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## **HEALTH & SAFETY DATASHEET FOR ELECTRONIC IGNITORS**

### **Mechanical Hazards**

Great care must be taken not to penetrate the aluminium or plastic case in which the ignitor is housed. Over tightening of the fixing stud may result in the stud shearing off the case.

### **Thermal Hazards**

The maximum temperature at which the ignitor should be operated is marked on it. This can be as high as 105°C and even higher under fault conditions (Note adjacent metal surfaces could attain similar temperatures). These temperatures are high enough to cause injury to the skin and personnel should be suitably warned of the necessary precautions to be taken to avoid such injury. In certain circumstances these hazards may not exist when ignitors are totally enclosed in fully assembled equipment but would occur when ignitors are exposed and can be touched (e.g. during test operations, in partly assembled luminaires, on gear trays etc). Care may need to be taken to avoid adjacent insulating materials protecting live parts being adversely affected by these temperatures.

### **Electrical Hazards**

During operation ignitors produce pulses that can have peak voltage as high as 5000 volts. These peak voltages will be present on the terminal marked Y or L and the necessary warnings should be given to personnel concerning the care required to avoid electric shock when live parts are accessible. Particular attention must be paid in this respect to terminations and joints if these are, for any reason, exposed. Cables connected, either directly or indirectly, to terminals should be of a rating capable of withstanding the high-voltage pulses, and also possess the correct current carrying capacity. The use of mineral insulated cable is not recommended. The user must ensure that good connection is made between the conductors in the cable and the terminals in the terminal block, and ensure that the connection is made in such a way that the insulation on the cable is down inside the shroud of the terminal, and that no bare conductor, or any strands of the conductor protrude above the top of the shroud on the terminal. In equipment using ignitors, the metal case of the ballast and ignitor must be earthed. All ignitors should be protected from condensation, water splashes etc.

### **Disposal**

The resins used in ignitors, when cured, are chemically inert at normal operating temperatures and constitute no environmental hazard. If ignitors are incinerated the resins decompose and may emit a black volatile substance which must be rendered harmless and inoffensive and should be disposed of in compliance of duties imposed by the Health and Safety at Work Act, and in accordance with local authority regulations.

Some ignitors are housed in cases of a plastic material, and certain ignitors incorporate a terminal block made of a plastic material. If such material is incinerated, noxious or offensive fumes may be emitted. These ignitors should be disposed of in accordance with local authority regulations.

Authorised signature and date

Clive Riddell, Technical Manager for Venture Lighting Europe Ltd

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