

Should flexible wires be used for lighting distribution boxes



Overview

10(A)(2) allows flexible cord to be used for connecting a luminaire. • The luminaire is required to be listed (NEC 410. Note: The National Electrical Code, ANSI/NFPA 70, in Article 400, Table 400-4, lists various types of flexible cords, some of which are noted as being designed for hard or extra-hard usage. Examples of these types of flexible cords include hard service cord (types S, ST, SO, STO) and junior hard. Article 400 covers the general requirements and applications for flexible cords as contained in Table 400.



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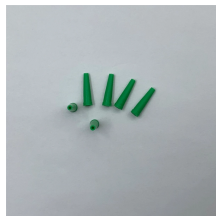
In this article, originally written for the IET Wiring Matters publication, James Eade looks to dispel some of the myths surrounding the use of flexible cables in fixed installations.



Flexible cables can tick all the boxes and if the extra cost over more rigid types is not a concern, then there is no reason why they can't be used. With thanks to Graham Kenyon for his contributions to ...



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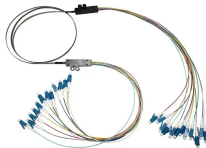
The use of flexible cord for the connection of luminaires has been debated for several years. The National Electrical Code (NEC) has specific requirements that allow for the installation to be made.



While these cables are flexible and designed to move easily with the equipment, they are also easily damaged and prone to overheating. For this reason, their use is subject to strict ...



Flexible cords used with temporary and portable lights shall be designed for hard or extra-hard usage. The National Electrical Code, ANSI/NFPA 70, in Article 400, Table 400-4, lists various types of ...



Flexible cords shall be used only in continuous lengths without splice or tap. Hard service flexible cords No. 12 or larger may be repaired if spliced so that the splice retains the insulation, outer sheath ...



While these cords and cables are manufactured to standards that make them safe to use, they are considered safe to use only when identified for the use and the application for which designed.



When installing flexible cords and fixture wires, remember that a trade-off in gaining flexibility is you lose some of the inherent self-protection that a Chapter 3 wiring method has.



Flexible cords and cables shall be protected from damage. Sharp corners and projections shall be avoided. Flexible cords and cables may pass through doorways or other pinch points, if protection is ...

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