Key Revisions for the 2014 National Electrical Code[®] (NEC[®])

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PDHonline Course E428 Webinar 2 PDH's Presented by Patrick S. Ouillette, P.E.

September 15, 2015

Agenda

- Some background of the NEC[®]
- The purpose of the Code
- How to use the Code
- Code Arrangement
- Definitions
- Important Code revisions for the 2014 edition
- Quiz

Learning Objectives

Completion of this webinar will

- > Familiarize the student with significant NEC[®] revisions
- Introduce the student who is not familiar with NFPA 70° to some of the regulations for safeguarding persons and property from hazards arising from the use of electricity
- Re-acquaint students who use the Code infrequently with some of the basic safety requirements and areas of coverage of the NEC
- Make the student aware of the four new Code articles and the scope of information contained in these articles

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Learning Objectives

Completion of this webinar will

- \succ Familiarize the student with the changes in the rules for AFCIs and GFCIs
- Familiarize the student with some of the changes related to alternative energy
- Familiarize the student with new requirements for branch circuits
- Enable the student to identify Code sections where additional study may be required appropriate for the student's practice

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The NEC[®] Is:

National Fire Protection Association®

- NFPA 70[®], the signature standard among the hundreds of standards published by the NFPA;
- The most widely adopted electrical safety standard in the world; and
- Developed through a consensus standards development process by volunteers representing varied viewpoints and interests.



90.1 Purpose

- (A) Practical Safeguarding. The purpose of this Code is the practical safeguarding of persons and property from hazards arising from the use of electricity. It is not a design specification or instruction manual for untrained persons.
- (B) Adequacy. This Code contains provisions considered necessary for safety. Compliance results in an installation essentially free from hazard but not necessarily efficient, convenient, or adequate for good service or future expansion of electrical use.

90.3 Code Arrangement

- Chapters 1-4 apply generally to all electrical installations. Chapter 1 – General
 - Chapter 2 Wiring and Protection
 - Chapter 3 Wiring Methods and Materials
 - Chapter 4 Equipment for General Use
- Chapters 5-7 supplement or modify chapters 1-4. Chapter 5 – Special Occupancies
 - Chapter 6 Special Equipment
 - Chapter 7 Special Conditions
- Chapter 8 Communications Systems stands alone, except where reference is made in chapter 8 to other sections.
- Chapter 9 Tables are applicable as referenced.
- Informative Annexes A-J are informational only, not mandatory.

Code-Wide Changes

Voltage Threshold: Changed from "Over 600 Volts" to "Over 1000 Volts"

Some wind generating systems operate above the existing 600-V threshold (690 volts AC is common) and solar photovoltaic (PV) systems operate in a range of DC voltages up to and including 1000 V and higher. The "High Voltage Task Group" was appointed by the Technical Correlating Committee to review existing Code and submit new proposals to address the need for installation rules for circuits and systems operating at over 600 volts.

As a result of their work, several Code articles now address Over 1000 Volts in place of Over 600 Volts. Some articles retained the 600-V threshold, particularly where there were safety concerns.

Article 100 – Definitions

Readily Accessible [revised definition] "Capable of being reached quickly for operation, renewal, or inspections without requiring those to whom ready access is requisite to actions such as to use tools, to climb over or remove obstacles, or to resort to portable ladders, and so forth."

Where a disconnecting means is required to be readily accessible, even the use of a simple screwdriver to access the disconnect renders the disconnect not readily accessible (only accessible). This can be the case in certain HVAC equipment where a built-in disconnect is located behind an access panel that requires a screwdriver to remove or open.

Article 100 – Definitions

Separately Derived System [revised definition]

"An electrical source, other than a service, having no direct connection(s) to circuit conductors of any other electrical source other than those established by grounding and bonding connections.

Separately derived systems are not services. Only a utility company Separately derived systems are not services. Only a utility company supplies power via a service. Grounding the neutral of a separately derived system (e.g., a transformer) in a building to metal water piping or structural steel in the vicinity of the separately derived system will nearly always form a connection to another system's grounded conductor. The electrode used (structural steel or metal water piping) to ground the separately derived system must qualify as a grounding electrode. The revised definition clarifies that a common grounding electrode conductor used to ground multiple separately derived systems, as permitted in 250.30(A)(6), does not disqualify the systems from being separately derived systems.

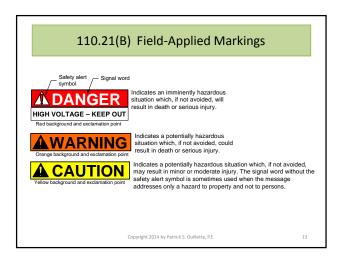
110.16 Arc-Flash Hazard Warning



This label meets both the 2014 NEC and NFPA 70E-2012 requirements

Note: Factory marking of the information required by 70E is generally not feasible due to the variety of equipment applications

Summary: Arc flash warning labels may be field or factory applied. Field-applied marking shall meet the requirements of new 110.21(B), which contains general requirements for field marking.



110.25 Lockable Disconnecting Means



Summary

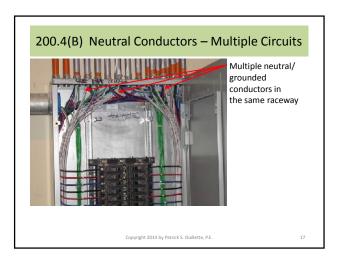
New 110.25 contains rules that must be complied with for a disconnecting means to qualify as lockable open. An exception recognizes that where the disconnecting means is permitted to be a plug for cord-and-plugconnected equipment, the provision for locking cannot remain in place.

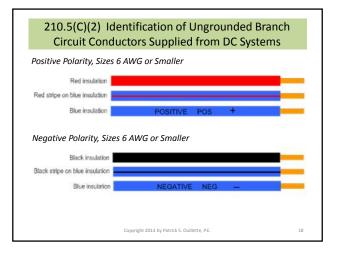
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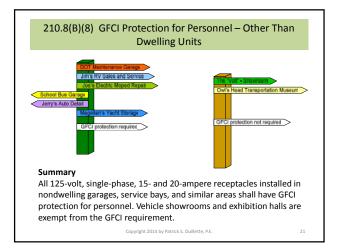


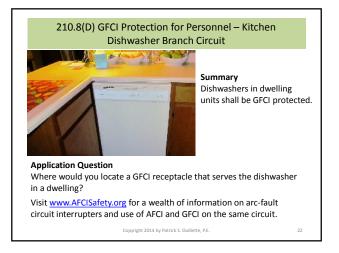


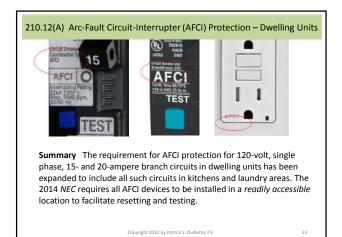






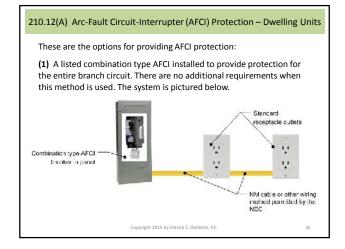


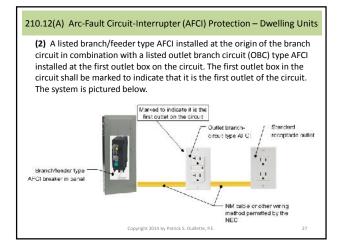


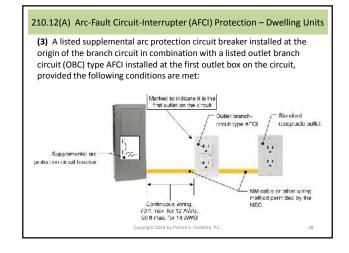


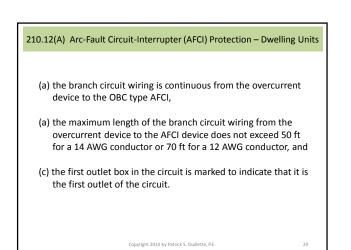


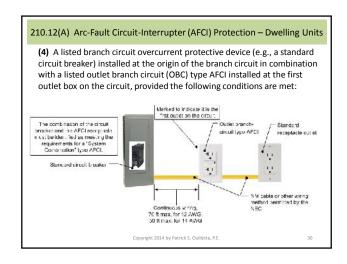












Standard

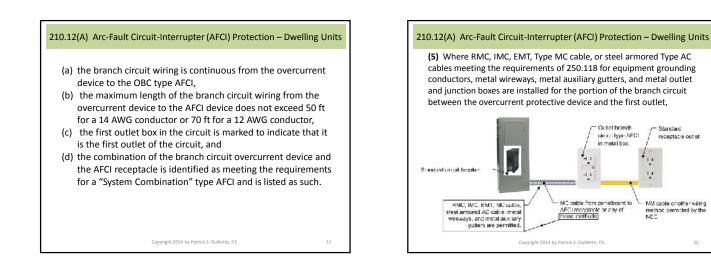
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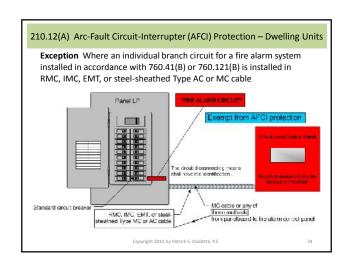
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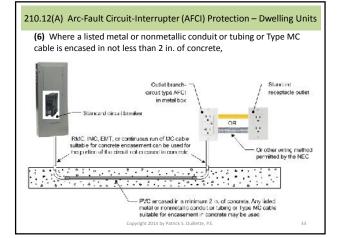
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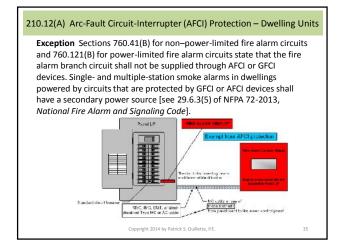
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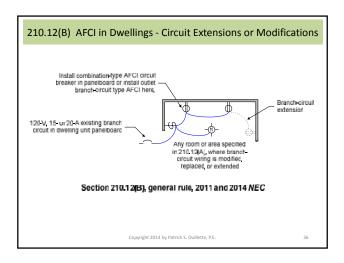
NM cable or other wiring method permitted by the

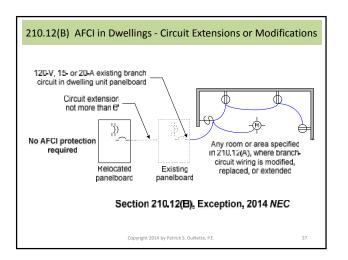


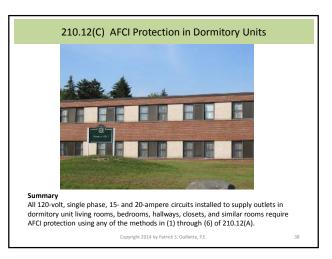


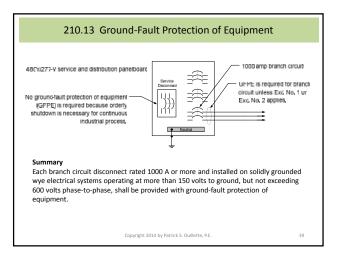


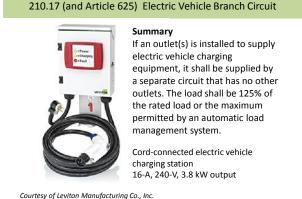












210.19(A)(1) and 215.2(A)(1) Min. Amp. and Size for Conductors

Conductors shall be not smaller than the larger of the sizes calculated in accordance with subsections (a) or (b) of 210.19(A)(1) or 215.2(A)(1) as applicable.

- (a) Where a branch circuit or feeder supplies continuous loads or a combination of continuous and noncontinuous loads, the minimum conductor size shall have an ampacity not less than the noncontinuous load plus 125 percent of the continuous load.
- (b) The minimum branch-circuit or feeder conductor size shall have an ampacity not less than the maximum load to be served after the application of any adjustment or correction factors.

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210.19(A)(1) and 215.2(A)(1) Min. Amp. and Size for Conductors

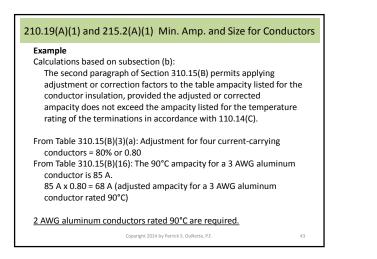
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Example

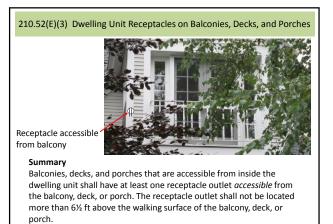
A 3-phase, 4-wire feeder supplies a continuous, nonlinear lighting load of 60 amperes. The feeder circuit conductors are installed in EMT. The conductors that will be used are rated 90°C. Terminations are rated 75°C. What size aluminum conductors are required to supply the load?

Calculations based on subsection (a):

60 x 1.25 = 75 A (minimum required conductor ampacity) From Table 310.15(B)(16): A 3 AWG aluminum conductor is permitted (75 A, 75°C column).



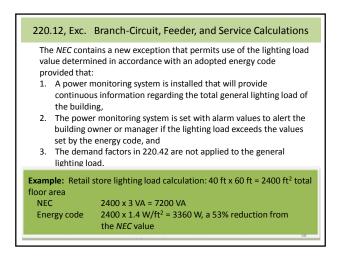


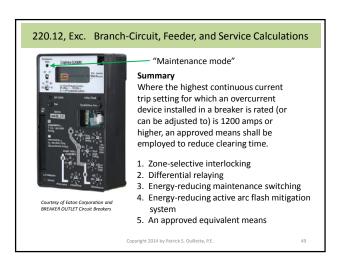


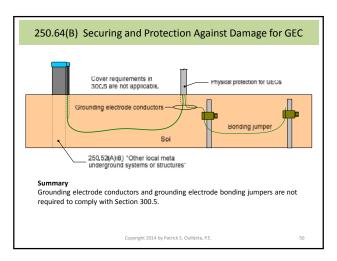
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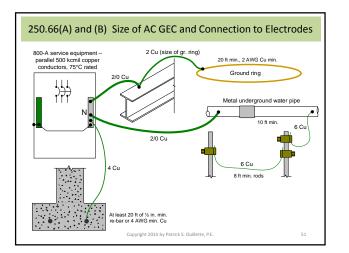


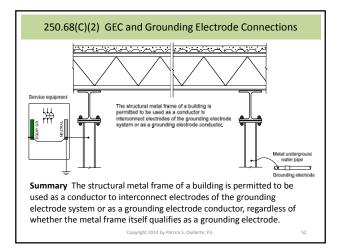


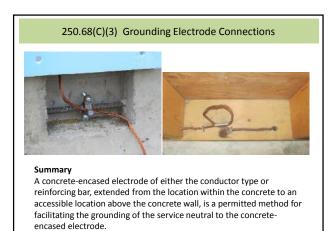












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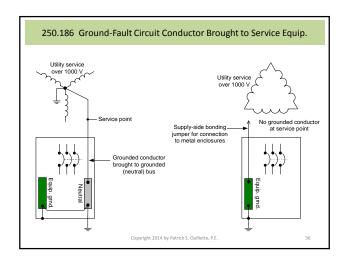
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Size of Largest Ungrounded Conductor or Equivalent Area for Parallel Conductors (AWG/kcmil)		Size of Grounded Conductor or Bonding Jumper ^a (AWG/kcmil)	
Copper	Aluminum or Copper-Clad Aluminum	Copper	Aluminum or Copper-Clad Aluminum
2 or smaller	1/0 or smaller	8	6
1 or 1/0	2/0 or 3/0	6	4
2/0 or 3/0	4/0 or 250	4	2
Over 3/0 through 350	Over 250 through 500	2	1/0
Over 350 through 600	Over 500 through 900	1/0	3/0
Over 600 through 1100	Over 900 through 1750	2/0	4/0
Over 1100	Over 1750	See Notes	



Ungrounded dc systems shall be equipped with ground-fault detection systems. Grounded dc systems are permitted to have ground-fault detection systems. Dc systems shall be marked at the source or the first disconnecting means to indicate the grounding type employed.

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310.15(B)(3)(c) and Table Ampacity Adjustment Factors

Table 310.15(B)(3)(c) Ambient Temperature Adjustment for Raceways or Cables Exposed to Sunlight on or Above Rooftops

	Temperature Adder		
Distance Above Roof to Bottom of Raceway or Cable	°C	°F	
On roof $0 - 13 \text{ mm} (0 - \frac{1}{2} \text{ in.})$	33	60	
Above roof 13 mm (½ in.)	22	40	
Above roof 90 mm - 300 mm (3½ in 12 i	n.) 17	30	
Above roof 300 mm – 900 mm (12 in. – 36	in.) 14	25	

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310.15(B)(7) 120/240-V, Single-Phase Dwelling Services and Feeders

Summary

Table 310.15(B)(7) has been deleted. The reduced conductor size permitted for certain residential services and feeders is still permitted by applying a factor of 0.83 to the rating of the service or feeder.

Example 1

What size aluminum XHHW service-entrance conductors are required for a 200-A, 120/240-V, single-phase service for a one-family dwelling?

- Service rating = 200 amps.
- Multiply by $0.83: 200 \text{ A} \times 0.83 = 166 \text{ A}$. Select an aluminum conductor from the 75°C column in Table 310.15(B)(16).
- Select <u>4/0 AI XHHW</u> conductors with an ampacity of 180 A, which is at least 166 A.

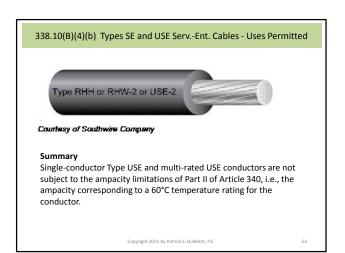
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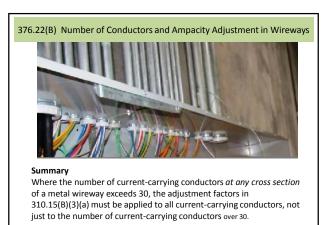
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Example 2 What size aluminum SER cable containing XHHW conductors is required for a 200-A rated feeder that carries all of the service load for a one-family dwelling supplied by a 120/240-V, single-phase service? The feeder cable is embedded in thermal insulation. Feeder rating = 200 amps. Multiply by 0.83: 200 A x 0.83 = 166 A. Section 338.10(B)(4)(a) states that where used in thermal insulation the ampacity shall be in accordance with the conductor's 60°C rating. Select an aluminum conductor size from the 60°C column in Table 310.15(B)(16) that has an ampacity of at least 166 amps. 250 kcmil aluminum XHHW conductors with a 60°C ampacity

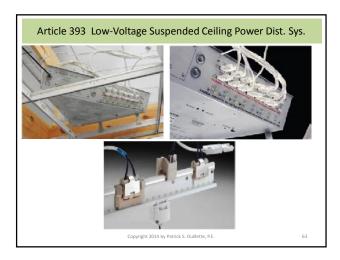
310.15(B)(7) 120/240-V, Single-Phase Dwelling Services and Feeders

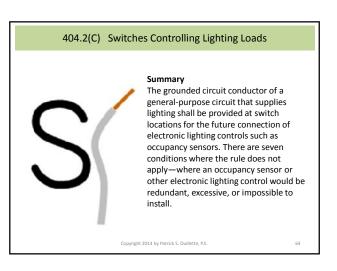
 $\underline{250\ kcmil}\ aluminum\ XHHW$ conductors with a $60^\circ C$ ampacity of 170 A can be used.

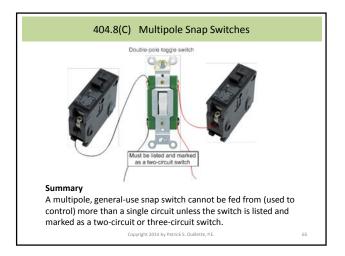


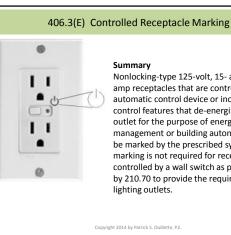


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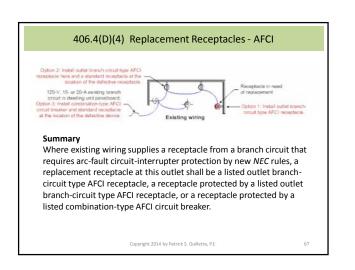


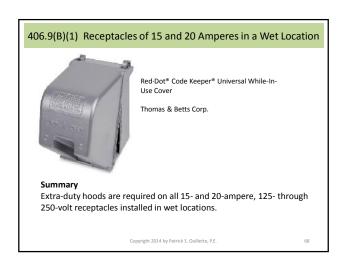






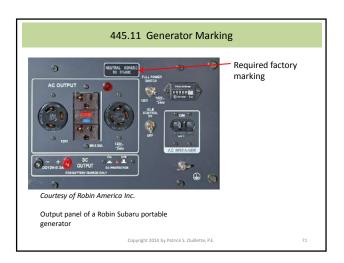
Nonlocking-type 125-volt, 15- and 20amp receptacles that are controlled by an automatic control device or incorporate control features that de-energize the outlet for the purpose of energy management or building automation shall be marked by the prescribed symbol. The marking is not required for receptacles controlled by a wall switch as permitted by 210.70 to provide the required room

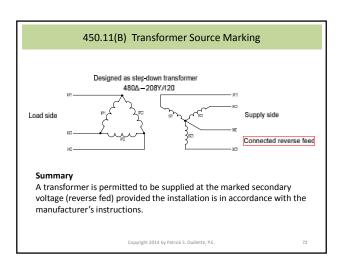


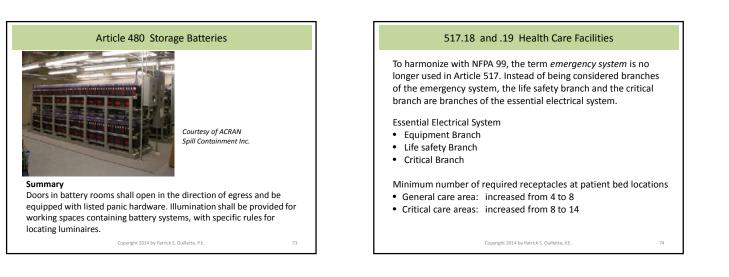


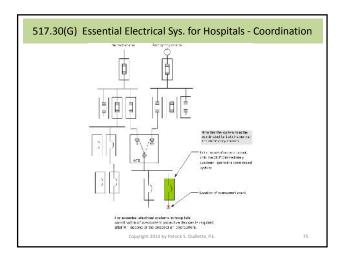


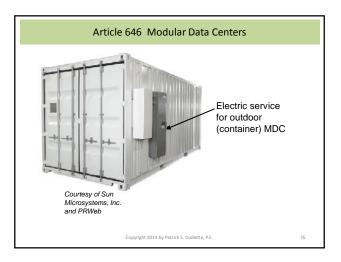


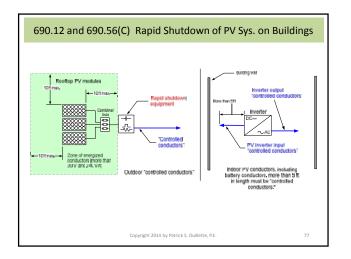


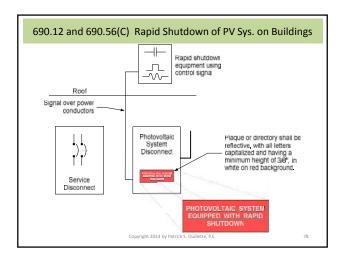


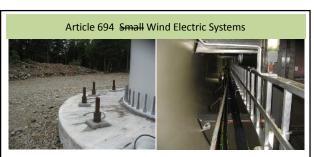












3 MW wind turbine structure

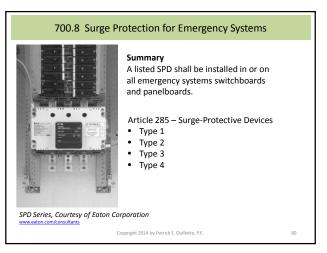
Summary

Article 694 now covers all wind generators within the scope of the *NEC*—no longer limited to 100 kW or smaller. Provisions for manual shutdown are now required.

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700.8 Surge Protection for Emergency Systems

Guidelines for Protection

- ANSI/IEEE C62.41, IEEE Recommended Practice for Surge Voltages in Low-Voltage AC Power Circuits.
- The consulting and specifying engineering community through the American Institute of Architects (AIA) has produced a MasterSpec document related to SPDs for low-voltage electrical power circuits. It references a protection level of 250 kA at service entrance locations.
- NFPA 780, Standard for the Installation of Lightning Protection Systems, Section 4.18.3.1.2, SPDs at the service entrance shall have an I_{max} rating of at least 40 kA 8/20 µs per phase or a nominal discharge current (I_n) rating of at least 20 kA 8/20 µs per phase for the protection of electrical power circuits.

