



National Electrical Safety Code®

# Interpretation

## Section 21. General requirements

### **Rule 215C1 Non-current-carrying parts—General (2007 Edition, page 71) (11 July 2008) IR552**

This rule states, among other things, that “...hangers of equipment...shall be effectively grounded.” Does this include metal stand-off brackets used to support non-conducting (PVC) riser conduit containing supply conductors on a wood pole? Does this include metal straps used to directly attach non-conducting (PVC) riser conduit containing supply conductors to the wood pole face?

**Discussion:** Certain industry documents show both PVC riser conduits supported on a wood pole using metal stand-off brackets and PVC riser conduits attached directly to the wood pole face using metal straps lagged to the pole. It could be interpreted that grounding is required for the stand-off brackets supporting PVC conduit but not the straps used for strapping PVC conduit directly to the pole. It could also be interpreted that since the supply conductors are guarded from contact by the PVC conduit that grounding the stand-off brackets and straps is not required. An interpretation of this rule for these applications is requested.

### **Interpretation**

The Interpretations Subcommittee has considered the subject Interpretation Request for Rule 215C1 and has developed a consensus report as follows:

“In Rule 215C1, the requirement to effectively ground “hangers of equipment” is stated in the context: “...metal frames, cases, and hangers of equipment...shall be effectively grounded.” The rule is not intended to require grounding of individual stand-off brackets or straps supporting non-conductive (PVC) conduits or U-guards.

Non-conductive conduits and U-guards cannot be grounded. Metal brackets and straps used to support such construction do not need to be grounded.”

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