

Model Code for the field evaluation of electrical equipment



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Contents

Canadian Advisory Council on Electrical Safety Regulatory Committee	4
Subcommittee on SPE-1000	6
Working Group on SPE-1000 Update	8
Preface	10
0 Introduction	12
1 Scope	12
2 Reference publications	14
3 Definitions	17
4 Construction	25
4.1 General	25
4.1.1 Requirements for electrical equipment	25
4.1.2 Switches and controls (including safety interlock switches)	27
4.1.3 Transformers	28
4.1.4 Motors	28
4.1.5 Cathode ray tubes	29
4.1.6 Receptacles	29
4.1.7 Exposed lamps	29
4.2 Enclosures	29
4.2.5 Wall- or ceiling-mounted equipment	30
4.2.10 Service equipment	31
4.3 Openings in enclosures	31
4.3.1 General	31
4.3.2 Commercial and industrial equipment	32
4.3.3 Hand-held machines, hand-held portions of machines, home appliances, and equipment other than commercial or industrial	32
4.3.4 Reduction of fire hazard over openings in a base	32
4.3.5 Drainage openings	32
4.4 Mechanical assembly	33
4.5 Stability	34
4.6 Interlocks	34
4.7 Cord-connected equipment	35
4.7.1 Power supply cords	35
4.7.2 Strain relief	35
4.7.3 Loading of attachment plugs	36
4.7.4 More than one supply cord	36
4.8 Permanently connected equipment	36
4.9 Supply circuit disconnecting means	38
4.10 Grounding and bonding	39
4.11 Double insulation	40

4.12	Interconnections and bushings	40
4.13	Current-carrying parts	41
4.13.1	General	41
4.13.2	Ampacity of wires and cables	42
4.13.3	Temperature limitations	42
4.13.4	Electrical insulation	42
4.14	Internal wiring	42
4.15	Overcurrent, overload, and overtemperature protection devices	43
4.16	Fuses and fuseholders	45
4.17	Motor controls	45
4.18	Equipment containing rechargeable batteries	46
4.19	Additional requirements for instrument transformers, energy usage metering devices, and associated equipment	46
4.20	Spacings	48
4.20.1	Spacings at field-wiring terminals	48
4.20.2	Spacings at other than field-wiring terminals	48
4.20.3	Spacings in secondary circuits	49
4.21	Lighting equipment	49
4.22	Accessible circuits	50
4.23	Capacitors	50
4.24	Suppressors	51
4.25	Heaters and heating elements	51
4.26	Thermal insulation	52
4.27	Backflow prevention	52
4.28	Refrigerant-containing parts	52
4.29	Protection of water heaters	53
4.30	Direct plug-in equipment	53
4.31	Industrial control equipment	54
4.31.1	Additional requirements for industrial control equipment	54
4.31.2	Intrinsically safe equipment	54
4.32	High-voltage equipment	60
4.32.1	Additional requirements for air-insulated high-voltage switchgear	60
4.32.2	Service equipment	66
4.32.3	High-voltage transformers	68
4.33	Solar photovoltaic modules	68
4.33.1	General	68
4.33.2	Additional requirements for flat-plate photovoltaic modules tested following IEC 61730-1 and 61730-2	69
4.34	Additional requirements for wind turbines	69
4.35	Inverters	69
4.35.1	Scope	69
4.35.2	Inverter/converter components	69
4.35.3	Interactive inverters	70
4.36	Additional requirements for equipment incorporating lasers	71
4.37	Additional requirements for non-medical X-ray	71
4.37.1	General	71
4.37.2	Breaker and disconnecting means	71
4.37.3	High-voltage cables	72
4.38	Additional requirements for non-medical cosmetic and hygiene products	72

- 4.39 Additional requirements for non-residential air cleaners that intentionally produce ozone 73
- 4.40 Additional requirements for energy storage systems 73

5 Marking 73

- 5.1 General 73
- 5.2 Additional requirement for panelboards 77
- 5.3 Additional requirements for industrial control equipment 78
- 5.4 Additional requirements for photovoltaic modules 79
- 5.5 Additional requirements for high-voltage switchgear 79
- 5.6 Additional requirements for complex installations/multiple interconnected systems 82
- 5.7 Markings for X-ray systems 82

6 Tests 83

- 6.1 Tests 83
 - 6.1.1 General 83
 - 6.1.2 Dielectric voltage withstand 83
 - 6.1.3 Flame 84
 - 6.1.4 Strain relief 85
- 6.2 Other tests 85
 - 6.2.1 General 85
 - 6.2.2 Input rating 85
 - 6.2.3 Temperature 85
 - 6.2.4 Abnormal tests 86
 - 6.2.5 Leakage current 86
 - 6.2.6 Test for stability 87
 - 6.2.7 Submersible equipment 87
 - 6.2.8 Wall or ceiling mounting 87
 - 6.2.9 Rain test 87
 - 6.2.10 Impact 88
 - 6.2.11 Starting 88
 - 6.2.12 Bonding impedance 88

Annex A (informative) — Essential requirements of particular CSA Canadian Electrical Code, Part II Standard (see Clause [4.1.1.1.3](#)) 114

Annex B (normative) — Special inspection/field evaluation labels 117

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Preface

This is the fifth edition of CSA SPE-1000, *Model Code for the field evaluation of electrical equipment*. It supersedes previous editions published in 2013, 2009, 1999, and 1994.

Significant changes in this edition include new requirements for the field evaluation of high-voltage transformers, skids, lasers, non-medical X-rays, cosmetic and hygiene products, and non-residential equipment producing ozone. Clauses formerly located in Annex A, General requirements for electrical equipment, have been moved to the body of the Model Code.

This Model Code is based upon guidelines for special inspections. These guidelines have been in effect for many years with a good safety record. The Canadian Advisory Council on Electrical Safety strongly supports the continuation of special inspections of electrical equipment, with the stipulation that the requirements be formally published.

Field evaluation of electrical equipment in accordance with the requirements of this Model Code is intended to be conducted by an inspection body accredited by Standards Council of Canada (SCC). Inspection body accreditation is the process of assessing and publicly recognizing the integrity, reliability, and technical competence of an organization's inspection services. Accreditation of an organization's inspection services by the SCC is a means of demonstrating that those services (within the scope of their formal accreditation) conform to an accepted set of requirements.

Field evaluation provides a means for evaluating electrical equipment, and if found to conform to the requirements of this Model Code, such electrical equipment may be marked with a field evaluation label.

It is always within the purview of the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) in whose jurisdiction the Model Code is applied, to add technical or administrative requirements, stipulations, or deviations to this Model Code.

Typically, AHJs base their official acceptance of electrical equipment and products upon certification by an SCC-accredited certification body that the equipment conforms to the applicable standards. The certification body bases its certification upon testing and evaluation of a representative sample of equipment as manufactured to the relevant equipment standard (known as type or prototype testing). Certification is granted if the sample is found to be in conformance and a follow-up inspection program is put in place to ensure continued conformance.

This Model Code does not deal with type (or prototype) testing of equipment as practised in a regular certification program. It addresses minimum construction, marking, and test requirements that are consistent with maintaining a level of safety for electrical equipment and products so as not to present an undue hazard (as defined in this Model Code) to persons or property. This Model Code does not address the efficacy, performance, or quality of electrical equipment and products.

This Model Code was developed by a Working Group of the Canadian Advisory Council on Electrical Safety (CACES) Subcommittee on SPE-1000, and was approved by CACES.

Notes:

- 1) *Use of the singular does not exclude the plural (and vice versa) when the sense allows.*
- 2) *Although the intended primary application of this Model Code is stated in its Scope, it is important to note that it remains the responsibility of the users of the Model Code to judge its suitability for their particular purpose.*

- 3) *This Model Code is subject to review within five years of the date of publication. Suggestions for its improvement will be referred to the appropriate committee. To submit a proposal for change, please send the following information to inquiries@csagroup.org and include "Proposal for change" in the subject line:*
- a) *Model Code designation (number);*
 - b) *relevant clause, table, and/or figure number;*
 - c) *wording of the proposed change; and*
 - d) *rationale for the change.*

CSA SPE-1000:21

Model Code for the field evaluation of electrical equipment

0 Introduction

0.1

Field evaluation of equipment in accordance with this Model Code should be undertaken only by fully qualified and competent persons. These persons should be experienced in conducting field evaluation and field testing of electrical and electronic equipment to Canadian safety requirements or other requirements acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).

Because field evaluation of electrical equipment and products is conducted to the requirements of this Model Code, it is not equivalent to an evaluation in support of certification, which is conducted to the requirements of the applicable standard. Consequently, equipment and products that are field evaluated and labelled cannot be considered as certified.

When used in conjunction with the requirements of the *Canadian Electrical Code, Part I*, this Model Code addresses the minimum requirements for equipment as they pertain to electrical safety. Where other authorities have jurisdiction, they must be consulted by the equipment owner or the owner's agent as to conformance to legislation. This legislation may be either federal, provincial, or municipal.

This Model Code addresses the essential construction, marking, and test requirements that equipment must meet before it can be labelled. It allows for the evaluation of electrical equipment and products, with the objective of minimizing the risk of degrading the safety of the equipment through the procedures used in the field evaluation. Where the required tests involve procedures deemed to present a risk to the safety of the particular equipment, such tests may be carried out on a separate representative sample supplied for the sole purpose of testing. Alternatively, other means may be taken to determine conformance, such as the evaluation of relevant test data presented in support of an application for field evaluation.

The requirements of this Model Code, applied by SCC accredited organizations, have been deemed an accepted form of approval of electrical products by the authority having jurisdiction.

1 Scope

1.1

1.1.1

This Model Code provides construction, testing, and marking requirements for the field evaluation of electrical equipment by an inspection body, where certification of that equipment is impracticable or otherwise unavailable.