

Exceptions to Product Approval Requirements

Scope

1. Exception to approval requirements based on Rule 2-022(2)
 - (a) Equipment displayed at trade shows
 - (b) Equipment connected to the output of Class 2 power supply or equivalent
 - (c) Battery-operated equipment that is portable
 - (d) Equipment, by design, intended for use outside of Ontario
2. Additional exception to product approval requirements
 - (a) Fluorescent and HID Lamps, Not Self-Ballasted
 - (b) Revenue Billing Devices, Electricity Meters

1. Exception to approval requirements based on Rule 2-022(2)

Ontario Electrical Safety Code (OESC) Rule 2-022(2) specifies the exceptions (with some conditions) to electrical product approval requirements, which include: equipment displayed at trade shows, equipment connected to the output of a Class 2 power supply, portable, battery operated equipment or equipment intended to be used solely outside of Ontario.

(a) Equipment displayed at trade shows

Unapproved electrical equipment can be brought to a trade show in Ontario provided that ESA has been notified and permission to show or permission to energize has been granted. Application forms “Permission to Show” and “Permission to Energize” are available on the ESA website, visit:

<https://www.esasafe.com/business/esasaf-permits-and-inspections/inspection-forms>

Permission allows unapproved equipment to be displayed or activated for demonstration purposes only at trade shows and do not allow sale of such equipment.

(b) Equipment connected to the output of approved Class 2 power supply or equivalent

Equipment connected to the output of an approved Class 2 power supply or a limited power supply (LPS) whose output does not exceed limits 100 VA, 42.4 V peak or dc (30 V rms) is not required to be approved, with some exceptions.

Class 2 power supplies are certified to CAN/CSA-C22.2 No. 223, or both CSA C22.2 No. 66.1 and CSA C22.2 No. 66.3, and shall not exceed 100 VA with the operating voltage not more than 42.4 V peak or dc (30 V rms). A limited power supply (LPS) is required to be certified to CAN/CSA-C22.2 No. 60950-1.

It is permitted that approval is not required for electrical equipment connected to an approved Class 2 power supply or LPS, if the power supply is not an integral part of the equipment. If the Class 2 power supply or LPS is an integral part of a product, such as within a product enclosure, the product is required to be approved in accordance with applicable Canadian Standards.

NOTE:

Some electrical equipment is still required to be approved even when connected to the output of an approved Class 2 power supply or LPS. Based on Rule 2-022(3), the following equipment is required to be approved when connected to the output of approved Class 2 power supply or LPS:

- i) luminaires;
- ii) decorative lighting strings, signs, or displays utilizing incandescent or halogen lamps;
- iii) electrical medical equipment*;
- iv) equipment for hazardous locations as defined under Sections 18 and 20 of the OESC; or
- v) equipment that incorporates heating elements.

The OESC defines a *luminaire* as a complete lighting unit designed to accommodate the lamp(s) and to connect the lamp(s) to a circuit conductors. The light source for the luminaire referenced by Subrule (3)(a) of the OESC may be an incandescent, halogen, light-emitting diode (LED) lamp or module, or as specified in CSA standard C22.2 No. 250.0

Exceptions to Product Approval Requirements

The term “Lighting string” is defined in CSA standard C22.2 No. 37-14, Decorative lighting products, as follows: *Lighting string — a factory-assembled series, series-parallel, or parallel string of lamps consisting of an attachment plug or current tap, lampholders, lamps, wire, and an overcurrent protection. A lighting string may be provided with a load fitting (cord connector), a controller, or individual lamp shades or diffusers over each individual lamp, or a combination of the above. A lighting string is intended to provide a decorative effect.*

It is intended by Subrule (3)(b) of Rule 2-022 that decorative light strings, signs, or displays utilizing LEDs as the light source, which are connected to the output of an approved Class 2 power supply or a LPS are not required to be approved.

*** NOTE:**

Electrical equipment used in veterinary practice is not considered as medical electrical equipment, as indicated by the interpretation shown below. Electrical equipment used in veterinary practice does not require approval if connected to the output of approved Class 2 power supply or a LPS. Interpretation is provided in Medical Devices Regulations as follows: *“medical device” means a device within the meaning of the Food and Drugs Act, but does not include any device that is intended for use in relation to animals.*

(c) Battery-operated equipment

Based on Rule 2-022(2)(c), battery-operated, portable electrical equipment is not required to be approved according to the definition of “Electrical Equipment” and the Scope of the OESC. The exception to this is provided by Rule 2-022(4)(a) and (b) which state that battery-operated, portable equipment located in hazardous locations and equipment used to test, measure or indicate one or more electrical quantities and marked as category III or IV, are required to be approved. Equipment in hazardous locations powered by a maximum of two button cell batteries, such as electronic wristwatches, hearing aids, or calculators, do not require approval, as they are deemed incapable of causing an ignition under normal conditions, as per ANSI/ISA-12.12.03.

The Appendix B note to Rule 2-022 states: for battery operated medical devices, as defined by the Food and Drugs Act, refer to all approval requirements of Health Canada.

(d) Equipment intended for use outside of Ontario

It is intended by Rule 2-022(2)(d) that electrical equipment intended solely for use outside of Ontario, such as travel adapter plugs for using electrical equipment overseas, does not require approval because there is no applicable standard for Canadian certification.

2. Additional exception to product approval requirements

(a) Fluorescent and HID Lamps, Not Self-Ballasted

Currently there is no Canadian or North American standard to which these types of lamps can be approved.

(b) Revenue Billing Devices, Electricity Meters

ESA's Bulletin 6-8-* clarifies that utility revenue billing devices, meters are not required to be approved as per OESC requirements. The Bulletin provides consistent direction with respect to ESA's jurisdiction over revenue billing devices, governed by the "Weights and Measures Act" and "Electricity and Gas Inspection Act" and used by Local Distribution Companies, licensed by the Ontario Energy Board (OEB).

Note:

Electricity meters not owned by utility companies and used within the scope of the OESC are required to be approved.