

Global Fire Performance Ratings

The fire performance tests, standards, and requirements for indoor-rated twisted-pair cables vary throughout the world and though there is no global standard, there are commonly used flame ratings in the US, Canada, Europe and beyond.

The appropriate rating is dependent on local codes and regulations that set the minimum fire performance criteria for that geographic region and building space. Flame spread and smoke emission are among the key considerations when rating a cable for specific use in occupied buildings and structures, with the overall objective of getting people out as fast and safely as possible.

It's important to note that hierarchies exist in the codes and regulations of most regions of the world that allow communications cables with a higher performance rating to be substituted in place of one with a lower rating (e.g., CMP rather than CMR, or B2ca rather than Cca).

Leviton offers a wide range of cables that satisfy US, Canadian, and European fire performance standards as well as several "Dual Rated" cables providing a GLOBAL SOLUTION for network deployments and upgrades that span multiple geographic regions.

Below are the three major fire-rating performance systems in the U.S., Canada, and Europe plus the primary and secondary flame ratings commonly used in different areas of the world.

Fire Rating Standards

USA		Canada		Europe	
CMP	Highest	CMP/FT6	Highest	B2ca	Highest
CMR	^	CMR	^	Cca	^
CMG	*	CMG/FT4	^	Dca	^
CM	Lowest	CM/FT1	Lowest	Eca	Lowest

Global Fire Rating Adoption — Where Different Fire Ratings Are Used

	USA	CANADA	EUROPE	LATAM	MIDDLE EAST	APAC
Primary Fire Ratings	CMP CMR	CMP/FT6 CMR/FT4	B2ca Cca Dca Eca	CMR LSZH/Dca/CMR LSZH/Eca CM	CMR LSZH/Dca/CMR LSZH/Eca	LSZH/Eca CM
Secondary Fire Ratings	LSZH/Dca/CMR CM	СМ		CMP	CMP CM	CMP CMR LSZH/Dca/CMR

^{*} Ratings in the Primary Fire Rating row are most common in that geographic region. The secondary ratings are allowed, but less common and may be influenced by factors such as cost or customer preference.