

ASSURED EQUIPMENT GROUNDING POLICY & TRAINING

SUMMARY

The policy document outlines the usage of ground fault circuit interrupters and assured equipment grounding conductors by employees, implementation responsibilities, inspection and testing protocols, and the handling of hand-held motor-operated tools.

- **Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters:** Employees will use ground fault circuit interrupters or assured equipment grounding conductors, with 120-volt, single-phase 15- and 20-ampere receptacle outlets requiring approved ground-fault circuit interrupters for protection.
- **Exemptions and Competent Persons:** Receptacles on specific portable or vehicle-mounted generators are exempt from ground-fault circuit interrupter protection, and the company will designate competent persons to implement the program.
- **Inspection and Testing Protocols:** The assured equipment grounding program includes inspection of cord sets and receptacles before each day's use, and equipment grounding conductors will be tested for continuity and correct attachment.
- **Hand-Held Motor-Operated Tools:** Tools used in wet or conductive locations do not need grounding if supplied through an isolating transformer with an ungrounded secondary of not over 50 volts, and double insulated tools will be distinctively marked.

POLICY

The Company employees will use either ground fault circuit interrupters or an assured equipment grounding conductor.

All 120-volt, single-phase 15- and 20-ampere receptacle outlets, which are not a part of the permanent wiring of a building or structure and which are in use by employees, will have approved ground-fault circuit interrupters for protection.

Receptacles that are on a two-wire, single-phase portable or vehicle-mounted generator rated not more than 5kW, where the circuit conductors of the generator are insulated from the generator frame and all other grounded surfaces, will not need to be protected with ground-fault circuit interrupters.

The Company will designate one or more competent persons (as defined in 1926.32(f)) to implement the program.

Assured Equipment Grounding Conductor

Our assured equipment grounding program covers all cord sets and receptacles which are not a part of the building or structure, and it covers equipment connected by cord and plug which are available for use or used by the employee.

One or more trained employees are responsible for the implementation of assuring the equipment grounding conductor.

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Each cord set, attachment cap, plug and receptacle of cord sets, and any equipment connected by cord and plug, except cord sets and receptacles which are fixed and not exposed to damage, will be visually inspected before each day's use for external defects, such as deformed or missing pins or insulation damage, and for indications of possible internal damage. Any equipment which has not met the requirements of this program will not be available or permitted to be used. Any equipment that is found damaged or defective will not be used until repaired.

All equipment grounding conductors will be tested for continuity and will be electrically continuous.

Each receptacle and attachment cap or plug will be tested for the correct attachment of the equipment grounding conductor. The equipment grounding conductor will be connected to its proper terminal.

The following are necessary tests that will need to be performed:

- Before the first use of the equipment;
- Before the equipment is returned to service following any repairs;
- Before the equipment is used after any incident that caused damage (for example, when a cord set is run over); and
- At intervals not to exceed 3 months, except that cord sets and receptacles which are fixed and not exposed to damage will be tested at intervals not exceeding 6 months.

We will not allow the use of any equipment which has not met the necessary requirements of this Policy.

All tests performed will be properly recorded. This test record will identify each receptacle, cord set, and cord- and plug-connected equipment that passed the test and will indicate the last date it was tested or the interval it was tested. This record will be kept by logs, color coding, and will be maintained until replaced by a more current record. The record will be made available in the workplace.

Hand Held Motor-Operated Tools

The tools that will be used in wet and/or conductive locations will not have to be grounded if supplied through an isolating transformer with an ungrounded secondary of not over 50 volts. All listed or labeled portable tools and appliances protected by a system of double insulation, or its equivalent, will not have to be grounded. When a system is employed, the equipment will be distinctively marked to indicate that the tool or appliance utilizes a system of double insulation.

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TRAINING

One or more trained employees are responsible for the implementation of assuring the equipment grounding conductor.

- “Competent person” means one who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings or working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to employees, and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them.
- “Qualified” means one who, by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, or professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training, and experience, has successfully demonstrated his ability to solve or resolve problems relating to the subject matter, the work, or the project.

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DISCLAIMERS

Even OSHA's own website has a disclaimer:

- These regulations and related materials are ... continually under development. The user should be aware that, while we try to keep the information on our Web site timely and accurate, there will often be a delay between official publication of the materials and their appearance or modification on these pages. The Company will make every effort to correct errors brought to our attention.

Company Disclaimer:

- The following has been developed to reduce hazards likely to cause injuries to our employees.
- Some of the following policies may not be applicable to our operations. This manual serves as a guideline and is subject to change or modification as particular circumstances warrant.
- Employees should contact their immediate supervisor or senior management with questions.
- **If there are conflicts with local, state or federal regulations or the Company's Employee Handbook or other Company documents, the local, state or federal regulations, the Company Employee Handbook or other Company documents will prevail.**

Agency Risk Management's Disclaimer:

- The information contained is not the complete OSHA standard.
- The information contained is for informational purposes only.
- Agency Risk Management makes no guarantee the information in this document is true, correct, precise or accurate.
- Agency Risk Management has no influence on how the information in this document is used.
- No one employed by or connected to Agency Risk Management takes any responsibility for the results or consequences of error or for any loss or damage suffered by users of any of the information in this document or attached to it, and such information does not form any basis of a contract with users of it.

Reference OSHA Standards:

- **Refer to the OSHA standards and updates issued by OSHA for the most accurate information.**
- **This document is based on OSHA's [Training Requirements in OSHA Standards](#) document.**
- **When there is a conflict between the contents in this document and, as applicable, [OSHA 29 CFR Part 1926 Safety and Health Regulations for Construction](#) or [OSHA 29 CFR Part 1910 Safety and Health Regulations for General Industry](#), the OSHA standards and other regulatory updates will prevail.**