



FAQ What is the amperage rating of a lug?

Most connectors are not tested nor rated according to specific amperage by Underwriters' Laboratories (UL) nor by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA).

Instead, connectors are rated by the wire size and tested according to the rated ampacity of the wires which can be installed into the lug. Therefore, the rating of any lug or connector block matches the rating of the wire for which it is sized.

Wires (and therefore lugs) are rated according to overall system temperature. For example, when a lug is listed for 90°C, it may be included in a system where the wire is rated for 90°C or lower. This means that the ambient air temperature where the lugs and wire are located can be up to 90°C. Since the wire self-heats (due to its own resistance while carrying current) the wire and lugs may operate a bit hotter than the ambient temperature.

For example, the ambient air temperature inside a cabinet might be 90°C, while the actual operating temperature of the wire could be several degrees higher (but the temperature rise due to the self-heating effect is figured into the rating).

FAQAMPS
02/27/02