
Unapproved, improperly installed neon sign components cause hazards

Unfortunately, some “through wall” neon signs are being improperly installed. The use of the wrong materials and poor wiring practices put people and property at risk and **have resulted in fire hazards.**

Most problems result from poor joints and improper use of non-metallic (plastic) sign tubing where metal flex is required. These hazards can be avoided by ensuring all neon sign components and installations comply with the ONTARIO ELECTRICAL CODE.

Many sign contractors obtain electrical inspections and use approved or certified sign components in accordance with Ontario and Canadian Electrical Code requirements. **Wiring inspections and product approvals confirm that these contractors are providing safe sign installations.**

There should be a label on certified signs that states:

“The field assembly of this sectional sign is subject to the acceptance of the local Inspection Authority”.

This means that the sign contractor must apply for inspection of the cabling from the transformer to the neon tubing. Although some parts of these “through wall” signs may be certified, **all field-installed wiring on signs must be inspected.**

In addition, the contractor who connects the sign transformer to the power supply must apply for inspection of that wiring.

When two contractors work on one sign, two applications for inspection are required. **Failure to comply will result in:**

- 1) disconnection of sign until they pass inspection; and
- 2) charges against contractors failing to apply for inspection.