

Issue No:	NB 193 v2.0	Issue Date:	11/06/2019
Type:	Operational		
Subject:	'Protection Blankets' installed in link boxes		
Applicable Areas:	All areas	Applicable Job Roles:	All Operational Staff involved in link box operations
Issued By:	Asset management	Author:	Tony Bond
Circulation: <input type="checkbox"/> All UK Power Networks Staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asset Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capital Programme & Procurement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connections <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contractors <input type="checkbox"/> Customer Services <input type="checkbox"/> Finance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> G81 External website <input type="checkbox"/> HR & Communications <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICPs (Independent Connection Providers) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IDNOs (Independent Distribution Network Operators) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Systems <input type="checkbox"/> Legal <input type="checkbox"/> Meter Operators		<input type="checkbox"/> Network Operations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EPN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LPN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SPN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connections Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distribution Capital Delivery <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Highway Services <input type="checkbox"/> Logistics <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Network Control <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Powercare <input type="checkbox"/> Transport Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SHE&TTA <input type="checkbox"/> In Business safety team <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Reps <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy and Regulation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UK Power Networks Services	

Please consult the author if you have any queries about the information below.

This bulletin has been re-issued following recent link box audits, where the protection blankets were found to be incorrectly fitted or of an incorrect size.

It is essential that appropriate size blankets are correctly fitted to ensure they provide the required mitigation.

The following shows a protection blanket incorrectly fitted. The protection blanket is too small for the size of the chamber, preventing it from working as intended. The photograph was taken when the blanket was fitted in 2017 by the craftsman who installed it.



This resulted in the fire igniting the adjacent car/s when the link box faulted



It is the responsibility of line management to ensure that all appropriate employees are issued with this Bulletin and their understanding of the contents is checked. This Bulletin will be subject to Compliance audits after 14 days from the date of issue.

This printed document is valid at 11/06/19, check after this date for validity.

Protection blankets must be the correct size & fitted correctly

The following gives guidance on how a protection blanket shall be fitted:

The protection blanket must be fitted neatly around the bell cover with particular attention being given to tucking it in around the edges. This is necessary to give maximum benefit in the event of a failure, as shown in the following four examples.

1. Lay the correct sized protection blanket over the link box pit with the label & strap facing up.



2. Push down on the label until it sits centrally over the bell cover.



It is the responsibility of line management to ensure that all appropriate employees are issued with this Bulletin and their understanding of the contents is checked. This Bulletin will be subject to Compliance audits after 14 days from the date of issue.

This printed document is valid at 11/06/19, check after this date for validity.

3. Tuck the protection blanket down on all four sides of the bell cover using a suitable blunt insulated tool such as a Female link extractor.

Female link extractor



4. Protection Blanket in position tucked neatly around bell cover for maximum benefit



It is the responsibility of line management to ensure that all appropriate employees are issued with this Bulletin and their understanding of the contents is checked. This Bulletin will be subject to Compliance audits after 14 days from the date of issue.

Examples of incorrectly fitted or wrong size protection blankets



It is the responsibility of line management to ensure that all appropriate employees are issued with this Bulletin and their understanding of the contents is checked. This Bulletin will be subject to Compliance audits after 14 days from the date of issue.