

PROCEDURE BULLETIN — TEXAS CITY PLANT

P-0127

GROUNDING OF PLUG-CONNECTED ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

MON-1409

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this bulletin is to establish the requirement for case grounding of all plug-connected, externally powered electrical devices at the Texas City plant.

II. POLICY

This bulletin is in keeping with the general policy of providing and maintaining safe working conditions within the realm of practicality.

III. SCOPE

The provisions of this bulletin shall apply to all plug-connected electrical devices regardless of voltage. As a means of illustration, but not limited to, this includes the broad classes of plug-connected externally powered portable tools, portable test instruments, laboratory apparatus, and permanently mounted tools such as on a bench or stand that are so connected. Specifically excluded from the requirements of this bulletin is equipment used in offices -- examples of such equipment are typewriters, calculators, desk lamps, soldering irons, and electric cigarette lighters. Coffee pots in offices located on or near sinks must be grounded.

The use of a ground current sensing protector shall not exempt a device from its grounding requirements.

IV. RESPONSIBILITY

It shall be the responsibility of each person in charge of the design, purchasing, operation, and maintenance of such plug-connected electrical devices to comply with this bulletin.

V. PROCEDURE

The metallic case of an electrically operated device shall be grounded (wired to earth) through the ground wire of a 3-conductor cord to the grounding prong of a plug cap.

The purpose of the ground connection is to prevent the occurrence of a hazardous voltage on the case of the device in the

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event of leakage or accidental contact between the case and a current carrying conductor or part.

The testing of the effectiveness of device grounding shall be in accordance with the procedure stated in Craft Maintenance Procedure Bulletin No. 204. All devices that are repaired (including device, cord, or plug cap) must be so tested before reuse.

All plug configurations shall be in accordance with Texas City Plant General Standard GS-07.1.402 and "I" Manual Standard E 3.9 STD 5204. In general, this standard states that 125 volt single-phase plug caps and receptacles shall be 2-pole, 3-wire grounding type with two parallel blades and one U-shaped grounding prong. Only existing areas which have the 3-blade crowfoot configuration of receptacles shall use devices with matching plug caps. Adapters which permit the use of one plug cap with another style receptacle are available and may be used. Do not alter a plug cap by bending blades to make it fit another receptacle.

The plug configuration for voltages, and currents other than the 125 volt single-phase stated above are also covered in the referenced engineering standard.

All extension cords for 125 volt single-phase service must have three (3) conductors with proper connectors and plug caps.

Reviewed by:

Plant Manager's Safety Board

Updated by:

C. L. Gilmore
C. L. Gilmore

Approved by:

R. V. Butz
R. V. Butz

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