

# PLUGGED IN

SUMMER 2024



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Read on about Energy Storage Systems and the New Code



## Regulatory Compliance Update | p.10

Learn more about our building permit compliance activities.



## ME Competency Profile Resource Library Update | p.13

Learn more about the ME Competency Profile Resource library offerings here.



## Learn more about the NEW Ontario Amendments!





## Convictions

### Unlicensed ▼

#### Arham's Reno Inc.

Stouffville

Electrical Installation/Repairs - Commercial Warehouse

- \$3,000 fine, \$750 victim surcharge - No LEC.

#### Arham Jamshaid (Director of Arham's Reno Inc.)

Stouffville

Electrical Installation/Repairs - Commercial Warehouse

- \$1,000 fine, \$250 victim surcharge - As director, failed to prevent the corporation from proposing to carry out business - No EC licence.

#### Arham Jamshaid

Stouffville

Electrical Installation/Repairs - Commercial Warehouse

- \$1,500 fine, \$375 victim surcharge - Proposed to carry out business - No EC licence.
- \$3,000 fine, \$750 victim surcharge - Carried out repairs or alterations on live equipment.

#### Damareno Corporation

Newmarket

Renovations at residential site

- \$4,000 fine, \$1,000 victim surcharge - Permit/Employ unlicensed.

#### Dacian Grigore Saulean (Director of Damareno Corporation)

Newmarket

Renovations at residential site

- \$3,500 fine, \$875 victim surcharge - No EC licence.

#### Gino Macchi

Thunder Bay

Electrical Installation at a commercial site

- \$3,000 fine, \$750.00 victim surcharge - Failed to file a Notification of Work.
- \$5,000 fine, \$1,250 victim surcharge, 2-year Probation Order - No EC licence.

#### Balram Mannie

Newmarket

Advertised electrical services while unlicensed on Kijiji.ca platform.

- \$3,500 fine, \$875 victim surcharge - Advertising.
- \$3,500 fine, \$875 victim surcharge - Advertising.



# Convictions

## Unlicensed ▼

### Driss Temcamani

*Markham*

Advertised electrical services while unlicensed on Kijiji.ca platform.

- \$3,000 fine, \$750 victim surcharge, 2-year Probation Order – Advertising.
- \$3,000 fine, \$750 victim surcharge, 2-year Probation Order – Advertising.

### Vince Turano

*Burlington*

Renovations at residential site.

- \$10,000 fine, \$2,500 victim surcharge – No EC licence.
- Currently under Appeal.

### Gary Wiegand

*St. Catharines*

Electrical installation at residential site.

- \$4,500 fine, \$1,125 victim surcharge – No EC licence.
- \$1,500 fine, \$375 victim surcharge – Failed to file a Notification of Work.

## Energy storage system installations: residential occupancies

Energy storage system (ESS) installations are growing. Consider that, in addition to smaller ESS installations that serve local communities, businesses, and homes, the Independent Electricity System Operator expects to have at least 1217 MW of storage capacity participating in Ontario's electricity market by 2026.

Energy storage system (ESS) installations are growing. Consider that, in addition to smaller ESS installations that serve local communities, businesses, and homes, the Independent Electricity System Operator expects to have at least 1217 MW of storage capacity participating in Ontario's electricity market by 2026.

Recognizing this rapidly evolving and expanding technology, the recently published 2024 CE Code includes three new subsections (under Section 64) with crucial updated requirements for ESS: one subsection applies to all ESSs in general terms; one covers ESSs that utilize batteries; and the third applies to the installation of ESSs at residential occupancies.

Let's look at some of the notable changes that apply to residential occupancies:

Previous Rule 64-918 "Location and separation requirements for ESS" has been deleted and replaced with

- New Rule 64-1100 provides location and separation requirements for ESSs at residential occupancies.

- New Rule 64-926 provides requirements for separation and egress from buildings for all installations.

The previous Rule 64-918 did not permit ESS installations in dwelling units, which severely curtailed broader adoption of the technology. The 2024 CE Code now permits these installations. ESA has been permitting these installations in Ontario since May 2022 under the deviation process. (Note: "dwelling unit" can be a single dwelling unit or a dwelling unit in a rowhouse, duplex, triplex, or stacked quadruplex.)

The 2024 CE Code permits these installations. The ESS is to be located in an attached garage, an associated detached garage, or other freestanding structure; on the exterior surface of the building; in a dedicated (e.g. utility) room following certain specifications; or in other locations permitted by the authority having jurisdiction.



## Energy storage system installations: residential occupancies (Continued)

When an ESS is installed in a dedicated room, a smoke alarm or detector shall be installed in the room in accordance with Section 32. The room shall have a door equipped with a self-closure device and enclosed with a minimum construction of:

- ceilings and walls finished with gypsum board; and
- floors finished with lumber sheathing.

The same requirements and permissions apply to an ESS installed in a building containing multiple dwelling units; however, the room in which the ESS is located must have a fire resistance rating of not less than one (1) hour.

It is important to note the new rules provide capacity limitations for a single system and, where multiple systems are installed, limitations have been set for the aggregate capacity. (Although the previous OESC also had capacity limitations, the 2024 CE Code edition increases them in some locations.)

Some of the requirements for dwelling units have not changed. For example, ESSs shall not be installed in sleeping areas or rooms opening directly into sleeping areas, and smoke alarms or detectors must still be installed in the room in which the system is located.

These new subsections were developed by a task force that included diverse representation of manufacturers, regulatory bodies, installers, and

certification bodies. The team diligently reviewed challenges and concerns from the field, with the overarching goal of aligning the CE Code with UL 9540 “Energy storage systems and equipment.”

The CE Code 2024 contains additional requirements that are important to review before planning or designing new energy storage system installations. As ESA works with the Ontario Government to adopt the 2024 CE Code in Ontario, it is important to recognize the benefits of these updated requirements in facilitating the electrification journey.

To support the industry, the ESA Bulletin 64-8-\* has been revised to permit some of the 2024 CE Code updated requirements:

- As of May 1st, 2024:
  - Deviation requests are not required for installation of ESS in a dwelling unit.
  - Fire resistance rating of not less than 1 hour are not required for installation of ESS in a single dwelling unit.
- Adopted special terminology from the 2024 CE Code
- Updated location of ESS based on 2024 CE Code
- Revised separation and working requirements

The updated bulletin is published here – <https://esafe.com/electrical-products/bulletins/>



## Message from the Director

### DIRECTOR'S CORNER – SUMMER 2024



**SOUSSANNA KARAS**  
Director of Licensing

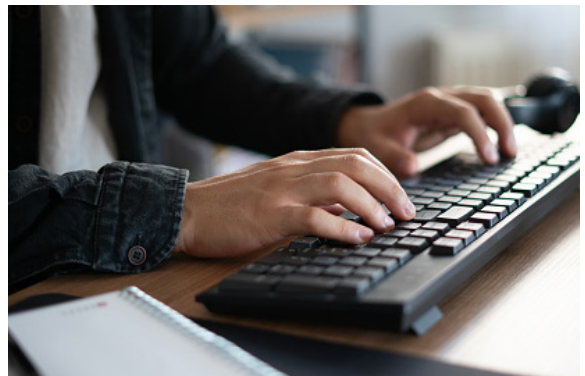
As many of you heard, there have been some irregularities on the virtual Master Electrician (ME) exam administered by ESA. ME exam is the mandatory requirement for the ME licence. ESA stopped offering virtual exams until further notice. However, we continue to administer the ME exam across the province through in-person settings.

As the investigation is still ongoing, the results are not available at this time. However, I would like to use this opportunity to discuss the Master Electrician exam, entry into practice and ME obligations and competencies supporting ethical business practices.

In November 2022, the Law Society of Ontario released the results of its investigation into cheating on the November 2021 lawyer licencing examinations. The investigation found that a third party tutoring company was facilitating examination misconduct.

As a result, 126 candidates saw their examination results voided, their licensing application voided and they were barred from re-applying for the licence for one year.

Canadian universities have been reporting a rise in academic misconduct (unauthorised help, cheating, plagiarism and other acts of dishonesty or misrepresentation) in recent years, as published by [The Globe and Mail](#).



Instructors and university staff who work on academic integrity issues describe a trio of factors that can lead a student to commit an integrity offence: pressure, opportunity and rationalization. Online exams and virtual proctoring have certainly offered more opportunities to cheat, and where there is a sense that everyone is doing it, it can be easier for students to rationalize it. "However, what may seem an easy way out often ends up costing the students dearly", the Globe and Mail reports.



# Message from the Director (Continued)

When it comes to entry into the licence exams, cheating has long lasting and profound effects on the applicant and others around them. In relation to electrical sector, below are some of the potential consequences:

- A** Their exam results may be void and they may be barred from writing the exam and applying for the licence
- B** Their licence may be denied in the future on the ground of failing to conduct themselves with honesty and integrity
- C** By attempting to get their licence without the required technical and business knowledge which is provided by proper preparation for the exam, they are putting their customers at risk of defective electrical installation and risk to life and property

Applicants to Master Electrician and Electrical Contractor licence are required by the Electricity Act, 1998 (the Act) to conduct themselves with honesty and integrity. Moreover, their licence application may be denied if they obtained it through misrepresentation or fraud (section 113.2 (2) of the Act). Further, the ESA publishes a Standard of Conduct for licence holders, available [here](#), which also focuses on ethical, honest and professional conduct of the licence holders.

Competency Profile created by the subject matter experts and ME licence holders and validated by the survey sent to all MEs licenced by ESA, contains competencies that relate to ethical conduct of the business, such as:

- A** Demonstrate professional presence, leadership and expertise
- B** Support ethical electrical work practices
- C** Demonstrate honesty and integrity in all electrical contracting business practices

In conclusion, I would like to call on all existing and prospective MEs and ECs to continue to represent and be worthy of the public's and ESA's expected licensing standards, including a high degree of training, experience, skills, professionalism and good character. This starts with the ME application and the conduct during the ME exam.

### Is Your Email Address Current?

Almost half of all Master Electricians are still receiving their renewal correspondence via mail; are you one of them?

As Licensing is moving towards a new comprehensive digital self-serve portal for Master Electricians and Electrical Contractors, we are phasing out the use of paper correspondence.

Elect to get your correspondence via email to streamline your interactions with ESA, reduce delays and help with electronic record keeping.

Check your latest invoice from ESA – most Licensing correspondence includes the email address we have on file:

If the email address is correct but your preferred method of correspondence is regular mail, please call our Customer Service Centre 1-877-372-7233 to have your preferred method of correspondence be email.

If the address is blank, or no longer correct, complete a Notice of Change form and submit it to [esa.licensing@electricalsafety.on.ca](mailto:esa.licensing@electricalsafety.on.ca) to opt into email.

Ensuring you have an active email address on file will make for more efficient and effective communication and will assist as we move towards a new Licensing platform.

#### Master Electrician Licence INVOICE

TEST LICENCE  
123 NOTAREAL ST  
FAKETOWN ON H0H 0H0  
CANADA

Telephone: (123)456-7890  
Fax:  
Email: [fakeemail@fakedomain.net](mailto:fakeemail@fakedomain.net)

INVOICE NUMBER	99856294
INVOICE DATE	March 4, 2024
DUE DATE	April 3, 2024
ACCOUNT NUMBER	[REDACTED]
LICENCE NUMBER	[REDACTED]



## LICENSING MATTERS

### Licence Compliance Review

As part of its licensing oversight function, ESA conducts random reviews to ensure that Electrical Contractors (ECs) and Master Electricians (MEs) are maintaining their requirements to continue to be eligible for their licence. Every licensee will be subject to these reviews at least once every five years.

For MEs, you may never know it happens as we will validate your base qualifications with Skilled Trades Ontario (STO), Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists (OACETT) or Professional Engineers of Ontario (PEO). If you are current with them, you are compliant with your licence eligibility requirement. Note that STO has made some recent changes to [their renewal process](#), so confirm that you are current to avoid receiving correspondence from ESA.

For LECs, mandatory licence requirements include: actively employed Designated Master Electrician (DME), WSIB account where applicable and valid Public Liability and Property Damage Insurance Certificate. As part of Licence Compliance Review, you will be issued a document to verify that your DME is actively employed (if not also the business owner) together with the request to submit a copy of a valid Certificate of Insurance and, a valid WSIB account if applicable to your business.

Failure to prove these licence eligibility requirements can result in the suspension of your ME or EC Licence until you can demonstrate compliance.

### Licensing At a Glance (April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024)

#### UNLICENSED CONTRACTOR ACTIVITY

<b>635</b> Notices of Violation	↑ <b>24%</b> increase
<b>124</b> Investigations	↑ <b>36%</b> increase
<b>89</b> Convictions	↑ <b>16%</b> increase
<b>19</b> Administrative Penalty Orders	★ <b>New!</b>
<b>\$189,500</b> Fines	↑ <b>27%</b> increase with both amounts!
<b>\$67,500</b> Penalty Amount	

#### LICENSED ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

<b>10,032</b> Licensed Electrical Contractors	<b>30</b> Licenses with Conditions
<b>16,312</b> Master Electricians	<b>8</b> Investigations
<b>1,167</b> Licenses Suspended	

### Regulatory Compliance Program (RCP) Update

#### **BUILDING PERMIT INITIATIVE CONTINUES!**

In an ongoing effort to identify and reduce electrical work performed without a licence or without a notification, ESA has expanded the Building Permit Initiative to include Ajax and Hamilton. In addition, ESA has increased resources by allocating two dedicated inspectors to assist in tackling the underground economy.

As part of the Building Permit Initiative, twelve months of commercial and residential building permit data were reviewed by ESA's Data Analytics and RCP staff to determine locations that may have had electrical work completed and where no ESA notification of work exists. Sites without a corresponding notification received a site visit from the ESA inspectors dedicated to these initiatives.



#### **Ajax**

(December 29, 2023 – January 10, 2024)

The dedicated inspector followed up on 50 locations, of which 19 (38%) were found to be working without a notification. Since the initial visit, 16 of the 19 locations have obtained a notification. The inspector will make more site visits during the summer months.

Out of the 19 locations found to be working without a notification, ESA revealed the following regarding who performed the work:

- Fourteen (14) had unidentified parties involved
- Two (2) were attributed to homeowners
- One (1) was associated with a Licensed Electrical Contractor
- Two (2) were associated with unlicensed individuals:
  - One (1) received a Notice of Violation
  - One (1) is under investigation

### Regulatory Compliance Program (RCP) Update (Continued)

#### **BUILDING PERMIT INITIATIVE CONTINUES!**

##### **Hamilton**

(December 19, 2023 to January 11, 2024)

The dedicated inspector followed up on 61 locations, of which 15 (25%) were found to be working without a notification. Since the initial visit, 12 of the 15 locations have obtained a notification.

Out of the 15 locations found to be working without a notification, ESA revealed the following regarding who performed the work:

- Five (5) had unidentified parties involved
- Four (4) were attributed to homeowners
- Six (6) were associated with Licensed Electrical Contractors

The Hamilton Building Permit initiative continues and dedicated inspectors will follow up on hundreds of locations over the next couple months to determine if any electrical work had been completed without the required notification. Those results will be communicated in an upcoming Plugged In issue.

Through close collaboration and partnership with many Ontario municipalities, ESA plans to expand on building permit data to further increase our effort to address the underground economy. Coming up next will be Clarington and Brampton!

As always, electrical safety is a mutual goal, so if you see or know of electrical work being performed without a licence or notification to ESA, please report it via the online reporting portal available [here](#) or contact us at 1-877-372-7233.



# New Inspection Brochure (and more!) Available on LEC Online Store

Home renovation season is in full swing, with many homeowners actively planning their next project. But even after all that research, they inevitably still have questions on who to hire, inspections and permits.

The good news is ESA has developed an inspection brochure to help homeowners with these very questions. Now available for FREE on the [LEC online store](#), this brochure will highlight the benefits of hiring a Licensed Electrical Contractor, dangers associated with unlicensed contractors and explains the ESA notification and inspection process in greater detail.

ESA is here to help by providing access to **free printed resources** you can give to potential clients on popular topics such as the benefits of hiring a Licensed Electrical Contractor, considerations when installing an EV charger as well as storm safety, just to name a few.

We hope these resources will make it even easier for you to do business.

The store is available 24/7! Orders can only be completed online and cannot be placed through the Customer Service Centre.



Visit the [online LEC store](#).

Any questions regarding the store can be directed to [esa.communications@electricalsafety.on.ca](mailto:esa.communications@electricalsafety.on.ca)



# ME Competency Profile Resource Library

Now Live!

Offering voluntary, value-add resources for Master Electricians in Ontario.



We're thrilled to announce the launch of the ME Competency Profile Resource Library – your go-to destination for voluntary, value-add resources tailored specifically to Master Electricians (MEs) in Ontario.

Introduced in February 2023, the ME Competency Profile outlines sixty-five competencies across nine domains, describing the knowledge, skills, and judgement required to carry the ME licence safely and ethically.

The new ME Competency Profile Resource Library, launched in March 2024, offers a range of voluntary resources to help MEs enhance proficiency across the nine Competency Profile domains:



Health and Safety



Ontario Electrical Safety Code



Legal



Financial



Management and Administration



Technical Knowledge and Skills



Advocacy



Professionalism and Ethics



Continuing Education

# ME Competency Profile Resource Library

**Now Live!** (Continued)

The ME Competency Profile Resource Library provides tangible support to MEs through:

- **Accessible Learning:** Recognizing the importance of flexibility in learning, the resource library is accessible anytime, anywhere to accommodate the demanding schedules of licence holders.
- **Diverse Resources:** MEs can explore a wide range of resources, from web pages to courses to podcasts, designed to cater to various learning preferences.
- **Relaxed Learning Environment:** These voluntary materials are intended for on-demand access, supporting MEs in their day-to-day duties & responsibilities and their ongoing development.

The resource library equips you, our valued licence holders, with resources to uphold the highest standard of professional integrity, regulatory compliance, and continuous development. By providing accessible tools and knowledge, we aim to help empower you to deliver the highest standards of consumer protection and customer service, contributing to enhanced electrical safety in Ontario.

## RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT:

The law requires that all electrical installations in Ontario meet the requirements of the OESC. If you perform electrical work in Ontario, you should have a current copy of the 2021 Ontario Electrical Safety Code.



### **PURCHASE THE CODE**

- Order the Code through [CSA Group](#)



### **VIEW THE CODE FOR FREE**

- [CSA Group](#) offers free View Access of the Code (for viewers in Ontario only)
- A free user account is required



### **ACCESS CODE BULLETINS**

- OESC bulletins provide important Code updates and interpretations
- OESC bulletins can be accessed on [CSA Communities](#)
- A free user account is required and access must be requested


# ME Competency Profile Resource Library

**Now Live!** (Continued)

## Explore our expanding resource library!

Throughout March to November 2024, we're steadily adding resources to the library, introducing content from a different ME Competency Profile domain each month. Currently, our library houses resources covering four of the nine ME Competency Profile domains:

<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b> 	<b>3</b> 	<b>4</b> 
Health and Safety	Ontario Electrical Safety Code	Legal	Financial

 You can view the complete release schedule [here](#).

Continue to visit the [ME Competency Profile Resource Library](#) to advance professional integrity, regulatory compliance, continuous development, and safety throughout Ontario's electrical industry!

## MCC Maintenance

### Incident Summary

An electrical contractor received a severe electric shock as he was pushing a contactor into its cell after servicing it. The victim, part of a two-man crew, were performing preventative maintenance on an MCC. The victim received a 4800V shock when his hands were making contact with the contactor's bus.



### Causal Factors:

1. Crew did not consider hazards involved with more than one worker simultaneously working on a multi-unit machine.
2. Crew did not review schematics of equipment or line diagrams.
3. No hazard assessment was performed by the customer and contractor crew.
4. Safe work permit did not identify the gaps in the contractor's work procedure.
5. The crew did not lock and tag out in accordance with OSHA.
6. The Lead Electrician did not communicate to the victim that was exercising the racking handle.



**Toolbox Talks**

Stay Safe. Stay Informed.  
April 2024



## Pulp and Paper Electrical Room

### Incident Summary

An arc flash event occurred at a pulp and paper plant injuring three workers while replacing a power box in an electrical room. One of the electricians was reaching between two energized parts with a nut driver to remove a bracket when the contact and resulting arc flash occurred.

### Causal Factors:

1. Generic supervisors have little to no electrical knowledge.
2. Electrical concerns not brought up during monthly safety meetings.
3. No tracking by documentation or audits of lockout procedures.
4. No direct supervision of victims on that day.
5. Proper PPE not worn by victims.
6. No hazard assessment completed to perform this task.



## Heat Pumps

### Did You Know?

Heat pumps technology has advanced considerably making it possible to use them as the main heating source in cold climates. However, heat pumps, like other electrical loads, might increase the electrical load demand within a building.



Heat pump for space heating/cooling



Heat pump for pool heating

### Background

There are different types of heat pump technologies in the market, and some technologies require supplemental heat. If supplemental heat is electric, it would lead to simultaneous operation of all electric heating sources. Likely this would increase the load demand on feeders and service conductors.

- For example, air-source heat pumps enter defrost mode cycle during cold seasons. This could be one of the reasons why some systems require supplementary heating.

There can be other situations where heat pumps might lead to significant additional electrical loads within a building, some examples below:

- No interlocks between heat pump and other electrical heating sources to prevent simultaneous operation.
- Shifting heating loads from gas to electric.



**Toolbox Talks**

Stay Safe. Stay Informed.  
May 2024



## Heat Pumps (Continued)

All the above scenarios might lead to overload on service and feeder conductors, leading to fire hazards.

### Information You Need to Know

Heat pumps are similar technology to air-conditioners and as such, the Ontario Electrical Safety Code (OESC) has several requirements that are applicable to this technology, including overcurrent protection, disconnecting means, and wiring requirements. Additionally, Bulletin 8-3-\* was updated to include a section about heat pumps load demand calculations.

Refer to bulletin 8-3-\* Section 7 for more detailed information. This bulletin can also be found within a sample list of bulletins in the link below.

<https://esasafe.com/electrical-products/bulletins/>



## Product Safety Regulation Update

In December 2020, the Auditor General of Ontario released a report auditing various aspects of the Electrical Safety Authority (ESA), its mandate and operations. As part of this report, it was recommended that ESA review its product safety policies in light of the changing landscape relating to the sale of electrical products in the provincial marketplace – Auditor General recommendation 18 & 19.

Over the course of nearly three years, ESA analyzed its current product safety framework, conducted multiple jurisdictional scans and completed a thorough stakeholder engagement process, before presenting its assessment and recommendations to the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery (MPBSD).

In December 2023, MPBSD approved ESA's response to recommendation 18 from the Auditor General and ESA will begin to implement its updated framework, beginning in June 2024.

ESA's approach will maintain its risk-based, product safety oversight model to support Product Safety Regulation 438/07, and it will continue to provide oversight for industrial and commercial products, as well as consumer products that are installed under the Ontario Electrical Safety Code.

ESA will continue its reactive approach to oversight for consumer products. However, ESA will work to improve its interactions with online marketplaces with products advertised for sale. ESA will reactively work to remove unapproved consumer products from sale and related advertising in Ontario. Additionally, if there is an identified potential safety issue with a consumer product, ESA will issue stop sale request (where applicable) and notify Health Canada to take further action, as part of our continued engagement with Health Canada.

As part of the response to this recommendation, ESA will provide education to online marketplaces on their obligation to electrical safety and work with resellers to delist and remove products deemed not safe.



## Product Safety Regulation Update (Continued)

Funding for this product safety framework will continue to be provided through general revenues as part of ESA's existing electrical safety oversight system. As of April 1, 2023, ESA can issue administrative penalties to help bring licensed electrical contractors, master electricians and unlicensed businesses or individuals into compliance with certain electrical safety requirements found in Part VIII of Ontario's Electricity Act and its regulations. These requirements include two rules under the Ontario Electrical Safety Code which prevent the sale or use of unapproved electrical equipment in Ontario and outlines the approval requirements for electrical products in the province. As ESA has completed its assessment of the Auditor General's recommendation on product safety, it will use administrative penalties to encourage retailers to comply with these rules. Money collected under this program will be used to fund education and awareness initiatives related to product safety.

ESA is committed to continuous engagement with manufacturers, major retailers including those operating online, product suppliers, certification and field evaluation agencies, and consumers to foster an environment of greater awareness, oversight and compliance.



For more information on this announcement, please email: [Stakeholder.ESA@electricalsafety.on.ca](mailto:Stakeholder.ESA@electricalsafety.on.ca)



## CODE CONUNDRUM

**Q1**

**What size of copper tap conductor is required to connect a metal fence around an outdoor substation to the station ground electrode?**

- a. #6 AWG
- b. 2/0 AWG
- c. 3/0 AWG
- d. 4/0 AWG

**Q2**

**For receptacles having CSA configurations 5-15R or 5-20R installed in buildings under construction:**

- a. shall be protected by GFCI Class A
- b. Can be wired by NMSC
- c. shall be kept entirely separate from lighting branch circuits
- d. All of the above

**Q3**

**Class H fuses are permitted to be used for overcurrent protection where circuit overload protection is provided by other means**

- a. True
- b. False

### Answers

**Question 1:**

- b. 2/0 AWG

*Ref Rule 36-312 2)*

**Question 2:**

- d. All of the above

*Ref 76-012, 76-016*

**Question 3:**

- b. False

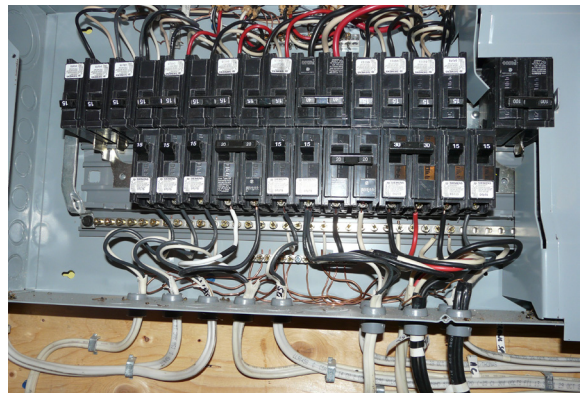
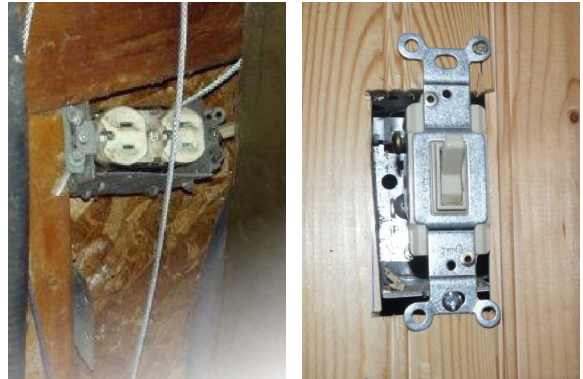
*Ref Rule 14-212*

## Unused Openings and Missing Cover Plates

Rule 12-3024 of the Ontario Electrical Safety Code (OESC) requires unused openings in boxes, cabinets, and fittings to be effectively closed by plugs or plates affording protection substantially equivalent to that of the wall of the box, cabinet or fitting.

Missing cover plates or unused openings left unplugged in electrical enclosures with energized conductors – such as panel boards, electrical outlets, disconnect switches, etc. – represent a shock hazard to individuals that have access to this area. It can also be a fire hazard if an object falls inside one of these enclosures and causes an arcing fault between energized conductors or if the electrical device fails in close proximity to combustible. For example, a receptacle with missing cover plate may cause the adjacent wood panels to catch on fire in event of failure. The cover would usually mitigate that hazard.

ESA strongly recommends maintenance staff and facility operators perform periodic inspections to ensure unused openings in electrical enclosures are filled properly and all cover plates on electrical devices are in place.



SAVE THE DATE

# 2024 Annual Meeting & Ontario Electrical SAFETY AWARDS

September 19, 2024

3:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

*Check in opens at 3 p.m.*

Mississauga Grand  
35 Brunel Road, Mississauga, ON L4Z 3E8  
Invitation to follow shortly.



**Powerline  
Safety**



**Worker  
Safety**



**Consumer and  
Home Safety**

You're invited to the

## 2024 ANNUAL LICENCE HOLDER MEETING



### Meeting Highlights

**Save the  
Date!**

The 2024 Annual  
Licence Holder Meeting  
will be held **virtually**:

**November 20  
2 p.m.–4 p.m.**

- During the meeting you will learn about the latest developments in Licensing, the ME Competency Profile library, and information about ESA communication campaigns and enforcement activities to address the underground economy.
- Stay tuned for more information about this year's keynote speaker.
- Due to the overwhelming demand, similar to previous years, we will have technical advisors answer your questions both submitted prior to the meeting and during.
- Invitations will be sent to your email address on file with ESA during the last week of October.
- If your email address has changed or you don't have your email address with ESA, please submit the [Notice of Change Form](#) or contact [esa.licensing@electricalsafety.on.ca](mailto:esa.licensing@electricalsafety.on.ca)