

# ACP NEWS

ACPNewsletterJUN08

## ACP CONTRACTOR NEWSLETTER

### After Hour Emergency Connections

An audit, conducted in 2007, revealed that Contractors do not always file a permit after an emergency connection is granted.

**PLEASE NOTE:** when an emergency situation arises, the Contractor calls our answering service, who cannot create permits. When the connection is granted, it is the responsibility of the Contractor to file an application for inspection with ESA on the next business day. For connections authorized on a Friday/Saturday, the next business day to file would be Monday.

Contractors who overlook this step can be removed from ACP for failing to file.

### Work defined as: New Residential and Renovations to Residential – New Process

Our inspection behaviour with regards to New Residential and Renovations to Residential has been modified slightly:

- o SAME: New Residential: will continue to receive 1 inspection per notification
- o SAME: Renovation to Residential – permit price **greater than** \$100: will continue to receive 1 inspection per notification
- o **CHANGE: Renovation to Residential – permit price less than \$100: this has been changed to 1 inspection per every 3 notifications.**

### Performance Measurement For ACP

Since the inception of ACP, ESA has used a defect ratio calculation methodology to measure performance – currently that defect ratio is 4% and takes into account # of defective sites/# of site visits.

The ACP Program will be adopting an ANSI standard to assess performance under ACP – this standard is used in many manufacturing settings to conduct sample inspections in an environment where items are similar in scope.

The first phase of implementation will take place in September of this year and will initially be applied to ACP-HVAC. The remainder of ACP will be completed by the end of 2008.

More information will be forthcoming, to ensure Contractors understand this change and how it will affect your membership on ACP.

### Pre-Authorized Connections

The pre-authorized connection benefit is offered on different aspects of ACP and considered to be a vital component to the ACP Program.

It is imperative that Contractors arrange for their pre-auth on the date the work is being done. We have learned that some Contractors are scheduling their pre-auth but having the reconnection done in advance of the scheduled pre-auth date. In ESA's view, this is working without a connection authorization and reason for possible removal from the ACP Program. Please ensure you are properly managing this important benefit offered only under the ACP Program.

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## Transferring Ownership of Temporary Service Notifications

A Temporary Service notification is an application for inspection and service connection of a non-permanent service (e.g. temporary pole, shack, transportable trailer).

The temporary service fee is paid at the time the application is submitted and covers: initial inspection, connection authorization, and the first re-inspection between days 90 - 179. If the temporary service is still in place on day 180, a second re-inspection is performed and a temporary service renewal fee is added to the permit.

Once the temporary service has been constructed, inspected and connected, the contractor who may not have an agreement with the owner/builder may not wish to be responsible for the temporary service and the ongoing renewal fees.

Effective May 1/08 ESA has implemented a new process to cover the transfer of these notifications:

The Owner / Builder / New Contractor must contact the Customer Service Centre, advising of following:

1. Acknowledges the transfer of ownership and
2. Files a completed application and
3. Pays the appropriate re-inspection fees for the Temporary Service.

If this information is received at the CSC, the application is then transferred accordingly.

Any questions concerning this, please contact Rick Smith, Program Coordinator – Wiring, @ 519-620-4554.

## Issued Defects

When a defect is issued by the Inspector, a Deficiency Notice is sent to the Contractor either by way of the overnight fax process, or by Canada Post.

It is important that you review all Deficiency Notices to ensure any defects issued to you, belong to you. Sometimes, the Inspector issues a defect not realizing the non-code compliant situation he has come across does not belong to the Contractor whose permit he is inspecting. When this happens, the Contractor must fax a formal request to Barb Chatten in the ACP Office @ 1-800-249-7667, essentially asking Barb to review the defect in question with the issuing Inspector and his/her Sr. Inspector. If in agreement, Barb can then remove the defect.

Defect information in our system is deemed correct, unless otherwise advised by a Contractor. Help us keep your ACP defect ratio accurate.

## ACP is 10 Years Old!

This year, ACP celebrates its ten year anniversary. Many changes have occurred to ACP since its inception – following are a few of the major ones:

- Addition of new verticals – a total of five now
- ACP Manual – reformatted and updated annually
- Small Job Ceiling – increased to \$500
- WARNINGS – for use to identify low risk technical defects

The Program continues to evolve, ensuring the growing needs of our Contractors are met. We want to take this opportunity to thank you for participating in ACP and ask that you contact us at 1-800-249-4583 – at any time – if you have any questions.

## Electrical Safety & Technical Training

The Electrical Safety Authority offers both electrical safety awareness and technical training based on the Ontario Electrical Safety Code. Please visit the “Safety & Technical Training” section of [www.esasafe.com](http://www.esasafe.com) for workshop descriptions and a listing of scheduled training events.

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## Technical Corner - By Ted Olechna

Each year, an audit is held on the ACP Program. The ACP Annual audit examines the ACP Program, ensuring Program processes are being followed by its users. Failure to follow prescribed Program doctrine undermines Program credibility and places ESA at risk. The Audit reveals code related concerns, as they link to installations and inspections and reports recommendations that will serve to strengthen overall Program practices.

The following Ontario Electrical Safety Code rules were the top ten non-code compliances discovered in the 2007 Audit. Please review and if you are unfamiliar with how to do these correctly, contact your local Technical Advisor:

1. 2-004: ACP Contractors label required
2. 2-022: The use and connection of unapproved equipment in an installation
3. 02-100(3): Completing the panel directory
4. 06-312: Drain and seal service raceway  
**Rationale:** The issue here is both condensation as well as water entering the consumer's service box. Sealing prevents condensation and draining eliminates any moisture that can accumulate.
5. 10-404: In non-metallic wiring systems a bonding conductor shall be provided at all outlets and all metal boxes shall be bonded to ground
6. 12-506(4a): NM Cable near heat ducts  
**Rationale:** Where nonmetallic sheathed cable is run in proximity to heating sources, transfer of heat to the cable shall be minimized by means of an air space of at least 25 mm or a thermal barrier complying with Rule 12-506(5) between the conductor and heating ducts and piping - Rule 12-506(4)(a)
7. 12-510: Support cables to building structure  
**Rationale:** The intent for supporting the NMSC is to prevent the cable from being pulled away from the box or connector and prevent injury to the cable
8. 12-514: Protection of NMSC on joists and rafters  
**Rationale:** The intention is that cables not be run on or across the upper faces of joists in locations where the vertical separation between joists and rafters is greater than 1 m, or on the lower faces of basement joists, unless they are protected from mechanical injury. Suitable protection may be in the form of guards or running boards.
9. 12-610: Insulated bushings or inserts for armored cable (antishorts)  
**Rationale:** To prevent abrasion or cutting by the sharp edges of armour, *conductor insulation* shall be protected by *insulated* bushings or inserts, sometimes called anti-short bushings
10. 12-3002 (4): The outlet box shall be provided with a cover or a fixture canopy.  
**Rationale:** The cover prevents contact with the *conductors* or connections in a outlet box, serving as a barrier to people, and protects the conductors and connections from accidental damage. As well as contain the effects from failure of joints, it prevents the spread of fire from arcing or sparking, if there is a failure

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