# Electrical Safety in Construction

29 CFR 1926 Subpart K – Electrical

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# **Objectives**

### In this course, we will discuss the following:

- Common electrical hazards
- Standards relating to those hazards
- Electrical equipment defects/hazards
- Tools/techniques used in identifying hazards



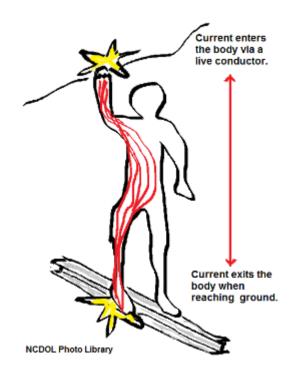
# 29 CFR 1926 - Subpart K

- 1926.400 Introduction
- 1926.402 Applicability
- 1926.403 General requirements
- ■1926.404 Wiring design and protection
- 1926.405 Wiring methods, components, and equipment
- 1926.406 Specific purpose equipment and installations
- 1926.407 Hazardous (classified) locations
- 1926.408 Special systems
- ●1926.416, 417, 431, 432, 441 Safety-related practices and maintenance
- 1926.449 Definitions



### **Common Electrical Hazards**

- Electric shock/electrocution occurs, when current flows through the body damaging the body
- Electrical burns are caused by arc blast or hot conductors
- Indirect falls from ladders, scaffolds or other walking and working surfaces



### **Common Electrical Hazards**

- Explosions can occur due to electricity (ignition source)
  - Example
    - » When the atmosphere contains flammable vapors
- Electrical fires can be caused by overloading a circuit, appliance, faulty wiring, etc.



# **General Requirements**

- Electrical equipment must be free from recognized hazards that can cause death or serious physical harm to employees
  - Suitability for installation
  - Mechanical strength and durability
  - Electrical insulation
  - Heating effects under condition of use
  - Arcing effects
  - Classification by type, size, voltage, current capacity, specific use



# **General Requirements**

 Listed, labeled, or certified equipment must be installed and used in accordance with instructions included in the listing, labeling or

certification



# **Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratories**

- Canadian Standards Association (CSA International)
- Communication Certification Laboratory, Inc. (CCL)
- Curtis-Straus LLC (CSL)
- FM Approvals LLC (FM)
- Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc. (ITSNA)
- MET Laboratories, Inc. (MET)
- NSF International (NSF)
- National Technical Systems, Inc. (NTS)
- SGS U.S. Testing Company, Inc. (SGSUS)
- Southwest Research Institute (SWRI)
- TUV SUD America, Inc. (TUVAM)
- TUV SUD Product Services GmbH (TUVPSG)
- TUV Rheinland of North America, Inc. (TUV)
- Underwriters laboratory Inc. (UL)
- Wyle Laboratories, Inc. (WL)





# **Box Not Approved as a Pendant**



# **General Requirements**

 Equipment shall be installed and used in accordance with instructions



### **Used in Accordance With Instructions**



# **General Requirements**

 Each service, feeder, and branch circuit, at its disconnecting means or over current device, shall be legibly marked to indicate its purpose



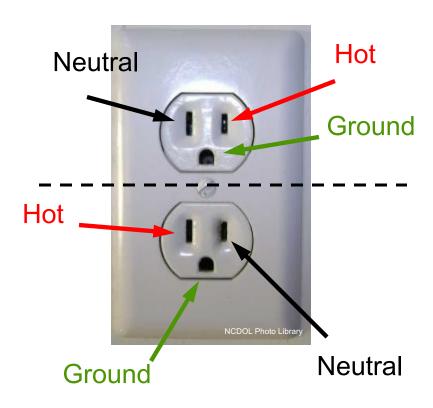
# **General Requirements**

Live parts of electric equipment operating at 50 volts or more shall be guarded against accidental contact by cabinets or other forms of enclosures, or by another suitable method



- Polarity of connections
  - No grounded conductor may be attached to any terminal or lead so as to reverse designated polarity

#### **Correct Polarity**



#### **Reversed Polarity**



### Wiring Design and Protection 1926.404(b)(1)(i)

 Employer shall use either ground fault circuit interrupters

#### **O**r

 An assured equipment grounding conductor program to protect employees



- Portable generators need not be grounded if:
  - Supplies only equipment mounted on the generator and/or cord and plug equipment is plugged into receptacle mounted on the generator
  - Noncurrent-carrying metal parts of equipment and grounding conductor terminals of the receptacle are bonded to generator frame



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- Vehicle-mounted generators; vehicle frame may serve as system grounding if:
  - Frame of the generator is bonded to the vehicle frame and
  - Generator supplies only equipment located on the vehicle and/or equipment plugged into the generator

and



- Noncurrent-carrying metal parts of equipment and grounding conductor terminals of the receptacles are bonded to the generator frame, and
- System complies with all other provisions of this section



### Wiring Design and Protection 1926.404(f)(6)

 Path to ground from circuits, equipment, enclosures must be permanent and continuous



### Wiring Design and Protection 1926.404(f)(7)(iv)

- Equipment connected by cord and plug
  - Noncurrent-carrying metal parts which may become energized must be grounded if:
    - » In a hazardous location
    - » Operated at over 150 V to ground
      - Except guarded motors and appliances permanently insulated from ground
    - » Hand held motor-operated tools
    - » Equipment used in wet and/or conductive locations
    - » Portable hand lamps



### Wiring Design and Protection 1926.405(a)(2)(ii)(I)-(J)

- Flexible cords and cables must be protected from damage
- Extension cord sets used with portable electric tools and appliances must be of three-wire type and must be designed for hard or extra-hard usage



 Conductors entering boxes, cabinets, or fittings must be protected from abrasion



## Wiring Design and Protection

1926.405(b)(1)

 Unused openings in cabinets, boxes and fittings must be effectively closed





- All pull boxes, junction boxes, and fittings must be provided with a cover
- If metal covers are used, they must be grounded



Cherie Berry, Commissioner of Labor

### Wiring Design and Protection 1926.405(g)(1)(i)

- Flexible cords and cables must be suitable for conditions of use and location
- Permitted uses of flexible cords and cables
  - Pendants and fixture wiring
  - Portable lamps and appliances
  - Elevators cables, cranes, and hoists
  - Stationary equipment to facilitate their frequent interchange
  - Appliances where the fastening means and mechanical connections are designed to permit removal for maintenance and repair



### Wiring Design and Protection 1926.405(g)(1)(iii)

- Prohibited uses of flexible cords and cables
  - As substitute for fixed wiring of structure
  - Run through holes in walls, ceilings or floors
  - Run through doors, windows or similar openings
  - Attached to building surfaces
  - Concealed behind building walls, ceilings, or floors

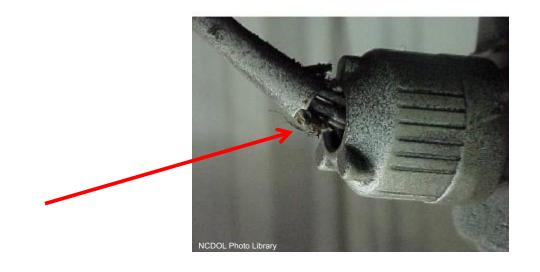






### Wiring Design and Protection 1926.405(g)(2)(iv)

- Flexible cords shall be connected to devices and fittings so that strain relief is provided
  - Will prevent pull from being directly transmitted to joints or terminal screws



 Working spaces, walkways, and similar locations shall be kept clear of cords so as not to create a hazard to employees



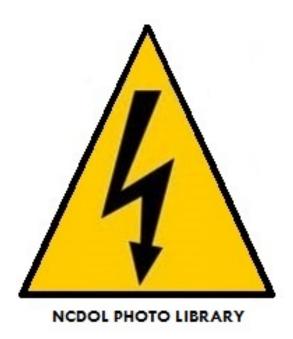
### Safety-Related Work Practices 1926.416(e)

- Extension cords shall not be stapled, hung from nails or suspended by wire
- Worn or frayed electric cords must not be used



# **Tools for Identifying Hazards**

- An electrical receptacle voltage tester with GFCI tester
  - Line voltage probes





# **Summary**

### In this course, we discussed the following:

- Common electrical hazards
- Standards relating to those hazards
- Electrical equipment defects/hazards
- Tools/techniques used in identifying hazards



# **Thank You For Attending!**

# Final Questions?

