

Electrical Bulletin

INFORMATION FOR CONTRACTORS

November 8, 2012

Smoke Alarms

Please be advised that the National Building Code now requires all smoke alarms to be provided with battery back-up. This requirement will be actively enforced by Building Safety & Standards Branch and the City of Whitehorse effective January 1, 2013.

Unapproved panel boards

There have been a small number of panels brought to Yukon from Alaska that do not bear approved markings for use in Canada. Be advised we are checking for proper certification of all electrical equipment. Any equipment installed without proper approvals will be required to be replaced with approved equipment.

License Renewal

Please be reminded that you are required to renew your contractor's license prior to January 1, 2013. We will be sending all contractors a list of all open permits on our system. Please review this list and issue final authorizations for all permits that are completed but for one reason or another have not been closed.

Permits

As indicated many times in previous bulletins, the practice of obtaining a permit after the work has been started is contrary to the requirements of section 9 of the Electrical Protection Act. Contractors who apply for permits after the work has begun should expect the permit fee to be doubled as per section 18 (4) of the Electrical Regulations. This action can be taken by an electrical inspector or by the administration staff who create the permit.

Heat Trace

All heat trace must be ground fault protected, this is best accomplished by a GFI breaker and not a GFCI receptacle. GFCI plugs are too sensitive and interrupt the circuit at 5 mA which can result in nuisance tripping. GFI breakers with a trip threshold of 30 mA are to be used to protect equipment.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Lang', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Hector Lang
Acting Chief Electrical Inspector
867-667-5485