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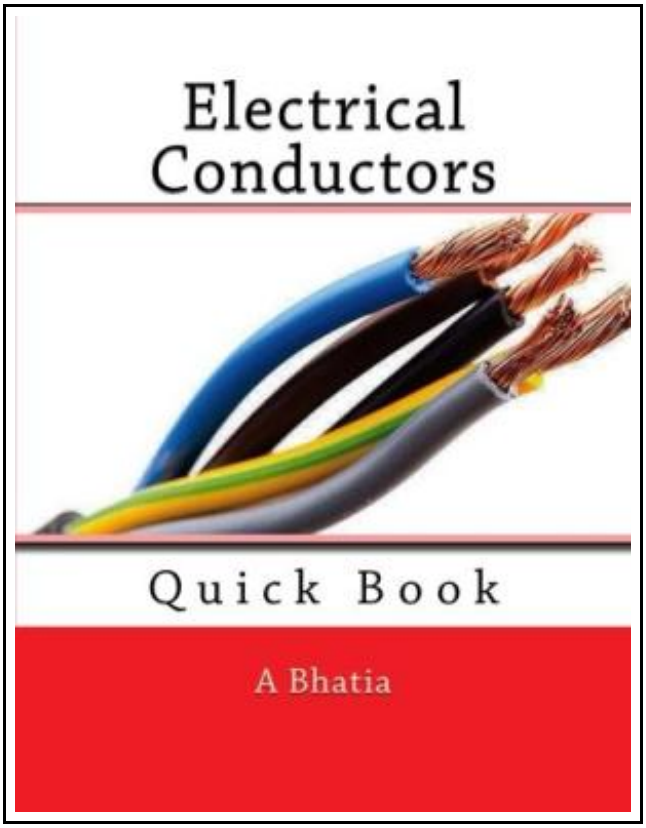

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(Kristy Stroman)

ELECTRICAL CONDUCTORS: QUICK BOOK (PAPERBACK)

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Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 279 x 216 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.A conductor is a piece of metal used to conduct electricity, known colloquially as an electrical wire. Wires are very good conductors, which mean that they have very little resistance. In fact, their resistance is so small that often we consider it to be zero. (In other words, we often treat wires as perfect conductors). In United States, conductors are measured by American wire gauge (abbreviated AWG) for smaller ones, and circular mils for larger ones. To give you some idea how thick these wires are; AWG 0000 wire is about 11.7 millimeters in diameter (a little less than one-half inch thick) and at the opposite end of the scale, AWG 40 is less than 0.1 millimeters in diameter (about as thick as a strand of hair from your head). The wiring inside the walls of your home is usually AWG 10 or AWG 12 wire. Of the metals commonly used for conductors, copper, has a high conductivity. Silver is more conductive, but due to cost it is not practical in most cases. Compared to copper, aluminum has worse conductivity per unit volume, but better conductivity per unit weight. In many cases, weight is more important than volume making aluminium the best conductor material for certain applications. For example, it is commonly used for large-scale power distribution conductors such as overhead power lines. Conductors are usually surrounded by and/or supported by insulators and the insulation determines the maximum voltage that can be applied to any given conductor. The ampacity of a conductor, that is, the amount of current it can carry, is related to its electrical resistance; a lower-resistance conductor can carry more current. The resistance, in turn,...

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