



# Neutral Screen NS SERIES

**Q: What is the difference between insulation and sheath on a cable?**

**A:** Insulation is the material around the copper conductors. The sheath is the outer protection layer on a cable.

**Q: Can special polyvinyl chloride (SPVC) sheathed Neutral Screen cables be buried direct?**

**A:** All of our Neutral Screen cables have a SPVC outer sheath, however the sheath must be 3.2mm thick to be buried directly underground. Our NSU and NSX cables both have a 3.2mm thick outer sheath and can be buried direct.

**Q: Why do some Neutral Screen cables have SPVC versus cross-linked polyethylene insulation (XLPE)?**

**A:** The NSU series has copper conductors insulated with SPVC which provides a flexible material for electrical and physical protection. The insulating SPVC material is UV-stabilised, making the NSU cable perfect for use when insulation is exposed to the sun.

The NSUX series' conductors are insulated with XLPE which has a thinner insulation thickness and reduces the overall diameter of the cable. Although less flexible than SPVC conductors, in comparison, XLPE allows a higher maximum operating temperature and greater current carrying capability.

**Q: What is the key difference between the Neutral Screen NSU/NSUX versus the Neutral Screen Trayscreen® series?**

**A:** The Neutral Screen NSU & NSUX series have a 3.2mm sheath and can be buried direct. Trayscreen® (NST) cables have a 1.8mm sheath and cannot be buried direct.

**Q: Why does Firstflex have a Trayscreen cable series?**

**A:** Firstflex's Neutral Screen Trayscreen® (NST) series is constructed with a SPVC outer sheath that is 1.8mm thick and its copper conductors are also insulated with SPVC. The reduced sheath thickness allows greater flexibility, providing easier installation. Trayscreen® cables can be terminated in smaller glands and are desirable for use in applications where space is limited such as on street light poles, within internal wiring between distribution boards and installing onto commercial cable trays.

**Q: Can Trayscreen® cables be buried underground?**

**A:** No – not directly. They can however be installed inside ducting or conduit.

**Q: Can Firstflex's Neutral Screen cables be used in outdoor applications?**

**A:** Yes – our Neutral Screen cables are extruded for protection against sunlight and water ingress.



## Product Series Comparison

	NSU	NSUX	NST
Outer sheath	3.2mm SPVC	3.2mm SPVC	1.8mm SPVC
Conductor insulation	SPVC	XLPE	SPVC
Buried direct	✓	✓	✗
Heat, oil, chemical resistant and flame retardant	✓	✓	✓
UV-stabilised	✓	✓	✓
Tested and certified to all relevant AS/NZS standards	✓	✓	✓