

DEFECT OF THE MONTH

March 2018

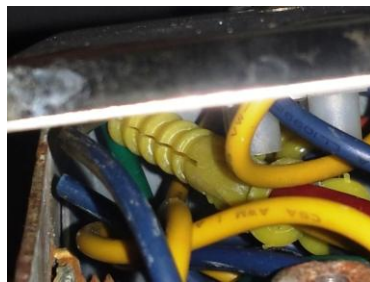
Equipment to be Approved for Use



Over the past year, ESA inspectors have issued close to 10,000 defects related to Rule 2-034 about the use of approved products. Rule 2-034 requires no person to use electrical equipment for any purpose or in any manner other than the purpose or manner for which it is intended. The majority of defects are issued for these 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. Use of electrical products not as intended

Electrical products come with installation instructions from the manufacturer that must be followed by the installer. Wire connectors, clamps, breakers, etc., usually have limitations to the number of wires and sizes that they can be used with.



3. Other

Other violations of Rule 2-034 includes the use of electrical products in an environment other than what they are approved for (i.e. indoor, outdoor, dry vs. wet location, etc.).

The use of unapproved products or products not intended for the electrical installation may cause failure of circuits and potential arcing which may lead to fires or an electrical shock hazard.