
FEBRUARY 15, 2019

T&B products migrating to ABB

lifecycle phases

Change notice

To: ABB EPIP Sales & Customer Service Representatives and Customers

Re: Thomas & Betts product lifecycle management transition

What is changing?

The way ABB manages the lifecycle of the products formerly sold by Thomas & Betts (now ABB Installation Products) will change on March 16, 2019. We are migrating away from the legacy T&B two-status system (Active and Obsolete) to the ABB four-status system (Active, Classic, Limited and Obsolete). This change will streamline the way we provide our customers with newer versions of legacy products and notifications of last-time buy opportunities and product obsolescence.

- Most products that our customers purchase on a regular basis will not see any change. These products will remain in the Active status.
- Products that have a direct replacement or products that are headed toward obsolescence will begin in the Classic phase. For products in the Classic phase, we will have a 3–12-month last-buy notice.
- Products that are classified as Obsolete per T&B lifecycle management, but which we still sell will be classified as Limited status in the ABB system.
- All other, non-active SKUs currently classified as Obsolete per T&B lifecycle management will be classified as Obsolete status in the ABB system. In the ABB system, Obsolete products cannot be purchased.

What remains the same?

All other aspects of customer ordering, including catalog numbers, and customer service will remain unchanged.

What is involved in each phase of the ABB product lifecycle?

Phase	Duration	Description
Active	Indefinite	Product is actively marketed for new installation or retrofit projects. Product is classified as core and is actively maintained through product enhancements and improvements by R&D. Communication: If an Active product is deemed ready to move to the Classic phase, a Removed from Active Sales notice will be issued at least 12 months prior to transition.
Classic	Indefinite	Product is classified as non-core. R&D support is limited to enhancements due to obsolescence of components or correction of issues related to. Communication: If a Classic product is deemed ready to move to the Limited phase, a Last-Buy Notice will be issued at least 12 months prior to the Manufacturing End Notice, which signals the end of the Classic phase.
Limited	While product and raw material inventory last	New, refurbished or retrofit product, replacement parts and accessories are only guaranteed while inventory remains available. Manufacturing is limited to depletion of existing raw materials. New orders cannot be entered nor pulls generated at the factory. Communication: The product manager will notify all sales channels at least 6 months prior to the start of the Obsolete phase.
Obsolete	Infinite	A product enters the Obsolete phase when the product manager has determined that ABB can no longer guarantee product support for technical or commercial reasons. All product support ends; however, all warranty and service commitments will be honored and remain active until contractual obligations are met.

	Active	Classic	Limited	Obsolete
Can I Order It?	✓	✓	Available stock only	
Can I Return It?	✓	✓		
Will my warranty be honored?	No Change To The ABB Installation Products Sales Terms & Conditions			