


3.5 **Extension units**

- (1) Any extension unit that is designed for household use at a voltage of not less than 200 volts a.c. single phase is classified as prescribed products.
- (2) Extension units other than those listed below [see also Item 5, Schedule 2 of the Regulation] are not acceptable.
- (3) **Specific safety requirements**
 - (A) Extension units should be of one of the following designs:
 - (I) a 5A extension unit fitted with :
 - (a) a 5A plug which conforms to the requirements stipulated in the Regulation (i.e. BS 546 or BS 5733 plug);
 - (b) a 3-core flexible cord which conforms to the requirements stipulated in the Regulation; and
 - (c) a combination of one or more 5A sockets with a main fuse-link of 5A for the protection of all the sockets (the number of 5A sockets should not be more than four).
 - (II) a 13A extension unit fitted with :
 - (a) a 13A fused plug which conforms to the requirements stipulated in the Regulation (i.e. BS 1363 Part 1 or BS 5733 plug);
 - (b) a 3-core flexible cord which conforms to the requirements stipulated in the Regulation; and
 - (c)(i) a combination of one or more 13A sockets;
 - (ii) a combination of one or more 5A sockets with a main fuse-link of 5A for the protection of all the 5A sockets (the number of 5A sockets should not be more than four); or
 - (iii) a combination of one or more 13A sockets without a main fuse-link and one or more 5A sockets with a main fuse-link of 5A for the protection of all the 5A sockets (the number of 5A sockets should not be more than four).
 - (III) a 15A extension unit fitted with :
 - (a) a 15A plug which conforms to the requirements

stipulated in the Regulation (i.e. BS 546 or BS 5733 plug);

- (b) a 3-core flexible cord which conforms to the requirements stipulated in the Regulation; and
 - (c)(i) one 15A or 13A socket and not more than two 5A sockets with a main fuse-link of 5A for the protection of all the 5A sockets; or
 - (ii) not more than three 5A sockets with an individual fuse-link of 5A for the protection of each of the 5A sockets.
- (B) 5A, 13A and 15A plugs of the extension unit should meet the specific safety requirements of plugs in addition to the essential safety requirements stipulated in the Regulation. Plugs should conform to BS 546, BS 1363 Part 1 or BS 5733. For plugs which conform to BS 5733, the construction and dimensions of plug pins and markings on the plug should conform to BS 546 or BS 1363 Part 1.
- (C) Flexible cords of the extension unit should meet the specific safety requirements of flexible cords in addition to the essential safety requirements stipulated in the Regulation. In general, flexible cords should conform to IEC 60227 or IEC 60245. The flexible cord should be properly connected to the plug and socket portion of the extension unit with correct polarity.
- (D) The minimum cross sectional area of each conductor of the flexible cords for 5A, 13A and 15A extension units should be 0.75 mm², 1.25 mm² and 1.5 mm² respectively.
- (E) All sockets should be on the top engagement surface of the extension unit and should not be fixed at the other sides of the extension unit. Extension units with multiple sockets should be designed to allow simultaneous use of all sockets.
- (F) Each socket of the extension unit should be designed to accommodate only one type of the following plugs:
- 5A plug to BS 546;
 - 13A plug to BS 1363 Part 1; or
 - 15A plug to BS 546.
- (G) For fused extension unit, the word "FUSED" or "FUSE" or the equivalent symbol "" should be clearly marked on the external surface of the socket portion. The minimum cross sectional area of the associated flexible cord [see paragraph (D) above] should also be clearly marked on the external surface of the socket portion.

- (H) The construction of the socket should be such that when a plug is withdrawn from it, the current-carrying socket contacts are automatically screened by safety shutters. The shutters should be operated by the insertion of the earthing pin.
- (I) The 5A fuse-link for the protection of 5A sockets should conform to BS 646 or BS 1362. The fuse should be mounted between the line terminal and the corresponding socket contact in such a way that the fuse-link cannot be displaced accidentally during use or be left in incorrect contact when the fuse carrier is replaced and secured in position.
- (J) For 15A extension unit with a combination of not more than three 5A sockets, individual 5A fuse-link for the protection of each of the 5A socket should be provided.
- (K) The 5A socket should be designed and constructed to BS 546 and matched with the dimensions of 5A plug to BS 546.
- (L) The 13A socket should be designed and constructed to BS 1363 Part 2 and matched with the dimensions of 13A plug to BS 1363 Part 1.
- (M) The 15A socket should be designed and constructed to BS 546 and matched with the dimensions of 15A plug to BS 546.
- (N) When the socket portions of extension units are loosely supplied as a component part or spare part of the extension unit, the sockets should comply with the corresponding safety requirements stipulated in the Regulation. Sufficient information regarding the connection of plug and the required size of flexible cord should be marked on the external surface of the socket portion.