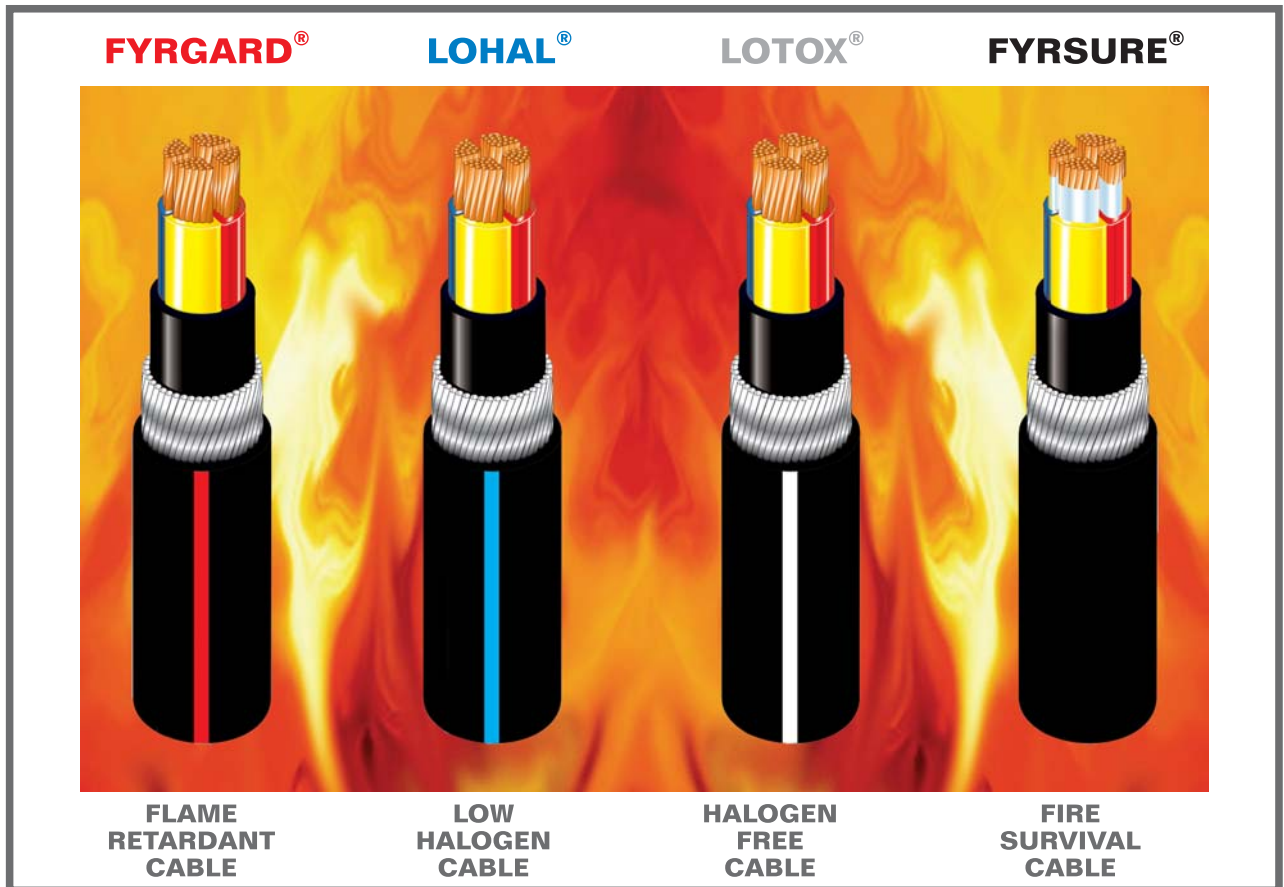


1. CABLES IN FIRE SITUATIONS



1.1 INTRODUCTION

Throughout the industrial world, all modern buildings, whether they be domestic, commercial or industrial, contain a large quantity of electric cable.

These cables provide energy, information and control and are distributed throughout the buildings in ducts, tunnels and in basement and ceiling cavities, linking every part of the building.

By their very nature therefore, electric cables are able to propagate fires along their length, and allow rapid spreading of a fire throughout the cable network and the associated buildings. In addition to the spread of fire, the generation of smoke may prevent the escape of persons trapped in a fire situation.

A further concern is that the smoke and gases liberated by the fire, contain toxic and corrosive elements, causing harm to both people and equipment.

Appropriate selection of a suitable cable type from the Aberdare Flamosafe range of specially designed fire situation cables, will minimise the extent of damage and reduce the dangers associated with fires.

This brochure provides guidelines to enable the selection of an appropriate cable type to address each of the four major areas of concern in fire situations i.e. flame propagation, generation of smoke, generation of toxic and corrosive gas and fire survival.