SP ENERGY NETWORKS

Product Recall
Lucy Electric Solid Link for N2 LV Pillars

Lucy Electric currently supply solid links to fit into Lucy N2 LV pillars. (Lucy Reference 1100011007 and SPEN SAP code 30980746). ED&S received reports from Ayrshire district staff that they were unable to insert these links onto the phase contacts during operations.

The thickness of the pillar phase contacts is 8mm (See Figure 1) and the gap between the mating faces of the solid link have been found to be 6.5mm. By design, there should be an adequate tolerance within the link assembly to allow the plates to be pushed over the mating pillar phase contacts. The Thackery washer (See Figure 3) then helps to hold the link in position (in addition to the operator holding the link in position), to allow it to be then tightened onto the contacts via the wedge clamps when using an approved insulated screwdriver.

Lucy Electric has concluded that the issue has been caused by a tooling manufacturing error (estimated from February 2019) that has caused the Thackery washer to be over compressed by the central rivet, which removes the required movement from the assembly. (See Figure 1 & 2)

Lucy Electric has completed corrective actions on their production line and reworked existing stock. (See Figure 3). They have requested the affected stock to be recalled back from SPEN which will be replaced.

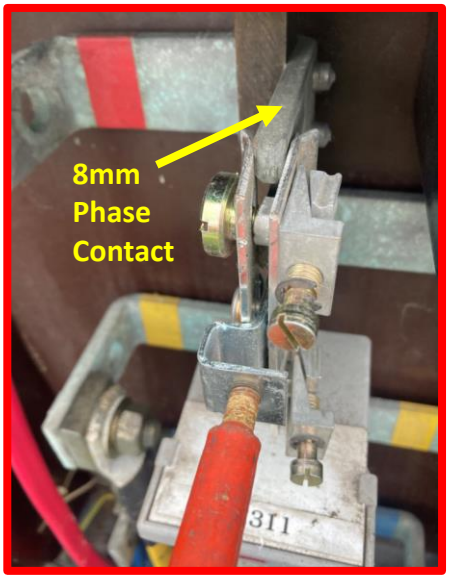


Figure 1. Link too tight for phase contacts

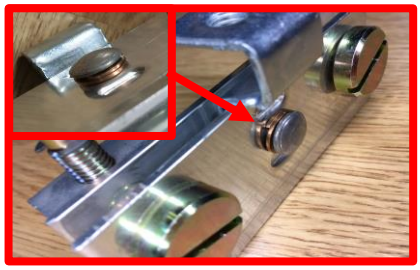


Figure 2. Over compressed Thackery washer

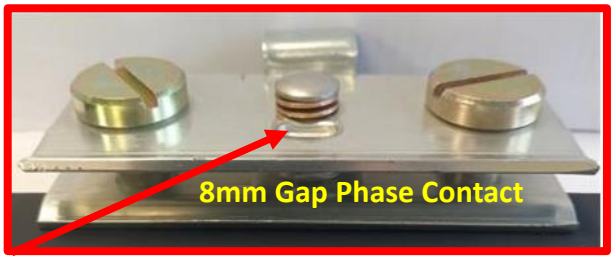


Figure 3. Uncompressed Thackery washer

Recommendations and action points

- Modifying or reworking affected solid links by removing the Thackery washer is not permitted.
- Operational staff shall carry out a visual inspection of their stock of solid links to ensure that the Thackery washer in not over compressed and to ensure that there is a minimum gap of 8mm between the contact plates. If affected solid links are found to have an over compressed Thackery washer or a gap of 6.5mm, they shall be returned to either Bonnybridge (SPD) or Queensferry (SPM) stores, where they will be quarantined and returned to Lucy.
- Any affected links found in stock or installed / stored in Lucy Electric N2 pillars shall be replaced with new solid links (See Figure 3) which will be issued via Logistics (SAP Code 30980746).
- All Team Leaders / Line Managers to ensure this recall process is undertaken.