4 April 2023*

To: Interested Parties

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Dear Interested Parties:

At its meeting of March 20-21, 2023, the Standards Council considered an appeal on the above referenced matter. The Council’s Final decision is now available and is attached herewith.

Sincerely,

Dawn Michele Bellis
Secretary, NFPA Standards Council

cc: S. Everett, S. Gallagher, C. Duffy, J. Sargent
    Members, NEC Code-Making Panel 3 (NEC-P03)
    Members, NEC Correlating Committee (NEC-AAC)
    Members, NFPA Standards Council (AAD-AAA)
    Individuals Providing Appeal Commentary

*NOTE: Participants in NFPA’s standards development process should know that limited review of this decision may be sought from the NFPA Board of Directors. For the rules describing the available review and the method for petitioning the Board for review, please consult section 1-7 of the Regulations Governing the Development of NFPA Standards and the NFPA Regulations Governing Petitions to the Board of Directors from Decisions of the Standards Council. Notice of the intent to file such a petition must be submitted to the Clerk of the Board of Directors within 15 calendar days of the publication date of this Decision.
Standards Council Decision (Final): D#23-4  
Standards Council Agenda Item: SC#23-3-9  
Date of Decision: 21 March 2023  
TIA No. 1688 to NFPA 70®, National Electrical Code®, 2023 Edition

SUMMARY OF ACTION (for convenience only; not part of official decision): The Standards Council voted to uphold the appeal requesting Council to overturn the NEC Correlating Committee ballot results and issue TIA No. 1688 to NFPA 70®, National Electrical Code®, 2023 Edition.

DECISION:  
At its meeting of March 20-21, 2023, the Standards Council considered an appeal from Chad Jones, CICSO Systems. The appellant requests that the Standards Council overturn the NEC Correlating Committee ballot results and issue TIA No. 1688 on the 2023 edition of NFPA 70®, National Electrical Code®. Specifically, the appellant requests that the Standards Council issue TIA No. 1688, which seeks to revise section 300.26.

As background, the TIA was balloted through Code-Making Panel 3 (“CMP 3”) and the Correlating Committee (“CC”) in accordance with the Regulations Governing the Development of NFPA Standards (Regs) to determine whether the necessary three-fourths majority support was achieved on technical merit, emergency nature, and correlation for recommendation of issuance. The TIA achieved the necessary support of CMP 3 on both technical merit and emergency nature, but did not achieve the necessary support of the CC on correlation.

The appellant asserts that during the revision cycle for the 2023 edition of the NEC, CMP 3 intended to move specific requirements for non-power-limited remote control and signaling circuits. However, the requirements were removed from Part II of Article 725 and erroneously not reinserted elsewhere into the NEC. Given the support from CMP 3 on technical merit and emergency nature, the Council is persuaded that TIA No. 1688 text reestablishes requirements formerly contained within Part II of Article 725 in the 2020 NEC applicable to Class 1 non-power-limited remote control and signaling circuits and overcomes the current gap in technical requirements that currently exists in the 2023 edition. In the opinion of the Council, this interim resolution outweighs concerns expressed by some CC members and any suggestion that the issue can be resolved in the next revision cycle.

On appeal, the Council accords great respect and deference to the NFPA standards development process. In conducting its review, the Council will overturn the results of that process only where a clear and substantial basis for doing so is demonstrated.

The Council has reviewed the entire record concerning this matter and has considered all the arguments put forth in this appeal. In the view of the Council, this appeal presents a clear and substantial basis upon which to overturn the results yielded by the NFPA standards development process. Accordingly, the Council has voted to uphold the appeal. The effect of this action is that the NFPA 70, National Electrical Code will include the text of TIA No. 1688.

Council Members Michael J. Johnston and Rodger Reiswig recused themselves from the deliberations and vote on the appeal.
Pursuant to Section 5 of the NFPA Regulations Governing the Development of NFPA Standards, the National Fire Protection Association has issued the following Tentative Interim Amendment to NFPA 70®, National Electrical Code®, 2023 edition. The TIA was processed by the NEC Code-Making Panel 3 and the NEC Correlating Committee, and was issued by the Standards Council on March 21, 2023, with an effective date of April 10, 2023.

1. Revise paragraph 300.26 to read as follows:

300.26 Remote-Control and Signaling Circuits Classification.
Remote-control and signaling circuits shall be classified as either power-limited or non-power-limited and comply with the following 300.26(A) through (C).

(A) Class 1 Power-Limited Remote-Control and Signaling Circuits. Class 1 power-limited remote-control and signaling circuits shall comply with 724.3.

(B) Class 2 and Class 3 Power-Limited Remote-Control and Signaling Circuits. Class 2 and Class 3 power-limited remote-control and signaling circuits shall comply with 725.3.

(C) Non-Power-Limited Remote-Control and Signaling Circuits. Non-power-limited remote-control and signaling circuits shall be installed in accordance with 300.2 through 300.25 and comply with 300.26(C)(1) through (C)(3).

(1) Sizes and Use.
   (a) Conductors that are 18 AWG and 16 AWG copper shall be permitted to be used if they supply loads that do not exceed the ampacities specified in 402.5 and are installed in a raceway, an approved enclosure, or a listed cable.
   (b) Conductors that are 14 AWG copper-clad aluminum shall be permitted to be used in Type MC cable and Type TC cable. The continuous load shall not exceed 8 amperes.
   (c) Conductors larger than 16 AWG copper or 14 AWG copper-clad aluminum shall not supply loads greater than the ampacities specified in 310.14.
   (d) Flexible cords shall comply with the applicable general requirements, applications, and construction specifications for flexible cords and flexible cables in accordance with Article 400 Parts I and II.

(2) Insulation.
   (a) Insulation on conductors shall be rated for the system voltage and not less than 600 volts.
   (b) Conductors larger than 16 AWG copper or 14 AWG copper-clad aluminum shall comply with the applicable general requirements for conductors rated up to and including 2000 volt for type designations, insulations, markings, ampacity ratings, and uses in accordance with 310.3, 310.4, 310.6, 310.8, 310.10, and 310.14.
   (c) Conductors that are 18 AWG copper, 16 AWG copper, or 14 AWG copper-clad aluminum shall be Type FFH-2, Type KF-2, Type KFF-2, Type PAF, Type PAFF, Type PF, Type PFF, Type PGF, Type PGFF, Type PTF, Type PTFF, Type RFH-2, Type RFHH-2, Type RFHH-3, Type SF-2, SFF-2, Type TF, Type TFF, Type TFFN, Type TFN, Type ZF, or Type ZFF.
(d) Conductors with other types and thicknesses of insulation shall be permitted if listed for Class 1 circuit use.

(3) Overcurrent Protection.

(a) Overcurrent protection for conductors 14 AWG copper and larger shall be provided in accordance with the conductor ampacity, without applying the ampacity adjustment and correction factors specified in 310.15 to the ampacity calculation.

(b) Overcurrent protection shall not exceed 7 amperes for 18 AWG copper conductors and 10 amperes for 16 AWG copper and 14 AWG copper-clad aluminum.

Exception: The overcurrent protection specified in 300.26(C)(3)(1) and 300.26(C)(3)(2) shall not be required where this Code requires or permits other overcurrent protection ratings.

Issue Date: March 21, 2023

Effective Date: April 10, 2023

(Note: For further information on NFPA Codes and Standards, please see www.nfpa.org/docinfo)

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