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ELECTRICAL BULLETIN
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From: David MacLeod,C.E.I.,P.Eng.
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Date: July 13, 2007 **(Revision 1, June 2011)**

Subject: **Fluorescent Luminaires - Disconnecting Means**
Enforcement of 2006 Canadian Electrical Code Part 1- Rule 30-308 (4)

Rule 30-308(4) states:

Each fluorescent luminaire installed on branch circuits with voltages exceeding 150 volts to ground shall be:

(a) provided with a disconnecting means integral with the luminaire that simultaneously opens all circuit conductors between the branch circuit conductors and the conductors supplying the ballast(s); **and**
(b) marked in a conspicuous, legible, and permanent manner adjacent to the disconnecting means, identifying the specific purpose.

Effective September 10, 2007 the installation of new fluorescent luminaires that utilize double-ended lamps and which are installed on branch circuits with voltages exceeding 150 volts to ground are required to comply with rule 30-308(4).

Double ended fluorescent lamps include straight or U -bent linear lamps (T2, T5, T8 and T12).

Integral disconnect means for all new fluorescent luminaires shall be provided and installed by the manufacturer at the factory prior to shipping.

Rule 30-308(4) does not apply to fluorescent luminaires installed in a hazardous location.

Existing luminaires having only a lamp changed are not required to comply with rule 30-308(4) until the ballast is replaced with either the same type of ballast or an energy efficient one.
(Revision 1, June 2011)

Existing luminaires that are retrofitted or upgraded in the field, even when using approved retrofit kits, are required to comply with rule 30-308(4).**(Revision 1, June 2011)**

Examples of acceptable disconnect means sold as approved conversion kits for existing fixtures installed prior to September 10, 2007 are:
a) Plug type connectors incorporated in the ballast leads
b) Plug type connectors located directly at the ballast
c) 2 pole switch
d) Cord sets and power supply cords with a maximum length of 1m
e) Wiring harness assembly

Conversion kits used to provide an existing luminaire with an integral disconnect means as indicated above shall be properly approved and rated for the particular fixture in which it is being installed and the installation shall be acceptable to the electrical inspector.

Note: Electrical contractors are not permitted to field install similar type components in order to comply with the above listed disconnect means (a-e). The disconnect means listed above are sold as approved conversion kits for luminaires in order to comply with the rule and only such kits are permitted to be used .

Where a remote ballast is provided with the luminaire the approved disconnect means shall be located at the ballast.

The electrical contractor is responsible to coordinate with the electrical inspector prior to the final inspection the manner in which the inspector may require verification of compliance to the rule.

In addition, the electrical contractor shall provide the electrical inspector with the proper means and adequate access to inspect any luminaires if determined necessary.

The electrical inspector is not expected or required to disassemble any luminaire(s) as part of their inspection.

Installations of luminaires whereby a wiring permit has been issued and the installation has started prior to September 10 , 2007 are not required to comply with the rule

Note: The anticipated date for luminaires utilizing pin-based compact fluorescent lamps with the integral disconnect means being available is June, 2010 .Compliance with rule 30-308(4) for pin based compact fluorescent luminaires will be determined by this office at a later date, and the indicated date is subject to change if luminaires are made available prior to June, 2010.

Any deviation request or questions concerning this Electrical Bulletin may be forwarded to the :
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