



## SAFETY ALERT

Subject: Landis & Gyr ZMB 127 Whole Current Electrical Energy Meter  
Number: 02/14

DIO Secretariat Sponsor: Robin Cawthorne

Date of issue:  
17 February 2014

Contact if different from above Sponsor: Andy Dunn

Hd Electrical Infrastructure Team  
Professional & Technical Services  
Hard FM  
Defence Infrastructure Organisation  
Kingston Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B75 7RL

Telephone: 0121 311 3622 Email: [DIOODC-EngConstElecAH@mod.uk](mailto:DIOODC-EngConstElecAH@mod.uk)

Who Should Read this: Top Level Budget Holders, Prime Contractors, Private Finance Initiatives, Public, Private Partnership and other traditionally procured contracts, Project Managers, Site Estate Authority Teams and Property Managers with responsibility for MOD projects and Property Management Works Services (including the legacy work of EWCs/WSMs), Coordinating Authorising Engineers, Authorising Engineers Electrical, Authorised Persons Electrical and Designers, Installers and Maintainers of final electrical distribution equipment.

When it takes effect: immediately

When it is due to expire: When updated or rescinded.

### 1. Document Aim.

- a. To alert all personnel responsible for maintaining low voltage electrical installations of a potentially dangerous failure mode within Landis & Gyr ZMB 127 whole current electrical energy meters.

## 2. Introduction.

- a. COMPLIANCE WITH THE CONTENTS OF THIS ALERT WILL ENABLE COMPLIANCE WITH THE HEALTH & SAFETY AT WORK ETC ACT 1974 AND ITS SUBORDINATE REGULATIONS.
- b. The appropriate MOD officer shall arrange for the Maintenance Management Organisation (MMO) contractor to carry out all actions in accordance with this Alert.
- c. Any work required as a result of this Safety Alert must be carried out in accordance with JSP 375 Volume 3 – MOD’s Safety Rules & Procedures.
- d. On MOD Establishments occupied by United States Visiting Forces (USVF) responsibility is jointly held by USVF and DIO (USF). At base level this jointly managed organisation is to take appropriate action to implement the contents of this Alert. Where this Alert contains procedures which differ significantly from USVF practice DIO (USF) code of practice will be issued.

## 3. Requirement

- a. Identify all Landis & Gyr ZMB 127 three phase whole current electrical energy meters with a serial number as identified in Annex A.
- b. Where an affected meter is found to be in service it should be removed from service. The meter should either be replaced or the installation made good depending on current operational requirements.

## 4. Background

- a. Following a series of fires in customers premises Energy Networks Association issued NEDeR 2013/0753/00 which reported of a defect within the Landis & Gyr ZMB 127 three phase whole current meter. On investigation a varistor component was found to cause a catastrophic internal failure. All Suppliers within the UK Power Networks Licence areas have been written to advising them of this and advising to replace the meters.
- b. Unless a meter is approved by Ofgem or another EC member state (in the case of induction meters) it cannot be used for billing purposes in the UK.<sup>1</sup> All domestic meters used for billing purposes by a licensed electricity supplier, must be certified to show that they operate within the prescribed levels of accuracy.<sup>1</sup> Certifications are time limited.<sup>1</sup>
- c. Landis & Gyr “advise energy suppliers and meter maintainers that the certification periods for the 1995, 1996 and 1997 ZMB 127 meters have now expired and that they should be removing the meters from service for this reason.”
- d. Landis & Gyr have been asked to comment on whether they have any concerns over the safety of these meters but to date they have not addressed the issue of safety other than to state that they are “not aware of any evidence of any safety risk with the ZMB 127 meters”. They have also stated that they are “very concerned that

---

<sup>1</sup> Ofgem Meter Approval & Verification Factsheet,  
<https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Markets/sm/metering/crf/metrology/am/gmr/Documents1/5876-meterapprovalverification.pdf>

there are still ZMB 127 meters outside of their certification period that are being operated in consumers' homes".

- e. Landis & Gyr state that the meters have been installed in both domestic and commercial installations.
- f. It is not known if any of these meters are installed on the MOD estate.

#### **Annex A – Landis & Gyr ZMB 127 Meters Manufactured Between 1995 and 1997**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ORDER NO</b>	<b>TYPE</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>FIRST SERIAL NO</b>	<b>LAST SERIAL NO</b>
16.02.95	CO01830	ZMB127dr53	600	L95E 00001	L95E 00600
22.05.95	CO01955	ZMB127er53	1000	L95E 01601	L95E 02600
22.05.95	CO01955	ZMB127dr53	1500	L95E 02601	L95E 04100
22.08.95	CO02082	ZMB127dr53	1600	L95E 06101	L95E 07700
22.08.95	CO02082	ZMB127dr53	400	L96E 00001	L96E 00400
05.12.95	CO02181	ZMB127er53	1000	L96E 00401	L96E 01400
05.12.95	CO02181	ZMB127dr53	500	L96E 01501	L96E 01900
15.02.96	CO02232	ZMB127er53	1420	L96E 01901	L96E 03320
15.02.96	CO02232	ZMB127dr53	1420	L96E 03321	L96E 04740
22.05.96	CO02260	ZMB127er53	400	L96E 04741	L96E 05140
22.05.96	CO02260	ZMB127dr53	4000	L96E 05141	L96E 09140
22.08.96	CO02280	ZMB127er53	2000	L96E 09141	L96E 11140
21.10.96	CO02303	ZMB127er53	800	L96E 11141	L96E 11940
21.10.96	CO02303	ZMB127er53	2200	L97E 00001	L97E 02200
12.03.97	CO02431	ZMB127er53	500	L97E 02201	L97E 02700
12.03.97	CO02431	ZMB127dr53	500	L97E 02701	L97E 03200
20.06.97	CO02632	ZMB127dr53	750	L97E 03201	L97E 03950
05.08.97	CO02805	ZMB127er53	600	L97E 03951	L97E 04550
05.08.97	CO02805	ZMB127dr53	400	L97E 04551	L97E 04950
05.08.97	CO02805	ZMB127er53	300	L97E 04951	L97E 05250
05.08.97	CO02805	ZMB127dr53	300	L97E 05251	L97E 05550
05.08.97	CO02805	ZMB127er53	300	L97E 05551	L97E 05850
05.08.97	CO02805	ZMB127dr53	200	L97E 05851	L97E 06050
05.08.97	CO02805	ZMB127er53	300	L97E 06051	L97E 06350