ELECTRICAL INSPECTION BULLETIN

B-06-302.1

Acceptable Wiring Methods for Consumers Overhead Services



(Effective 2015/12/01)

Conductors of a consumer's service which are connected to an overhead supply service at any point above ground on a building or other structure shall be installed in one of the following ways:

- 1. Rigid metal conduit or rigid PVC conduit.
- 2. Busway.
- 3. Mineral-insulated cable other than the lightweight type.

Consumer's service conductors run underground to a building from a pole line shall be permitted to be installed in such ways listed in Rule 6-300.

Many consumer's overhead service conductors and occasionally consumer's underground service conductors terminate in single or multi-position exterior mounted meter mounting equipment.

Subservice conductors installed above grade or floor level on the load side of exterior meter mounting equipment shall be installed in a way acceptable for overhead consumer's service installation.

Subservice conductors installed mainly below grade or floor level on the load side of meter mounting equipment shall be permitted to be installed in a way acceptable for either overhead or underground consumer's service installation.

Consumer's service conductors or cables installed on poles or building exteriors shall be protected from mechanical injury from 300 mm (1 foot) below grade to at least 2.5 m (8 feet) above grade.

Rigid PVC conduit is acceptable as a service raceway except as prohibited by the Code for certain locations.

A section of PVC conduit shall not be installed in such manner as to break the continuity of a metal raceway system unless bonding is provided in a manner acceptable to the inspection department.

In no case shall a section of rigid PVC conduit be installed as service raceway connecting a metal service mast to a metal meter mounting device.

Where an L-type fitting forming part of a service raceway angles towards or into a building structure, it shall be provided at its lowest part with a drain hole approximately 6 mm (1/4 inch) in diameter.

Hacksaw cuts tend to produce excessively large openings and shall not be permitted.

The use of T-fittings in service raceways is not permitted.

Consumer's service equipment such as service boxes or other consumer's service equipment shall be located as close as practicable to the point where the consumer's service conductor enters the building.

For the purpose of this rule "As close as practicable" shall be not more than three (3) meters and applies to the section of raceway or cable which enters the building immediately before it enters the main disconnect switch or circuit breaker.

The maximum allowance of 3 meters is not to be considered to be a general allowance and every effort should be taken to install the main service disconnect as close to where the raceway enters the building.

For additional information regarding the installation of overhead services please reference Department of Labour and Advanced Education Electrical Bulletin 2014-04.