Electrical Inspections Policy

Bonding of raceway sleeves in Steel Stud walls per 10-304 (1)(b)

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Where metal raceways are installed into steel stud walls to provide ease of installation of data, telephone, or other communication cables, including all class 2 sources no direct bonding connection to the raceway is required where bonding is provided by an alternate means meeting the following requirements.

1. the raceway is not continuous beyond the wall. IE it begins within the wall and ends at the top plate or ceiling space and is installed to enable the easy installation of cables after the walls are finished.

2. A bonded power point is installed in each section of the wall and screwed to the metal studs. This includes switches and receptacles. A simple continuity check between the raceway and stud where a bonded power point is mounted should be done to ensure continuity.

3. at least 1 screw is installed in each metal stud to the metal top and floor channels. Each splice in the channel should also be screwed together.

4. the raceway is installed in a dry location

5. the raceway is not in a hazardous location

6. Short sections of raceway less than 1.5 meters are exempt per 10 304 (1) (b) except where the raceway encloses a Ground wire then it must be bonded according to 10-806.

7 complete raceway systems are required to be bonded in accordance with CEC section 10

8 It should be noted that bushings, rounded throat connectors or other Approved device are required to prevent damage where the wire exits and enters the raceway.

It is intended that each change of direction in the wall renews this requirement so in a square room with a sleeve in each section would also need at least 1 switch or outlet installed on at least 1 side of each of the 4 walls. Past requirement would have required the power and communication raceway to be on the same stud.

This change is made to provide consistent application of rule 10-304 (1) (b) with other jurisdictions.

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