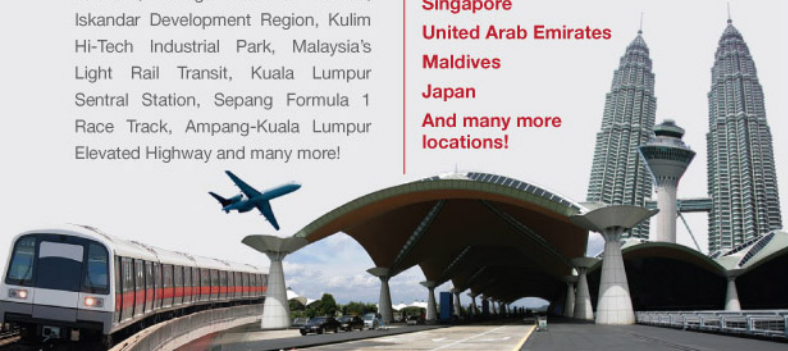
Singapore

United Arab Emirates

Maldives

Japan

And many more locations!



CERTIFIED, RECOGNISED & APPROVED, LOCALLY & INTERNATIONALLY

Many may not know this but Universal Cable is also one of the most awarded cable manufacturers in Malaysia and one of the very few to be certified to the highest global standards in cable quality.

Some of **Universal Cable's** Certifications of Quality & Safety:



Certified to OHSAS
18001:2007
(Cert. No.: SR 0325)



Certified to ISO 9001:2008
(Cert. No.: AR 0772)



SIRIM
SIRIM GAS
International, Malaysia



Testing Group, Certification
& Inspection
TUV SUD PSB
Corporation Pte Ltd



KEMA Netherlands



Type Approval Program
American Bureau of Shipping



Centro Elettrotecnico
Sperimentale Italiano, Italy



Awards received:



GOLD Certificate of Merit
(Engineering Category)
Malaysia Manufacturing Excellence Awards 2008



Malaysia Business
Superbrands 2006-2007
1st Cable Manufacturer in Malaysia to receive
the prestigious SUPERBRANDS Award



Export Excellence Award
(Merchandise) Category IV



"the brand laureate"
Best Brands in Manufacturing
Components & Peripherals

A little caution goes a long way!
Easy tips you can follow
for **safe electricity usage**

Tip 1 Use only electrical appliances, cables & sockets that are approved by SIRIM and/or Suruhanjaya Tenaga.

Tip 2 Unplug electrical appliances from their sockets when left unused.

Tip 3 Heat-producing appliances such as irons will use an enormous amount of electricity currents. Never use more than one item with the same socket.

Tip 4 Never use wires or fuses of higher amperage than required to replace burned-out fuses.

Tip 5 Check all appliances and extension cords for frayed or exposed wires.



Introducing

UniHome Housing Cables

