

ACP NEWS

Feb 2012

ACP CONTRACTOR NEWSLETTER

Ontario Electrical Safety Code (25th Edition) Becomes Effective May 1, 2012

On May 1, 2012 the 25th edition of the Ontario Electrical Safety Code (OESC) will come into effect. This edition includes amendments that reflect changes in technology, the need to harmonize Codes, electrical incidents data and reflects input from consultations with key stakeholders. Some key changes in this edition include:

- Expansion of the Basic exemptions (Rule 2-005)
- Connection Authorization expiry (Section 2)
- Conductor Ampacity Changes (Section 4)
- New rule for Receptacle(s) on a roof top for equipment maintenance (Sections 2 & 26)
- Changes to Receptacles exposed to weather rules (Section 26)
- Renewable energy systems (New Section 64) and Changes to Solar photovoltaic (Section 50)
- New and enhanced rules for Electric vehicle charging infrastructure (Section 86)

Starting mid-March 2012, ESA will begin offering training workshops to provide the electrical industry with an overview of the new and amended requirements of the OESC (25th edition). To ensure the needs of our customers are addressed, ESA will be offering three workshops on the 2012 OESC:

- “General” Workshop – Includes all major changes to the OESC (25th Edition/2012).
- “Residential” Workshop – Includes all OESC changes that are specific to single-dwelling installations.
- “HVAC Installations” – Includes OESC requirements for residential heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment.

New for 2012! ESA is offering the “General” and “HVAC Installations” workshops both in the classroom and through computer based training in an online learning environment.

The registration fee is \$150.00 + HST per person to attend a workshop, and \$75.00 per person to enroll in the on-line course.

It is a requirement for continued ACP membership that Contractors attend an ESA 2012 OESC workshop or take the on-line course. Contractors are responsible for ensuring that all staff doing ACP installations are trained on each New Code. As well, a 2012 Code Book must be readily accessible to all staff. These can be purchased through Orderline at 1-888-361-0003.

Training information and dates will be available at www.esasafe.com in early February.

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Reporting the full Scope of Work

2.2.7.3 – Process Requirements (ACP Manual, June 2011) states in sub-section (ii):

When filing, the Contractor must disclose all information relating to the electrical installation to ensure ACP / non-ACP rules can be applied appropriately.

This is particularly important for work filed as a Small Job since individual fee codes are not used. Please ensure that you accurately and completely outline all electrical work done in the “Work Description” field on the Small Jobs application form. For other applications, ensure you record the required information where the form indicates “Specify”. Additional details about the exact scope of work may be recorded in the “Comments/Work Details” section at the bottom of each form.

Near Miss... Timing is Everything

A Residential ACP Contractor filed an application for a service repair to the main switch. As per ACP benefits, a pre-authorized reconnection was issued to the Utility by ESA. The Contractor contacted the Utility to advise that he was ready for the service to be re-energized. Just as the Utility linesman was about to re-energize, he realized the LEC was still working on the load side. An electrocution was narrowly avoided.

Please ensure that work is complete before contacting the Utility to re-energize.

ACP Exclusions

Reminder – the following installations are NOT part of ACP....

- Fire alarm systems (Section 32 installations) including FA devices and annunciator panels
- Fuel dispensing devices
- EV (electric vehicle) chargers – hard-wired or the device for a plug-in charger (New exclusion)

Filing Applications for Inspection

As per Code Rule 2-004 (1)(a)... an Application for Inspection must be filed before or within 48 hours after commencement of the work.

Please ensure there is a process in place to guarantee that an application is filed the following business day for emergency work done after hours.

ACP & non-ACP eligible work - Residential site

If the scope of work includes installations that are included under ACP and items that are excluded from ACP – two applications must be filed for the site. For example:

Application #1 – ACP eligible work

New Res, 200A, including the furnace and A/C (please document the mechanical equipment)

Application #2 – work excluded from ACP

Standby generator, transfer switch, pool, etc.

For the full list of exclusions that must be filed on a separate application, please refer to the June 2011 ACP Manual on www.esasafe.com > Contractors > Authorized Contractor Program > Program Manual

The Ontario Electrical Safety Code is the minimum standard to which all electrical installations must comply. All non-conformances will be documented.

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