

Industry Notification 21 - May 2024

NOTICE TO INDUSTRY – Further counterfeit Ampcontrol Product - ELD Relay

PURPOSE

This notification is to alert industry stakeholders as to a further counterfeit third party product which uses the Ampcontrol trademark without the authority of Ampcontrol: in this instance the **ELD Earth Leakage Protection Relay (P/N: 167259)**.

This notification is in addition to the counterfeit ELV relay described in Industry Notification 19 - May 2024.

THE COUNTERFEIT DEVICES

A number of mines who previously identified counterfeit ELV protection relays have since undertaken wider audits of their protection relays. Inconsistencies in serial numbers on protection devices helped identify the counterfeit ELD protection relays. As was the case with the ELV relays, the counterfeit ELD relays had also been integrated into mining electrical equipment constructed and supplied by a competitor to Ampcontrol.

The counterfeit device illegally utilises the Ampcontrol trademark to pass off as a genuine product of Ampcontrol, and so infer the established quality, reliability, and electrical safety of a genuine Ampcontrol protection device.

The counterfeit ELD relay was not manufactured or distributed by Ampcontrol, as either a separable part or integrated into switchgear manufactured by Ampcontrol.

IDENTIFICATION OF COUNTERFEIT DEVICES

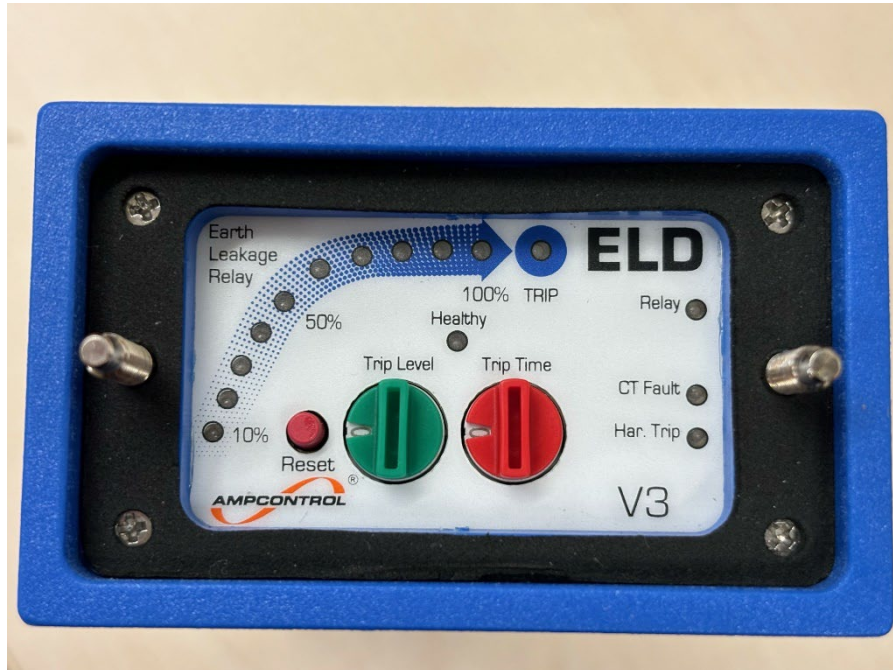
The counterfeit device has close visual similarity to the genuine product. The counterfeit can be identified from the genuine Ampcontrol device by a visual cue on the front facia as shown in the photos below. In particular, the marking of "10%":

- **Genuine Ampcontrol product** has the blue dotted background erased around the 10% marking.
- **The counterfeit product** has the 10% marking directly overlapping the blue dotted background.

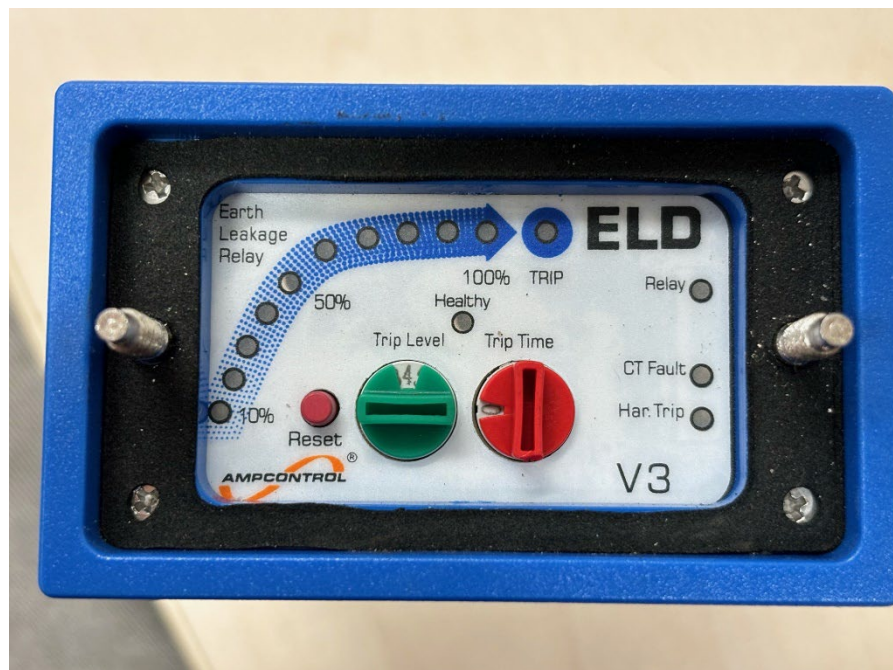
See images on following page.

DISCLAIMER

While every effort has been made to assure the accuracy of this document at the date of issue, Ampcontrol assumes no liability resulting from any omissions or errors in this document and reserves the right to revise content at any time.



Genuine Ampcontrol product has the blue dotted background erased around the 10% marking.



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Industry Notification

Product Alert

SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

The Ampcontrol ELD relay is typically used as primary or backup earth leakage protection on switchgear associated with earth fault limited networks typical in mining applications. The genuine relay is fully compliant to AS/NZS 2081:2011 and is an integral part of the electrical protection scheme that assures personnel safety in the event of an earth fault.

The counterfeit device has been found to have numerous differences at the electronic level. As a result:

- Ampcontrol's type tests, routine tests and performance specifications associated with the genuine ELD relay are not applicable to the counterfeit device; and
- any product documentation purporting to be from Ampcontrol that may have been supplied in with the counterfeit device cannot be used as validation of the device functionality.

Users of the counterfeit devices in mining electrical networks must make their own assessments of the safety implications of operating non-genuine product(s).

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR USERS

Ampcontrol recommends all users of Ampcontrol ELD relays inspect their devices to determine whether they are genuine or counterfeit products.

If a device is suspected of being counterfeit, users should:

- Immediately remove the equipment from service.
- Report the equipment containing the counterfeit ELD relay and the source of supply of that equipment to Ampcontrol via the email address below, and to their state-based Regulator.
- Ensure the counterfeit device is quarantined, permanently disabled and disposed of so it cannot be inadvertently reused. Counterfeit devices can be shipped to Ampcontrol who will arrange appropriate disposal.

Ampcontrol will work with affected customers to quickly provide genuine protection devices to restore their equipment's functionality.

Ampcontrol can also offer field service technicians to install the replacement as well as confirm CT's and ancillary equipment is also genuine componentry.

For further information or to report a suspected counterfeit device, please contact Ampcontrol:

IndustryNotification21@ampcontrolgroup.com

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NOTE: NSW stakeholders should note the following statutory requirements:

[Work Health and Safety \(Mines and Petroleum Sites\) Regulation 2022 Section 30](#)

(5) The operator of a mine or petroleum site at which there is a risk to health and safety associated with electricity at the mine or petroleum site must—

(a) prepare and implement an **electrical engineering control plan** for the mine or petroleum site that sets out the means by which the operator will manage the risks in accordance with section 14

[Electrical engineering control plan NSW code of practice | WHS \(MPS\) legislation](#)

Page 52: An EECPP should also address what protection is required on different circuit types and the settings required for the different protection devices being used. Where earth leakage protection on an IT supply network is provided by a protection device other than an RCD, **the earth leakage protection device should comply with AS/NZS 2081.**

Page 80: The EECPP should provide for **earth leakage protection devices used on earth fault current limited systems, other than RCDs, to be compliant with AS/NZS 2081.**

It is understood that the NSW Resource Regulator has previously issued Improvement Notices to mining operations that do not adhere to standards cited in the *Electrical engineering control plan NSW code of practice*. Any product documentation purporting to be from Ampcontrol that may have been supplied with the counterfeit device cannot be used as validation of the device functionality or standards compliance.

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