

**SECTION 26 05 26**  
**GROUNDING AND BONDING FOR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS**

**PART 1 - GENERAL**

**1.1 DESCRIPTION**

- A. This section specifies general grounding and bonding requirements of electrical equipment operations and to provide a low impedance path for possible ground fault currents.
- B. "Grounding electrode system" refers to all electrodes required by NEC, as well as including made, supplementary, lightning protection system grounding electrodes.
- C. The terms "connect" and "bond" are used interchangeably in this specification and have the same meaning.

**1.2 RELATED WORK**

- A. Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS: General electrical requirements and items that are common to more than one section of Division 26.
- B. Section 26 05 21, LOW-VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL POWER CONDUCTORS AND CABLES (600 VOLTS AND BELOW): Low Voltage power and lighting wiring.
- C. Section 27 12 00 TELECOMMUNICATIONS CABLING EXPANSION

**1.3 SUBMITTALS**

- A. Submit in accordance with Section 26 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.
- B. Shop Drawings:
  - 1. Sufficient information, clearly presented, shall be included to determine compliance with drawings and specifications.
  - 2. Include the location of system grounding electrode connections and the routing of aboveground and underground grounding electrode conductors.
- C. Test Reports: Provide certified test reports of ground resistance.
- D. Certifications: Two weeks prior to final inspection, submit four copies of the following to the COTR:
  - 1. Certification that the materials and installation is in accordance with the drawings and specifications.
  - 2. Certification, by the Contractor, that the complete installation has been properly installed and tested.

#### 1.4 APPLICABLE PUBLICATIONS

- A. Publications listed below (including amendments, addenda, revisions, supplements, and errata) form a part of this specification to the extent referenced. Publications are referenced in the text by the basic designation only.
- B. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM):
  - 1. B1-2001 Standard Specification for Hard-Drawn Copper Wire
  - 2. B8-2004 Standard Specification for Concentric-Lay-Stranded Copper Conductors, Hard, Medium-Hard, or Soft
- C. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (IEEE):
  - 1. 81-1983 IEEE Guide for Measuring Earth Resistivity, Ground Impedance, and Earth Surface Potentials of a Ground System
- D. C. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):
  - 1. 70-2011 National Electrical Code (NEC)
  - 2. 99-2005 Health Care Facilities
- E. D. Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL):
  - 1. 44-2005 Thermoset-Insulated Wires and Cables
  - 2. 83-2003 Thermoplastic-Insulated Wires and Cables
  - 3. 467-2004 Grounding and Bonding Equipment
  - 4. 486A-486B-2003 Wire Connectors

### PART 2 - PRODUCTS

#### 2.1 GROUNDING AND BONDING CONDUCTORS

- A. Equipment grounding conductors shall be UL 83 insulated stranded copper, except that sizes 10 AWG and smaller shall be solid copper. Insulation color shall be continuous green for all equipment grounding conductors, except that wire sizes 4 AWG and larger shall be permitted to be identified per NEC.
- B. Bonding conductors shall be ASTM B8 bare stranded copper, except that sizes 10 AWG and smaller shall be ASTM B1 solid bare copper wire.
- C. Isolated Power System: Type XHHW-2 insulation with a dielectric constant of 3.5 or less.
- D. Electrical System Grounding: Conductor sizes shall not be less than what is shown on the drawings and not less than required by the NEC, whichever is greater.

**2.2 GROUNDING ELECTRODES (NOT USED)**

**2.3 TELECOMMUNICATION GROUNDING**

- A. Grounding shall comply with NEC and ANSI-J-STD-607-A. Refer to specification section 27 12 00 for additional information.
- B. Common Bonding Network shall comply with NEC and ANSI-J-607-A.
- C. Telecommunications Main Grounding Bus Bar (TMGB/TGB):
  - 1. Connectors: Mechanical type, cast silicon bronze, solderless exothermic-type wire terminals, and long-barrel, two-bolt connection to ground bus bar.
  - 2. Ground Bus Bar: Copper, TMGB: ¼" x 4" x 12", TGB: ¼" x 2" x 12".
  - 3. Stand-Off Insulators: Lexan or PVC, impulse tested at 5000 V.

**2.4 SPLICES AND TERMINATION COMPONENTS**

- A. Components shall meet or exceed UL 467 and be clearly marked with the manufacturer, catalog number, and permitted conductor size(s).

**2.5 GROUND CONNECTIONS**

- A. Above Grade:
  - 1. Bonding Jumpers: compression type connectors, using zinc-plated fasteners and external tooth lockwashers.
  - 2. Ground Busbars: Two-hole compression type lugs using tin-plated copper or copper alloy bolts and nuts.
  - 3. Rack and Cabinet Ground Bars: one-hole compression-type lugs using zinc-plated or copper alloy fasteners.

**2.6 EQUIPMENT RACK AND CABINET GROUND BARS (NOT USED)**

**2.7 GROUND TERMINAL BLOCKS (NOT USED)**

**2.8 SPLICE CASE GROUND ACCESSORIES (NOT USED)**

**PART 3 - EXECUTION**

**3.1 GENERAL**

- A. Ground in accordance with the NEC, as shown on drawings, and as hereinafter specified.

- B. Equipment Grounding: Metallic structures (including ductwork and building steel), enclosures, raceways, junction boxes, outlet boxes, cabinets, machine frames, and other conductive items in close proximity with electrical circuits shall be bonded and grounded.
- C. Special Grounding: For patient care area electrical power system grounding, conform to NFPA 99, and NEC.

### **3.2 INACCESSIBLE GROUNDING CONNECTIONS (NOT USED)**

### **3.3 SECONDARY EQUIPMENT AND CIRCUITS**

- A. Metallic Piping, Building Steel, and Supplemental Electrode(s):
  - 1. Provide a grounding electrode conductor sized per NEC between the service equipment ground bus and all metallic water and gas pipe systems, building steel, and supplemental or made electrodes. Jumper insulating joints in the metallic piping. All connections to electrodes shall be made with fittings that conform to UL 467.
  - 2. Provide a supplemental ground electrode and bond to the grounding electrode system.
- B. Conduit Systems:
  - 1. Ground all metallic conduit systems. All metallic conduit systems shall contain an equipment grounding conductor.
  - 2. Non-metallic conduit systems shall contain an equipment grounding conductor, except that non-metallic feeder conduits which carry a grounded conductor from exterior transformers to interior or building-mounted service entrance equipment need not contain an equipment grounding conductor.
  - 3. Conduit containing only a grounding conductor, and which is provided for mechanical protection of the conductor, shall be bonded to that conductor at the entrance and exit from the conduit.
- C. Feeders and Branch Circuits: Install equipment grounding conductors with all feeders and power and lighting branch circuits.
- D. Boxes, Cabinets, Enclosures, and Panelboards:
  - 1. Bond the equipment grounding conductor to each pullbox, junction box, outlet box, device box, cabinets, and other enclosures through which the conductor passes (except for special grounding systems for intensive care units and other critical units shown).
  - 2. Provide lugs in each box and enclosure for equipment grounding conductor termination.
  - 3. Provide ground bars in panelboards, bolted to the housing, with sufficient lugs to terminate the equipment grounding conductors.
- E. Motors and Starters: Provide lugs in motor terminal box and starter housing or motor control center compartment to terminate equipment grounding conductors.

- F. Receptacles shall not be grounded through their mounting screws. Ground with a jumper from the receptacle green ground terminal to the device box ground screw and the branch circuit equipment grounding conductor.
- G. Ground lighting fixtures to the equipment grounding conductor of the wiring system when the green ground is provided; otherwise, ground the fixtures through the conduit systems. Fixtures connected with flexible conduit shall have a green ground wire included with the power wires from the fixture through the flexible conduit to the first outlet box.
- H. Fixed electrical appliances and equipment shall be provided with a ground lug for termination of the equipment grounding conductor.

#### **3.4 BONDING STRAPS AND JUMPERS**

- A. Install in locations accessible for inspection and maintenance, except where routed through short lengths of conduit.
- B. Bonding to Structure: Bond straps directly to basic structure, taking care not to penetrate any adjacent parts.
- C. Bonding to Equipment Mounted on Vibration Isolation Hangers and Supports: Install so vibration is not transmitted to rigidly mounted equipment.

#### **3.5 BONDING INTERIOR METAL DUCTS**

- A. Bond metal air ducts to equipment grounding conductors of associated fans, blowers, electric heaters, and air cleaners. Install bonding jumper to bond across flexible duct connections to achieve continuity.

#### **3.6 CORROSION INHIBITORS**

- A. When making ground and ground bonding connections, apply a corrosion inhibitor to all contact surfaces. Use corrosion inhibitor appropriate for protecting a connection between the metals used.

#### **3.7 CONDUCTIVE PIPING**

- A. Bond all conductive piping systems, interior and exterior, to the building to the grounding electrode system. Bonding connections shall be made as close as practical to the equipment ground bus.
- B. In operating rooms and at intensive care and coronary care type beds, bond the gases and suction piping, at the outlets, directly to the room or patient ground bus.

**3.8 ELECTRICAL ROOM GROUNDING(NOT USED)**

**3.9 WIREWAY GROUNDING**

- A. Ground and Bond Metallic Wireway Systems as follows:
1. Bond the metallic structures of wireway to provide 100 percent electrical continuity throughout the wireway system by connecting a 6 AWG bonding jumper at all intermediate metallic enclosures and across all section junctions.
  2. Install insulated 6 AWG bonding jumpers between the wireway system bonded as required in paragraph 1 above, and the closest building ground at each end and approximately every 50 feet.
  3. Use insulated 6 AWG bonding jumpers to ground or bond metallic wireway at each end at all intermediate metallic enclosures and cross all section junctions.
  4. Use insulated 6 AWG bonding jumpers to ground cable tray to column-mounted building ground plates (pads) at each end and approximately every 45 feet.

**3.10 COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS**

- A. Divisions 27 and 28 systems shall be grounded in accordance with NEC article 800, IEEE 1100, and EIA/TIA J-STD-607A.
- B. Provide surge suppression on incoming underground Utility Services.

**3.11 CIRCUITS OPERATING AT LESS THAN 50 VOLTS**

- A. Circuits operating at less than 50 volts shall be grounded in accordance with NEC articles 720 and 725.

**3.12 FIRE PROTECTIVE SIGNALING SYSTEMS**

- A. Fire protective signaling systems shall be grounded in accordance with NEC article 760.

**3.13 FIELD QUALITY CONTROL**

- A. Perform Code required tests and inspections and prepare test reports.

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