

INTRODUCTION TO ARTICLE 502—CLASS II HAZARDOUS LOCATIONS

If an area has enough combustible dust suspended in the air or accumulated on electrical equipment to ignite or explode, the area is classified as a Class II location.

Examples of such locations include grain silos, coal bins, wood pulp storage areas, and munitions plants.

Article 502 follows a logical arrangement similar to that of Article 501. Article 502 applies strictly to locations containing combustible dust in the air, rather than simply to the presence of such material. In other words, combustible dust that's controlled to prevent being suspended in the air doesn't create a Class II location.

PART I. GENERAL

502.1 Scope. Article 502 covers the requirements for electrical and electronic equipment and wiring in Class II, Division 1 and 2 locations where fire or explosion hazards may exist due to the presence of combustible dust, combustible metal dusts, coal, carbon black, charcoal, coke, flour, grain, wood, plastic, and chemicals in the air in quantities sufficient to produce explosive or ignitable mixtures [500.5(C) and 500.8]. **Figure 502-1**

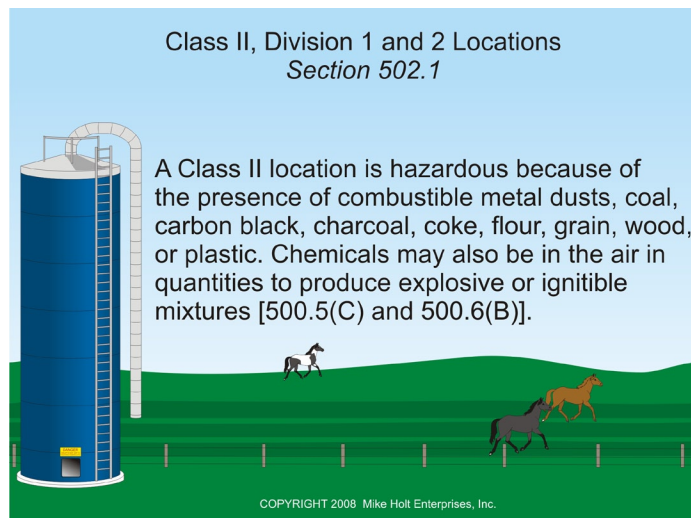


Figure 502-1

502.5 Explosionproof Equipment. Explosionproof equipment as defined in Article 100 isn't permitted to be installed in a Class II location. **Figure 502-2**

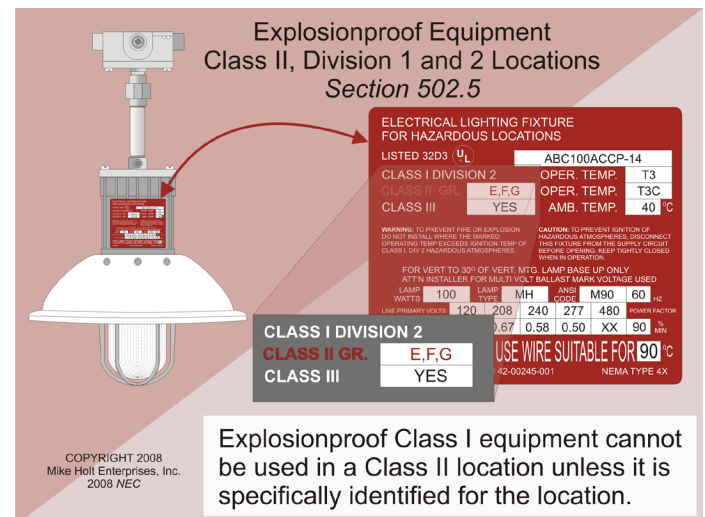


Figure 502-2

Author's Comment: All equipment used in a Class II hazardous location must be identified for the class [500.8].