

Railway Earthing

CADWELD[®] – Earthing Bonds and Earthing Connections for Electrical Railways





Earthing Bonds

ERICO manufactures prefabricated earthing bonds to customized specifications. These bonds are made from galvanized or copper cables. The CADWELD[®] exothermic connection process is employed to attach an earth plate on one end of the bond and a steel connection plate on the other end. The steel connection plate is welded on site to reinforcing bars, flat steel strip or steel beams, whatever is specified as a conductor.

Low resistance to corrosion makes a permanently welded CADWELD bond the best solution for connections inside concrete structures. The property of low resistance is important for earthing and cathodic protection of reinforcing bars and steel beams in bridges and tunnels. However, other acceptable methods of connections are to combine a CADWELD connection and a mechanically crimped connection, or a mechanically crimped connection on both ends of the earthing bond.

An equipotential bond between all current carrying elements in a structure and earth is required for personnel safety in case of catenary failure.

A cathodic protection system prevents damage to steel work due to corrosion and reduces expensive maintenance.



How To

The connection is made to reinforcing bars prior to pouring the concrete. The steel connection plate is connected to the steel reinforcing bars by welding in place. The earthing plate is temporarily bolted or nailed to the internal surface of the formwork. When the formwork is removed, only the contact surface of the earthing plate appears. The earthing plate is equipped with a threaded hole in order to connect a standard cable lug of an earthing conductor. When the reinforcing bars are discontinued (for example expansion joints), earthing bonds connect them electrically by the use of prefabricated jumpers, made from an insulated flexible cable equipped with a standard cable lug on each end.

Benefits

- Earthing Bonds (CADWELD CADWELD) can be custom manufactured according to your specifications
- Earthing Bonds are available in 500 and 1000 mm lengths, and in 70 and 95 mm² diameters
- ERICO offers three styles of construction:
 - 1. CADWELD CADWELD Earthing Bond
 - 2. CADWELD Mechanically Crimped Earthing Bond, earthing plate welded with CADWELD, steel plate mechanically crimped
 - 3. Crimped Crimped Earthing Bond, earth plate and steel plate both mechanically crimped
- Increased resistance to corrosion with the use of the earthing bonds
- Reduces expensive maintenance

WARNING

ERICO products shall be installed and used only as indicated in ERICO's product instruction sheets and training materials. Instruction sheets are available at www.erico.com and from your ERICO customer service representative. Improper installation, misuse, misapplication or other failure to completely follow ERICO's instructions and warnings may cause product malfunction, property damage, serious bodily injury and death.

WARRANTY

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1. Assembly Instructions

1.1 Connection with the casing

Earthing plates DB-16 can be fastened to the formwork as shown in the following. It has to be ensured that the earthing plate and formwork are connected as closely together as possible. This is achieved by pressing the connection surface of the earthing plate plane-parallel onto the formwork.



1.1.1 The formwork is drilled through and the earthing plate is pulled tightly against the formwork with a bolt M16. Remove this bolt before removing the formwork.



1.1.2 Connect the earthing plate to the back of the formwork with nails using the three indents. After removing the formwork, cut off the nail spikes which are sticking out.



1.1.3 For an easy assembly, it is recommended to use a threaded rod with a nut and, depending on the formwork material, with a washer. At first, fasten the threaded rod by hand to the earthing plate, then attach the assembly to the formwork.

1.2. Connection with the reinforcement

The electrically connected conducting rods of the reinforcement, designated as earthing conductor, should have a minimum diameter of 16 mm. The flat steel plates are connected to these rods by arc welding. To avoid reduction of the cross sectional area, the tracing dimension of the welded seam must be at least 4 mm.



 $L + L \ge 90 \text{ mm}$



2. Summary of Types – Information

The following diagrams show a selection of the most common types. The code of each type is given on the bottom right hand side.









2.1 Design with solid conductor

The KDB 16 type is to be used on such concrete structures where flexible connections are not necessary (e.g. sound protection walls etc.). The standard length of the steel band is 400 mm. If required, other lengths can also be supplied.



Design with flat steel band KDB-16



2.2 Standardized types

FDBC

This solid copper earthing point has a hollow core for cable insertion to factory-provide a crimped connection according to DIN VDE 0220 part 2. The copper plated steel welding plate is as well a crimped connection to the cable. This type of Earthing Bond is only available with straight designs.



FDBS The FDBS is a combination of a well-known CADWELD welded connection and the crimped cable connection technique. The solid deep-drawn copper earthing point is welded to the copper cable in the factory by means of a CADWELD welded electrical connection. The copper plated steel welding plate is a crimped connection to the copper cable.





2.3 Special designs

cross section.

With a few structures, (e.g. viaduct piers), massproduced earthing bonds with several

outputs have proven themselves. For orders of

such types, drawings or sketches should be pro-

vided to ERICO with detailed information, such as spacing, lengths, connection pieces and cable

Standard lengths 500 and 1000 mm







Application Examples



Example of a connection with an earthing connector





Example of a connection with wire 10 DIN 43 137-St34



Connection for current collector stop rail









Сар





Measures to be taken for earthing when including slack reinforcement



Assembly information



Measures to be taken for earthing without including untensioned reinforcement



This connection applies to reinforcement bars with a minimum diameter of 16 mm. For smaller bar diameters a longer steel welding plate has to be selected which has then to be welded to the smaller reinforcement bars more often, as it is appropriate.

By the use of a formwork panel the seating of the earthing plates are to be determined accurately through control holes. This seating may not be obstructed by reinforcement bars. When pressing on the reinforcement, sufficient space must remain for the earthing bonds.

The earthing plate has to be fastened firmly to the formwork panel with the plastic bolt DSM16. This bolt will not be removed until removing the formwork. The bolt head can easily be knocked off with a hammer, the remaining part protects the thread from subsequent damage and can finally be removed with a hexagonal socket key.

When installing earthing bonds it has to be ensured by using spacers or by repositioning the conductor cables that the bonds do not contact the formwork panel. Only a sufficient concrete decking protects against possible damage due to corrosion.

The concrete vibrators are to be handled carefully during compacting of the concrete near the earthing plates. Direct impact might result in breaking off the plastic screw.

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3. Reference

The following drawings and standards were used when creating this document:

- Technical release from 05.09.2001

- 3 Ebs. 15.03.19 BL.1 CADWELD Earthing Bonds
- 2 Ebs. 15.01.20 Information about the arrangement of railway earthing on buildings with CADWELD type earthing bonds
- 4 Ebs .15.03.17 Earthing connectors



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Publication: EBA Report 22

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Technical Release

1. The present technical release applies to the company

ERICO GmbH 66851 Schwanenmühle

2. The technical release applies to the supply of the following equipment to the DB AG:

FDBC-16 earthing bonds FDBS-16 earthing bonds

- 3. The following documentation, test certificates and other details were checked, and form the basis of the technical release:
 - EBA authorization for electronic systems no.: 201090/8
 - Investigation of the short circuit behavior, Report no.: 98471638.000-HVL 99-1322, of the KEMA Netherlands B.V.
 - Separation testing by the company ERICO, Test report no.: PN0023T1
 - Drawing 3 Ebs 15.03.19 Sht. 1

4. Additional condition:

5. The technical release presented is valid until revoked.

Frankfurt/Main, 05.09.2001

(Dipl.-Ing. Borgwardt)

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