

DEFECT OF THE MONTH

Use of Approved Equipment

Rule 2-034

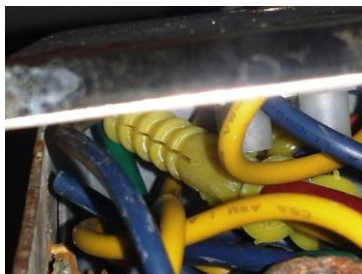


Over the past year, ESA Inspectors have issued more than 5,700 defects related to Rule 2-034 about the use of approved equipment. Rule 2-034 requires that no person shall use electrical equipment for any purpose or in any manner other than the purpose or manner for which it is intended.

This defect is issued for three reasons:

1. Use of non-electrical products in an electrical installation

Often inspectors see plumbing elbows, clamps, conduits and other non-electrical products used within an electrical installation. The photos below show the use of a plumbing elbow and a screw anchor instead of a wire connector.



2. Not following the manufacturer's instructions for proper installation

Electrical products come with manufacturer's installation instruction that has to be followed by the installer. Wire connectors, clamps, breakers, etc. usually have limitations to the number of wires and sizes that the product can be used with. An example would be the number of wires that can fit in a L19 connector.



3. Additional Violations

Other violations of Rule 2-034 include the use of electrical products in environments other than what they were approved for. This would include indoor and outdoor use, and dry versus wet locations.

It is recommended that manufacturer's installation instructions are always followed to ensure proper use and installation of electrical equipment.