

NFPA Technical Committee Document Proposal Form

Note: All proposals must be received by 5:00 p.m. EST/EDST on the published proposal closing date.

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Date Oct. 1, 2002 Name William King Telephone 301-504-0508, ext. 1296
Company U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission
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Please indicate organization represented (if any) U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

1. a) NFPA Document Title National Electrical Code
b) NFPA No. & Edition 70-2002 c) Section/Paragraph Art. 100, Part I
2. Proposal Recommends (check one): new text revised text deleted text
3. Proposal. (Include proposed new or revised wording, or identification of wording to be deleted.) Note: Proposed text should be in legislative format, that is, use underscore to denote wording to be inserted (inserted wording) and strike-through to denote wording to be deleted (~~deleted wording~~).
(See attachment for Proposal)

4. Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Proposal. Note: State the problem that will be resolved by your recommendation. Give the specific reason for your proposal including copies of tests, research papers, fire experience, etc. If more than 200 words, it may be abstracted for publication.
(See attachment for Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Proposal)

5. This Proposal Is Original Material. Note: Original material is considered to be the submitter's own idea based on or as a result of his/her own experience, thought, or research and, to the best of his/her knowledge, is not copied from another source.

This Proposal Is Not Original Material; Its Source (if known) is as Follows: _____
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Signature (Required) William H King Jr

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PROPOSAL.

Section/Paragraph: Art. 210, Part I. General, para. 210.12

The recommendation is that Code-Making Panel No. 2 should request that Code-Making Panel No. 1 consider the following expanded definitions of arc-fault circuit interrupters and incorporate the definitions within Article 100 (a separate proposal to cover this change has been submitted to Code-Making Panel No. 1 for action.):

Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupter, Branch/Feeder Type. A device intended to protect the branch or feeder circuit from the effects of arc faults by recognizing characteristics unique to arcing and by functioning to de-energize the entire branch or feeder circuit when an arc fault is detected.

Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupter, Outlet Branch Circuit Type. A device intended to be installed as the first outlet in a branch circuit to protect the branch circuit, outlet devices, and wires connected to outlet devices from the effects of arc faults by recognizing characteristics unique to arcing and by functioning to de-energize the circuit at the load side of the arc-fault circuit interrupter (including de-energizing receptacles provided on an arc-fault circuit interrupter outlet device).

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM AND SUBSTANTIATION FOR PROPOSAL.

The definitions are expanded to coincide with the listing of new arc-fault circuit interrupter devices. The definitions are moved to Article 100 because a proposal is being made to include requirements mentioning these devices in Article 230, in addition to requirements in Article 210.

Although AFCI devices currently available are incorporated within circuit breakers, AFCI devices have been listed that are incorporated into outlet devices. While only AFCI/circuit breakers can de-energize the entire branch circuit, listed AFCI/outlet devices can be applied in applications where fuses are provided as the branch circuit overcurrent protection devices. In addition, listed AFCI/outlet devices have been investigated and listed as an outlet branch circuit type with expanded arc detection capabilities, including sensing certain arcing conditions upstream of the AFCI/outlet device location, and sensing broader arcing conditions downstream of the AFCI/device location. These safety devices that provide the broadest range of fire protection to the occupants of dwellings.