# nimbus <br> $\epsilon \overparen{P T T}_{\text {cirprotec }}$ <br> Lightning Rod <br>  

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According to standard UNE 21186

Selection Guid]

nimbus

## Selection of nimbus model

It is necessary to know the protection radius ( $\mathbf{R p}$ ) and the protection level ( $\mathbf{N P}$ ) in order to do the selection of an external protection accordingly..

## LEVEL OF PROTECTION

The protection level is a parameter to be determined according to the established standard. We use UNE 21186-96 based on NF C 17-102 standard. These standards establish three protection levels.

The protection level depends on:
Lightning strikes density in the area.
Situation of the structure to be protected (urban or rural zone, high buildings near the installation, ...)
Type of structure.
Building's location.
Cost valuation of period of the installation due to damages because of the lightning strikes.
Sometimes this last item is the cause of selecting a protection level I (Maximum security), as the losses because of non-operation the installation could be important.

## RADIUS OF PROTECTION

For the correct selection of (ESE)rod in the external protection of a structure or building it is very important to know another parameter: the protection radius ( Rp ).

The protection radius is the distance between the point where you want to place the (ESE) rod and the further point from the structure or building we want to protect.


NP: Protection Level
Rp: Protection Radius
H: Height of the top of the Nimbus on the surface to be protected.

Lightning Rod
nimbus


## Example of selection of nimbus model

Once we have the preliminary parameters ( $\mathbf{N o}$ and $\mathbf{R p}$ ), we could select the most suitable ESE.
For having a correct protection, the top of the ESE has to be 2 m minimum above any other point of the structure.

Example situation: NP: I, Rp: 50 m .
The ESE selection is done since its features' board, by determining nimbus model and which height it should be situated.

## FEATURES nimbus' BOARD

| NP | Level I |  |  | Level II |  |  | Level III |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{array}{\|l\|l\|} \hline \begin{array}{l} \text { Lightning } \\ \text { rod model } \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{l\|} \text { Nimbus } \\ \text { CPT-1 } \end{array}$ | $\left\|\begin{array}{l} \text { Nimbus } \\ \text { CPT-2 } \end{array}\right\|$ | Nimbus CPT-3 | Nimbus CPT-1 | Nimbus CPT-2 | Nimbus CPT-3 | Nimbus CPT-1 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nimbus } \\ & \text { CPT-2 } \end{aligned}$ | Nimbus CPT-3 |
| $\mathrm{Rp}(\mathrm{m})$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $h(m)$ |  | 24 | 32 | 23 | 30 | 40 | 26 | 33 | 44 |
| 3 | 25 | 35 | 48 | 34 | 45 | 59 | 39 | 50 | 65 |
| 4 | 34 | 46 | 64 | 46 | 60 | 78 | 52 | 67 | 87 |
| 5 | 42 | 58 | 79 | 57 | 75 | 97 | 65 | 84 | 107 |
| 6 | 43 | 58 | 79 | 58 | 76 | 97 | 66 | 84 | 107 |
| 8 | 43 | 59 | 79 | 59 | 77 | 98 | 67 | 85 | 108 |
| 10 | 44 | 59 | 79 | 61 | 77 | 99 | 69 | 87 | 109 |
| 15 | 45 | 59 | 80 | 63 | 79 | 101 | 72 | 89 | 111 |
| 20 | 45 | 60 | 80 | 65 | 81 | 102 | 75 | 92 | 113 |
| 45 | 45 | 60 | 80 | 70 | 85 | 105 | 84 | 98 | 119 |
| 60 | 45 | 60 | 80 | 70 | 85 | 105 | 85 | 100 | 120 |

1- Selection in protection level I, the $\mathbf{R p}$ equal or immediately upper rating(58 m).
2- The vertical index indicates the model to be installed (nimbus CPT-2).
3- The horizontal index indicates the minimum height (h) of nimbus (in this case, minimum 5 m ).

| NP | Level I |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Lightning rod model <br> $\mathbf{R p}(\mathrm{m})$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline \text { Nimbus } \\ \text { CPT-1 } \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \hline \text { Nimbus } \\ \text { CPT-2 } \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \hline \text { Nimbus } \\ \text { CPT-3 } \end{array}$ |
| $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{h}(\mathrm{~m}) \\ 2 \end{gathered}$ | 17 | 24 | 32 |
| 3 | 25 | 35 | 48 |
| 4 | 34 | 46 | 64 |
| 5 | 42 | 58 | 79 |
| 6 | 43 | 58 | 79 |
| 8 | 43 | 59 | 79 |
| 10 | 44 | 59 | 79 |
| 15 | 45 | 59 | 80 |
| 20 | 45 | 60 | 80 |
| 45 | 45 | 60 | 80 |
| 60 | 45 | 60 | 80 |


| NP | Level I |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Lightning } \\ & \text { rod model } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline \text { Nimbus } \\ \text { CPT-1 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \hline \text { Nimbus } \\ \text { CPT-2 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline \text { Nimbus } \\ \text { CPT-3 } \end{array}$ |
| $\mathrm{Rp}(\mathrm{m})$ |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{h}(\mathrm{m})$ |  | 4 |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |
| 5 |  | 58 |  |
| 6 |  |  |  |
| 8 |  |  |  |
| 10 |  |  |  |
| 15 |  |  |  |
| 20 |  |  |  |
| 45 |  |  |  |
| 60 |  |  |  |

Third step

| NP | Level I |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Lightning rod model | $\begin{array}{\|l} \hline \text { Nimbus } \\ \text { CPT-1 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline \text { Nimbus } \\ \text { CPT-2 } \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline \begin{array}{l} \text { Nimbus } \\ \text { CPT-3 } \end{array} \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| $\mathrm{h}(\mathrm{m})$ 2 3 3 4 5 6 8 10 15 20 45 60 | - | 58 |  |

## nimbus

Lightning Rod


## SELECTION GUIDE



## 2 ADAPTER ELEMENT

The adapter element is used for the connection of the nimbus lightning rod to the mast.

## MAST

Extensible element which is adapted to the required height of the capturing head of the lightning rod in order to provide the desired protection radius.

## - PROTECTION MAST ANTENNA

Element used to obtain instantaneous earthing of the antenna mast in case of a lightning strike. Under normal conditions it remains isolated.

## MAST FIXATION

Its function is the fixing of the mast. Different types of fixations exist such as fixing with screws or embedded.

## CONNECTING SLEEVE (OPTIONAL)

## 万̄ DOWN-CONDUCTOR

This element directs the current of the lightning strike from the head of the lightning rod to the earth termination system.

## 7. CONDUCTOR HOLDING FIXTURE

It provides the fixing of the down-conductor.

## 51 DISCHARGE COUNTER

The counter indicates the lightning strikes received by the protection system. Recommended in the standard UNE 211861996.

OI CONNECTING SLEEVE
The test joint and the connecting sleeves allow to disconnect the earth termination system in order to measure the resistivity.

## îII PROTECTION PIPE

Pipe of galvanized sheet of 2 m length in order to avoid mechanical forces against the down-conductor.

## INSPECTION PIT

Earth termination: there are various configurations depending on the construction and employed materials for earth termination systems.

Equipotentiality: it is recommended to connect the earth electrode of the lightning rod with the existing earth termination system and with close metal parts, in order to assure an appropiate equipotentiality and to avoid sparking when a lightning strike is absorbed.

See also on Earth Termination Systems.

## INSTALLATION GUIDE

CAPTURING HEAD: the peak has to be located 2 m . above the highest parts of the area to be protected.

ADAPTOR ELEMENT: it has to provide the electrical contact between the capturing point and the downgoing conductor. It is put on the mast, on light poles, pillars, etc...

ST=-5 MAST- MAST FIXATION: the mast provides the appropriate height corresponing to the area to be protected by the lightning rod and is usually mounted with 2 or 3 fixings depending on its length.

6ิ DOWN-CONDUCTOR: it leads the current of the lightning strike from the capturing head to the earth electrode. The conductors can be of sheet, plain twist, twisted or round cable, and the minimum area has to be $50 \mathrm{~mm}^{2}$. Each lightning rod should have at least a down-conductor, except in the following cases, where two down-conductors are needed:
-structures higher than 28 m .
-the horizontal projection is larger than the vertical projection


The path has to be the most rectilinear possible with the shortest distance, avoiding curves. The covering radius should not be less than 20 cm . The down-conductor should avoid crossing or the proximity of electrical or telecommunication networks.

When the crossing cannot be avoided, then the line has to be inside of a metallic shield which needs to be extended 1 m on each side of the crossing.
Cornices or elevations should be avoided. A maximum height of 40 cm is allowed with an angle of up to $45^{\circ}$.

CONDUCTOR HOLDING FIXTURES: Independent of the fixture type, three fixtures per meter are used for the down-conductor. The fixtures must not be in direct contact with inflammable material.
$\% 1$ DISCHARGE COUNTER: This counter is installed above the control joint, and in all cases 2 m . above the ground. It is mounted on the downconductor.

91 TEST JOINT: Each down-conductor has to incorporate a test joint, which allows to disconnect the earth electrode and thus allows to measure the resistivity. The test joint is mounted two meters above the ground.

4101 PROTECTION PIPE: It is put between the ground and the control joint in order to protect the down-conductor against mechanical forces. The pipe is of metallic material and has a length of 2 m . It is mounted with three fixtures.


Cirprotec
Lightning Rod

## nimbus

1| CAPTURING HEAD


Lightning Rods Nimbus CPT are manufactured according to UNE 21.186-96 and NF C17-102 standards..

Produced in stainless steel AISI-316.
All lightning rods are verified according to a strict quality control.
nimbus

## ADAPTER ELEMENT



There are other possibilities for fixture and connection of the different components of a lightning rod installation. Please consult our product list or contact our customer service.

## I PROTECTION MAST ANTENNA



MAST FIXATION


Lightning Rod

## nimbus

Ћ DOWN-CONDUCTOR

7. CABLE HOLDING FIXTURES


I DISCHARGE COUNTER


For maintenance purpose it is recommended to install a discharge counter, since the lightning strikes received by the system can be obtained.


## 1III PROTECTION PIPE



There are other possibilities for fixture and connection of the different components of a lightning rod installation. Please consult our product list or contact our customer service.

## INTRODUCTION

The electrical connection of a part of the lightning rod or of an electrical circuit with the earth is made with an earth termination system.

A earth termination is formed by electrodes and other subterranean elements, whose objective is to lead the currents
produced by lightning discharges or from industrial generation to ground.

## TYPES OF EARTH TERMINATIONS

There are two methods for the construction of earth termination systems, where the most used one is that of depth (earth rods, active electrodes, plates or similar, etc.). For certain cases the surface method may be more appropiate.

## DEPTH:

EARTH ROD: It is the method most used for earth termination systems due to its easy installation. The earth electrode is firmly set into the ground.

It is formed by three javelins with minimum length of $1,5 \mathrm{~m}$, vertically set in the ground forming a delta with sides of equal length. These are connected with unshielded subterranean cable or copper bands in a trench in 60 a 80 cm . depth, and it is connected to the network of earth electrodes through the test points in the registering case.

The distance between the different picks is equal to the double length of the picks: $D=2 x L$ (length of the picks).

PLATES AND SIMILAR: They are less used since a pool has to be excavated. The method is used when with other methods insufficient values are obtained and in sites with very reduced surface to put the picks.

Normally a pool with 2 m depth is made and the plate is installed. vertically. It is filled with earth where other substances are added to reduce the resistivity.

## SURFACE:

GOOSE FOOT: This method for earth termination construction is used on rocky soils or grounds with difficult excavation.

It is formed by 25 m of copper band or cable divided in three subterranean branches in trenches with minimum depth of 60 cm , where the angel between the branches is $45^{\circ}$.

## EQUIPOTENTIALITY OF THE EARTH TERMINATIONS:

If the building to be protected has an earth termination system for grounding of the electrical installation, then the earth electrodes of the lightning rod installation are connected within each other.


D: down-conductor of the lightning rod
B: earth circuit located on the bottom of the building excavation
$P$ : earth electrode of the lightning rod

This connection is made on the level of the ground at the earth electrode. If this connection is not possible, then the interconnection is made on the earth plate. In this case the trajectory of the unifying conductor must be made such as to avoid a possible induction on the cables and material located in the proximities.
In any case the interconnection has to be made with a device which allows the disconnection in order to later carry out controls concerning the resistivity.


## REGISTERING CASE AND EQUIPOTENCIAL BONDING STRIP



161 JAVELINS


1Fî FIXATION CLIPS CABLE TO EARTH ROD


## [̄̄ EARTH ELECTRODE PLATES

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|  | | Code 77 936 100 |
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1̄й CONDUCTIVITY IMPROVING SUBSTANCES



