

EHV Cables: A Boost to Power Sector

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For a sustained economic growth of 8 to 9 per cent, it is important to bridge the gap between demand and supply of power. The power sector is therefore one of the most important sectors for the development of nations. With government thrust on growth of power sector that includes generation, transmission and distribution, the demand for underground cables is expected to increase. Extra High Voltage (EHV) Cables are used in transmission and with the growth in the transmission segment, the demand for EHV cables too is expected to grow.



ogy was just emerging, CCI was the pioneer in developing 220 kV cables.

The company has always managed to stay ahead of competition. The 220 kV cables supplied in 1994 are in satisfactory operation even now. CCI has supplied more than 120 km of 230 kV cable in the last one year. The company is currently executing a large 230 kV turnkey cable order involving 129 km of 230 kV cable. It is also in the process of upgrading its facilities for 400 kV grade cables to cater to the growing requirement in this segment.

To ensure a steady growth for the EHV cable industry and to keep a check on the malpractices, cable users should buy cables only from reputed manufacturers with proven technology and proven service performances. The cables should be of such a quality as to be able to meet the continuous and short circuit current requirements. Also, it is necessary to ensure that the accessories and joints have been procured from manufacturers with proven service record. The EHV cables contracts should be Turnkey contracts so that the contractor will have single point responsibility and will guarantee a complete cable system.

EHV cables are used in urban areas only when there is no possibility of using overhead lines. The underground (UG) cables have following advantages:

Aesthetics – Not visible and therefore no hindrances;

No maintenance; and

No power theft.

The land is scarce in cities and UG cable transmission avoids Right Of Way (ROW) etc.

In India, the technology for producing EHV cables has started maturing only in the recent past. The Cable Corporation of India (CCI) has been

producing 245 kV cables in India since the last two decades and the cables are still in satisfactory operation. Other internationally renowned companies are also making an entry in India through the joint venture route.

In India, the demand for EHV cable is likely to grow. As of now EHV cables are used mostly in Metro cities. However, with growing urbanization, Tier II cities are also getting crowded and load centres are getting shifted. This will lead to a rise in the demand for EHV cables in Tier II cities as well. In recent times, there have been huge demands from cities like Jaipur.

Way back in 1994, when the technol-

Cable Corporation of India (CCI)

Year 1957, when formal international joint ventures were unheard of, The Khatau and Thakersey groups, already renowned names in Indian industry, joined hands with German promoters Siemens and F&G and set up a power cable factory. The new venture commenced operations in Mumbai and began with the manufacture of PVC insulated wire and cables for the first time in India. Three and a half decades later, a second plant was set up at Nashik in Maharashtra. Today, Cable Corporation of India (CCI) is a leading manufacturer of a wide range of power and

control cables.

CCI is equipped with state-of-the-art hardware, software and infrastructure to retain its leadership position in the industry. Besides being a household name in the manufacture of high quality cables, the management has played a key role in influencing major decisions and embarking on innovative solutions. Its strong vision, emphasis on team work and customer satisfaction, has earned it repute in international industry circles. Over the years, CCI was represented in CIGRE, Paris and other forums like BIS,

IEEMA etc. Its Tropothen-S® XLPE cables have received IEC-840 Certification from KEMA, Netherlands; its testing laboratories have been approved by the South African Standards Institution for electrical items exported to that country; the company is ISO-9001 certified and has exported its products to markets in South Africa, Bangladesh, Mauritius & Middle East .

CCI's technocrats were one of the first in India to use Aluminium as a substitute for Copper as a conducting material in their cables. They have worked with the Railway and Defense authorities to manufacture special types of cables. Research and development have always been high on their agenda, and they have helped develop industry standards for electric cables and wires.

The company's range of products includes power and control cables ranging from 660 V to 230 KV, marketed as Tropodur, Tropothen, Tropothen-S®, Tropoflex, Tropoplast and Tropotherm brands. CCI also manufactures specialty cables like HVDC cables, mining cables and aerial bunched cables. CCI was the First Company in India to manufacture and supply Extra High Voltage ca-

bles of 220 KV way back in 1994.

As part of its expansion and diversification process, the group has now ventured into the real estate sector through its associate company, CCI Projects Private Limited (CCP). CCP has launched its first project called Rivali Park at Borivali East in Mumbai. Spread over an area of 22 acres with a planned investment of Rs 1000 crore, Rivali Park is one of the largest mixed-use real estate spaces in Mumbai and is expected to redefine the suburb of Borivali.

Since the Indian cable industry is largely unorganized, there are a lot of opportunities for companies like CCI to set benchmark standards. With its excellent quality products and services, it now has its sights trained on making new inroads in domestic and international markets.

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