



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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*Let's answer them*



## 1. HOW LONG IS YOUR WARRANTY?

One year from date of delivery.

## 2. HOW LONG HAVE YOUR PRODUCTS BEEN IN THE FIELD?

Our first products were installed in 2016.

## 3. WHY DO YOU HAVE MESH AND SOLID GUARD DESIGNS?

We have both options to suit customers' preferences.

The mesh design allows for a direct read when conducting infrared hotspot detection (limitations such as geometric condition will affect the accuracy of readings). The open design also permits rain to better wash the insulator below. It is often preferred when a visual inspection of bolted connections is required.

The solid or unperforated design can provide better protection for some equipment by completely isolating energized components that may be too close to the guard surface.

## 4. CAN YOU IR SCAN THROUGH THE SOLID?

Infrared thermography provides surface temperature readings only. Hot spot detection is possible, however, by referencing adjacent phases and with careful consideration of outdoor conditions. Our white paper Under the Covers explains this in greater detail.

## 5. WHAT DOES FR V-0 MEAN?

Refers to the flammability rating of the product through laboratory tests. Achieving the V-0 classification requires that guards do not support or promote combustion. More specifically, will self-extinguish and will not drip flaming particles.

## 6. WHAT IS IEEE 1656?

IEEE standard 1656 is the "IEEE Guide for testing the electrical, mechanical and durability performance of wildlife protective devices on overhead distribution systems rated up to 38kV. The guide prescribes a series of tests designed to demonstrate that wildlife protection designs will not negatively effect insulator ratings, can effectively prevent flashover due to wildlife contact, and will remain in place under typical outdoor conditions. The guide also includes optional tests for flammability rating and unusual (contaminated) service conditions.

## 7. HOW DO YOUR GUARDS HOLD UP IN SEVERE COLD WEATHER?

Our guards are rated for installation/removal, without issue, down to -25°C (-13°F).

## 8. EXPLAIN WHY YOU HAVE AIR GAP BUILT INTO YOUR GUARDS?

An air gap is incorporated into covers where there are openings such as seams and cable ports to prevent an electric flashover where wildlife contact could occur.

## 9. CAN CONTAMINANTS STICK TO YOUR GUARDS AND CAUSE TRACKING?

**(CONTAMINANTS SUCH AS ANTI-ICING SOLUTIONS, COKE DUST, OCEAN SALT, SOOT, ETC....)**

Contaminants will stick to our covers just as they do to a wide variety of materials used in overhead distribution systems. Where rain doesn't provide adequate cleaning, or for high contamination areas, covers should be routinely inspected (and cleaned if necessary) as part of a regular maintenance program.

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## 10. CAN WE USE YOUR GUARDS ABOVE 38KV?

Most of our guards are not rated for application above that level. Specific requests for applications above that should be reviewed by Reliaguard.

## 11. WHERE DID YOU CONDUCT THE UV TEST?

### WAS IT AS HOT AND SUNNY AS ARIZONA?

The UV test required by the IEEE 1656 guideline is conducted in an indoor lab at a temperature of 60°C (140°F).

## 12. SHOULD YOUR GUARDS BE INSTALLED ENCLOSING MORE THAN ONE INSULATOR SKIRT?

With very few exceptions, guards should not enclose more than one insulator skirt. This is necessary for maximum guard performance and to maintain the electrical ratings of the insulator.

## 13. HOW DO YOU REMOVE THE FASTENER PINS?

Fastener pins are most safely and efficiently removed using flush-cutting side cutters. Clip off the head of the pin, pull the guard halves apart, and clip the remaining tail to remove the fastener completely. Do not use a knife to remove pins.

## 14. WHAT IS USED TO SECURE POLE WRAP?

Any hardware approved for use on treated poles.

## 15. IS THERE A RISK TO APPLYING OVERSIZED GREYEEL?

The correct size of GreyEEL will provide the best performance and retention. GreyEEL that is oversized can move out of position due to reduced friction with the conductor. If an oversized application is made, steps (e.g. zip ties) should be taken to ensure it remains in the correct position.

## 16. DOES GREYEEL BURN?

GreyEEL is made from silicone which is inherently flame resistant. GreyEEL does not ignite and achieves the HB flammability rating in the UL 94 test.

## 17. WHAT'S THE RATING ON THE TAPE, HOW MANY LAYERS DO YOU RECOMMEND?

L-G 8kV one layer  
15kV two layers  
22kV three layers  
25kV four layers.

For voltages in between, go to next highest rating.