Pre-assembled BS 15 - Information Sheet

Date published: 20 February 2026

Version 1.0

Overview

CER Checklist item: Pre-assembled BS 15

Is there a sign adjacent to the lithium-ion pre-assembled BS that states:

a) Battery System or Battery Energy Storage System

b) The correct Short-circuit current (specifying current in amperes)

c) The correct Maximum d.c. voltage (specifying voltage in volts)

For systems over DVC-A, the sign shall also state "Hazardous d.c. voltage".

Standard reference: AS/NZS 5139:2019 Clause 7.6

1. Introduction

SAA has analysed Clean Energy Regulator (CER) inspection data to identify the most common areas of non-compliance. Based on these insights, we have developed educational resources that highlight where issues typically arise and offer practical guidance to support installers in achieving compliance. This document should be read in conjunction with the relevant Standard(s).

Pre-assembled BS 15 shall comply with the requirements of AS/NZS5139:2019 Clause 7.6.

This document outlines the key requirements for correct installation of equipment and includes examples of observed non-compliances to highlight common installation errors and help prevent their recurrence.

Note: This defect applies to section 5 pre-assembled battery systems only.

2. Key Requirements for compliant Pre-assembled BS15

AS/NZS 5139:2019 Clause 7.6 Voltage and current

A sign stating voltage and current shall be mounted either adjacent to the enclosure or on all doors to the battery system or BESS room.

This sign shall state the following:

(a) The words “Battery System” or “Battery Energy Storage System”.
(b) Short-circuit current (specify current in amperes).
(c) Maximum d.c. voltage (specify voltage in volts).

For systems over DVC-A, the above signage requirements apply plus an additional line shall be added to the sign stating “Hazardous d.c. voltage”.

Where multiple battery systems or BESS are installed, the following apply:

(i) Only one sign is required if the battery systems are all in the same room/enclosure.
(ii) The voltage specified shall be the maximum voltage present.
(iii) The current shall be maximum short-circuit current calculated for any of the BESS, where for each BESS that has multiple battery systems connected in parallel, the calculated current shall be the sum of the battery system short-circuit currents of each of the paralleled battery systems.

Where multiple BESS are installed within one electrical installation, there shall be a sign for each BESS that includes an identifiable number together with the total number of BESS shown.

For example: BESS 1 of (insert total number of BESS), BESS 2 of (insert total number of BESS).

Also see:

a) AS/NZS 5139:2019 Clause 1.3.29 Decisive voltage classification

b) AS/NZS 5139:2019 Clause 3.2.3.2 Decisive voltage classification (DVC) & Table 3.2

c) AS/NZS 5139:2019 Clause 7.2 Requirements for signs and labels

This clause contains requirements for the colour, size, durability of signs and labels.

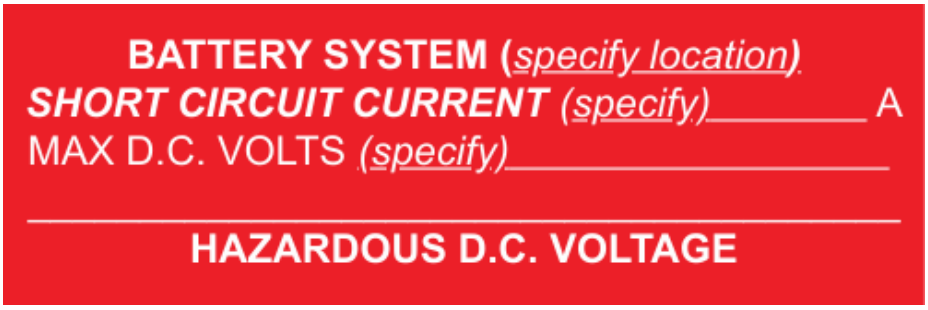

Figure 1: Example of compliant label for system operating above DVC-A.

3. Common non-compliances identified with this CER Checklist item

3.1 The required label has not been installed at the battery system

Figure 2: Non-compliant - the label has not been installed at the battery system resulting in a defect being sighted on the inspection report.

a) **Non-compliance:** The required label is not installed at the main switchboard, resulting in non-compliance with the relevant Standard. This label provides critical information on voltage and current levels that may pose a hazard to emergency services personnel or anyone working on the battery system. In some instances, the details written on the label are also incorrect.

b) **Best Practice**: Understanding the relevant Standards and applying labelling correctly must form an integral part of the installation workflow. The required label must be installed either adjacent to the battery or on all doors to the enclosure or battery room.

   Each label must be completed accurately with the correct battery system details, using a permanent marker or an engraving tool to ensure the information is durable and indelible.

Figure 3: Compliant labelling of Pre-assembled BS 15.

3.2.1 Hazardous DC voltage warning for systems exceeding DVC-A has not been provided

Figure 4: Non-compliant - incorrect label has been applied and sighted in CER inspection.

a) **Non-compliance:** An incorrect label has been applied to the battery system, failing to meet all components of the clause within the relevant Standard. For systems exceeding DVC-A, the label must include the wording **"Hazardous d.c. voltage"**, which provides essential warning information for maintenance personnel, emergency responders, and consumers when working on or isolating the battery system.

b) **Best Practice:** It is essential to understand the equipment being installed and its Decisive Voltage Classification (DVC). The DVC determines whether additional label information—such as the "Hazardous d.c. voltage" warning—is required. This applies to any battery with a d.c. voltage mean greater than 60 V, which encompasses a significant proportion of the current battery market.

Figure 5: Compliant label applied at the battery system after rectification due to CER inspections.