

Article 100

Definitions

Objective

After reviewing the changes to Article 100, you should have a better understanding of how to apply the meanings for the following *Code* definitions:

Authority Having Jurisdiction

Grounding Electrode Conductor

Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupter

Listed

Luminaire

Qualified Person

Structure

The following definitions have been added or changed for the 2002 *NEC*.

Authority Having Jurisdiction

A new definition with a Fine Print Note (FPN) was added to provide a standard definition among all NFPA documents, thereby providing consistency with documents used for enforcement.

Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). The organization, office, or individual responsible for approving equipment, materials, an installation, or a procedure.

FPN: The Authority Having Jurisdiction may be a federal, state, local government, or individual such as a fire chief, fire marshal, chief of a fire prevention bureau, labor department or health department, building official or electrical inspector, or *others having statutory authority*. In some circumstances, the property owner or his/ her agent assumes the role, and at government installations, the commanding officer or departmental official may be the AHJ

Intent: The term “Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)” was used over 40 times in the 1999 *NEC*, yet there was no definition as to its meaning. Typically, the AHJ is the local electrical inspector who has been given statutory authority by a city, county, or state ordinance. In the absence of a federal, state or local AHJ, the operator of the facility, by default will assume that role, whether they realize it or not. Ultimately the owner/operator or his/her agent such as an architect or engineer of the facility is the AHJ.

AUTHOR’S COMMENT: Many feel that the AHJ should have a strong background in the electrical field such as electrical engineering or an electrical contractor’s license and in some states this is a legal requirement. See 80.27 for Inspectors’ Qualifications.

Grounding Electrode Conductor

The definition for “Grounding Electrode Conductors” was revised to read:

Grounding Electrode Conductor. The conductor that connects the grounding electrode to the grounded (neutral) conductor at service equipment [250.24(A)], source of a separately derived system [250.30(A)(2)], or to the equipment grounding conductor at each building or structure disconnect that is supplied by a feeder [250.32(E)].

Intent: The term for the conductor that terminates to the grounding electrode for a separate building and structure was changed from “Grounding Conductor” in Section 250-32(e) of the 1999 *NEC*, to “Grounding Electrode Conductor” in 250.32(E) in the 2002 *NEC*. The change in the definition was necessary to coordinate with the changes in Article 250. (Figure 100-1)

AUTHOR’S COMMENT: The grounding electrode conductor is sized in accordance with 250.66, whereas equipment grounding conductors are sized in accordance with 250.122.

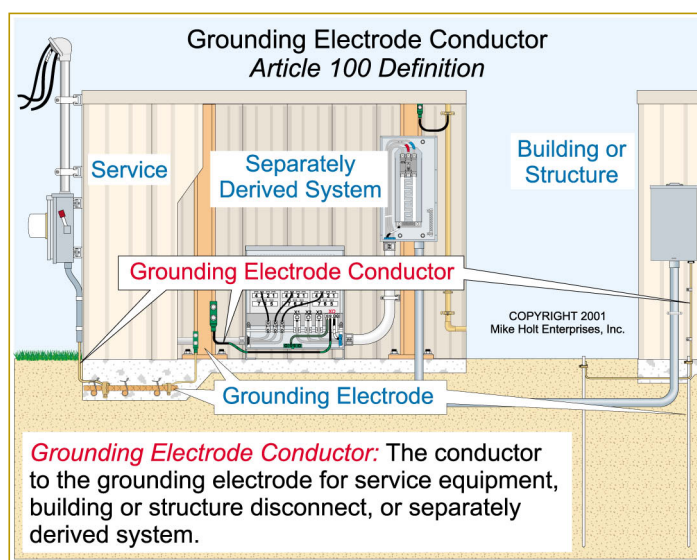


Figure 100-1