



News from the Electrical Inspection Division

December 1, 2008

We are now in the 2008 NEC code for any permits pulled after Building AP# 122841 and Electrical AP# 122857.

*SE cable and Tamper Resistant Receptacles are now in effect as of July 3, 2008.*

*Permits issued after numbers – Building #125442, Electrical # 125420.*

Code Questions and Concerns:

First, I would like to clarify a statement in last month's newsletter, R313.1.1 **Alterations, Repairs, and Additions**. When interior alterations, repairs, or additions requiring a *permit* occur, or when one or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwelling: smoke alarms shall be interconnected and hard wired. *The permit referenced in this code section is a building permit.*

### **Fire stopping: Rated Walls and Ceilings**

#### **300.21 Spread of Fire or Products of Combustion**

Electrical installations in hollow spaces, vertical shafts, and ventilation or air-handling Ducts shall be made so that the possible spread of fire or products of combustion will not be substantially increased. Openings around electrical penetrations through fire-resistant rated walls, partitions, floors, or ceilings shall be fire stopped using approved methods to maintain the fire resistance rating.

FPN: Directories of electrical construction materials published by qualified testing laboratories contain many listed installation restrictions necessary to maintain the fire-resistive rating of assemblies where penetrations or openings are made. Building codes also contain restrictions on membrane penetrations on opposite sides of a fire-resistance rated wall assembly. An example is the 600-mm (24-in.) minimum horizontal separation that usually applies between boxes installed on opposite sides of the wall. Assistance in complying with 300.21 can be found in building codes, fire resistance directories, and product listings.

*Penetrations in fire walls or ceilings must provide proper protection. Device boxes installed in fire walls or ceilings must maintain proper clearances.*

If I have enough feedback for the need of a free class for Electrical Contractors with Continued Education hours which will include Fire stopping. I will arrange a class with Hilti, 3M, or Spec Seal for training.

Please send any questions or comments to [marklt@cityofws.org](mailto:marklt@cityofws.org) enter *CODE QUESTIONS* under subject. We would like to hear from you.

Thanks,

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