



Plugs and socket-outlets for household use and related purposes

New product requirements for the Swiss market

The new standard SN SEV 1011:2009/A1:2012 effective December 1, 2012, defines the requirements applicable to multiway and intermediate adaptors, cord sets, cord extension sets, and travel and fixed adaptors. This appendix clearly specifies the products in question for the Swiss market, thoroughly covering the electrical safety and user requirements.

In Switzerland, electrotechnical products must comply with the Low Voltage Equipment Ordinance (Verordnung über elektrische Niederspannungserzeugnisse, NEV; SR 734.26) in order to be placed on the market. The items must be manufactured in accordance with Art. 7 para. 1 of the NEV, in compliance with appropriate technical standards. This allows the presumption that the fundamental requirements for placing the items on the market have been met (so-called Presumption of Conformity). The technical committee in charge, TC 23B of the Swiss Electrotechnical Committee CES has amended the existing standard SN SEV 1011:2009 with this Amendment A1.

Most significant changes and updates

- Multiway adaptors: maximum of 4 socket-outlets, no stacking permitted, multiway adaptors with T12 socket-outlets have been dropped
- Intermediate adaptors: no stacking permitted
- Cord sets: minimum wire gauges
- Cord extension sets: overcurrent protection, cord minimum length and minimum wire gauge, requirements for foreign socket-outlets
- Travel adaptors: retention of protection class, overcurrent protection, restriction of time of use to 1 hour under full load, no single-pole plug-in, and no stacking permitted
- Fixed adaptors: retention of protection class

Transitional provisions

Affected products must comply with the new standard SN SEV 1011:2009/A1:2012 in regard to manufacture or importation starting January 1, 2016. In the event the products were designed and tested only in compliance with standard SN SEV 1011:2009 and the IEC standards, then their manufacture or import into Switzerland is permitted only until December 31, 2015, and they must be withdrawn from the market and from retail stores by December 31, 2018. Any affected products that had been previously classified under the NEV as deficient in regard to safety and whose placing on the market had therefore been prohibited by the ESTI continue to remain subject to a sales prohibition regardless of this Amendment A1.

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