

# Setting the standard for electrical connections

*In many environments, electrical devices and systems must work safely under difficult conditions and to ensure that the system remains reliable, ingress of water or foreign bodies must be avoided. Mark Redfern, managing director of Wieland Electric explains the benefits of the gesis IP+ pluggable electrical installation system for such applications.*

It's a very common problem for the wholesaler in that your customer turns up at the trade counter looking for a solution to a job he is doing outdoors and you need to be able to recommend a complete electrical installation package which not only suits the needs of his installation but also has him coming back for more.

A good example of this would be an outdoor lighting project. The installation may ultimately be a perfect example of lighting design at its very best but if the story behind the scenes is not quite as stunning with standard

outlets carefully wrapped in plastic bags then you have a problem. Apart from the fact that improvised solutions like this are dangerous they are not aesthetically pleasing and would not stand up to the ingress of water or foreign bodies if the need arose.

Until now there have been very few alternatives to this scenario, but with the introduction of the gesis IP+ range your customers have a solution which is safe, reliable and easy to use.

#### A complete solution

The main benefit of the gesis technology is that it is a plug and play system which provides numerous time savings during installation. The components are pre-assembled in the factory and simply plugged together on site meaning that cutting to length, stripping of sheath and insulation are now a thing of the past.

One end is pre-assembled with the appropriate mains connector while the device end is equipped with a moulded RST connector, ensuring that it is not only extremely compact, but is also protected against cable bending forces. In addition the connection between the device and the pre-assembled cable is

protected against accidental loosening through an integrated safe locking device.

#### In the field

With installation time increasingly becoming a critical factor on any project, the benefits to the installer are numerous. Because this is a plug and play solution, installation time can be cut by up to 80% on-site compared with a conventional installation. As well as the obvious benefits here, it is important to consider that cutting and stripping cables can frequently result in errors and subsequently the installer has to be called back to the site. By using the gesis IP+ solution the installer is guaranteed a fast and accurate job and thus a better outcome for all concerned.

But it isn't just in the initial build that savings can be made because once the system is up and running, operational downtime can also be cut in the case of defective devices or regular servicing because consumer devices can quickly and easily be disconnected from the network.

The fact that this is such a simple solution is further demonstrated by the ability to extend or add extra devices to the installation. A complete



system can be installed using junction boxes and splitters and in the event that an extension is required it is a simple matter of splitting the male and female connectors using a screwdriver and inserting the extension. Not only does this keep downtime to a minimum, it also greatly

conventional way.

This has all changed with the new AC round connector which is pre-assembled with components to provide a quick and safe installation even under the most arduous of conditions. The system is supplemented by connectors for assembly on-site and because leading inverter manufacturers now recognise the trend towards a plug and play system, they are now offering their inverters with pre-assembled RST connectors.

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reduces cost and introduces a level of flexibility previously unseen in this type of installation.

#### Technology in action

Although I have already referred to outdoor lighting installations, there are numerous other areas in which this technology can be used.

A good example is on the building site where supply of power is imperative to keeping the project working to the tight deadlines which are often involved. Using the gesis IP+ system, it is not just a plug and play solution, it is also 'fit and forget'. With connectors available for IP65 – IP68 protection, you can safeguard your electricity supply from everything that your typical building site can throw at it, from brick dust right through to sudden blasts of water.

Although the benefits of this system have been tried and tested in numerous applications, up until now it hasn't been suitable for a complete solar installation due to the fact that it has been restricted to the DC side of the photovoltaic system with the AC connection having to be made in the

#### On the counter

So far I have talked about the benefits to the installer, but quite often the wholesaler is overlooked and what might turn out to be the best product since sliced bread still comes in bulky packaging which is difficult to store and even more difficult to display on the trade counter.

The fact that this is a plug and play system has benefits for you too. Firstly because a standard RST connector is moulded to the device end, it simplifies the amount of stock which you need to hold. Secondly, an IP connection kit is available in a convenient blisterpack, giving your customer everything they need for an installation in one handy pack which can easily be displayed on the trade counter.

The packs are available in three different formats, offering a selection of male and female connectors, T sections and distribution blocks to suit the application, and where space is at a premium, we can supply a dedicated display stand to promote the packs in the most effective way.

#### Plug and play

With time constraints being put on every job, installers are constantly looking for ways to make savings without having to cut corners. With the gesis IP+ pluggable electrical installation system they can do just that, ensuring a quick, safe and reliable installation every time – perfect for your customers and a good revenue stream for you.

