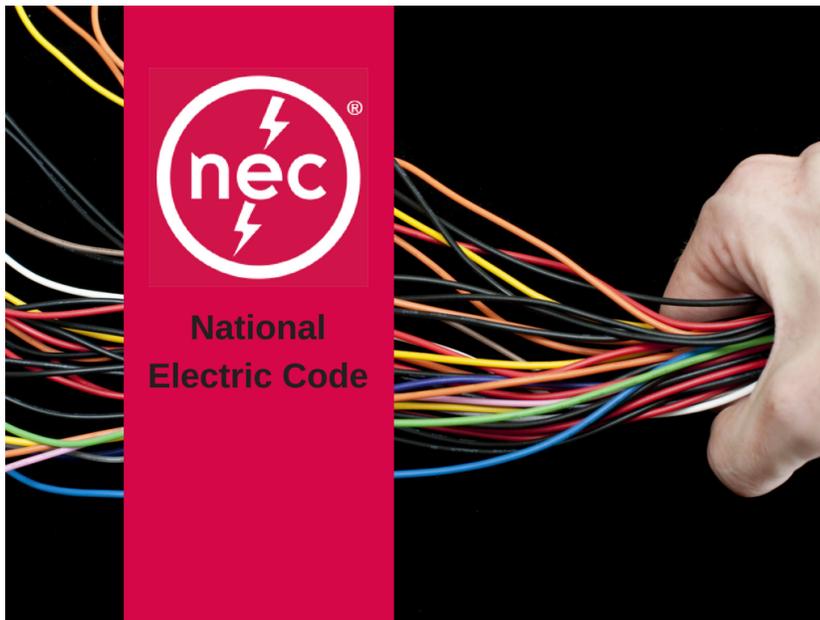


# OMEGAPOWERNEWS

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**THIS EDITION:**

**NEC 2020: SPD Changes**

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**UL1449, What's Next?**

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## NEC 2020: SPD Changes

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The NEC continues to evolve and improve code requirements for surge protection. Changes to NEC 2017 focused on the protection of systems that are critical to the safe operation of facilities. With the pending release of NEC 2020 in September 2019, we would like to review some of the changes.

**NEC 2017** expanded requirements for the protection of safety-related circuits. An NRTL Listed SPD is now required for:

- fire pump controllers
- critical data systems
- industrial control panels
- all machinery with safety interlock circuit disconnects that supply emergency system loads.

This includes disconnects for elevators, dumbwaiters, escalators, moving sidewalks, lifts, and chairlifts...

When servicing these systems, it is now mandatory that an SPD be installed to ensure safe and continued operation.

**NEC 2020** changes: Article 280, which covered surge arresters, as well as Article 285, which covered SPDs have been removed. In their place is new Article 242 entitled "Over voltage Protection." The article will have three parts: General, Surge Protective Devices (SPDs) 1000 Volts or less, and Surge Arresters Over 1000 Volts.

Finally, new section 230.67, found in the services section under wiring and protection, requires all

electrical services supplying homes must have an NRTL Listed, Type 1 or Type 2 SPD installed as part of the service equipment or located immediately adjacent thereto.

The time it takes for any edition of the National Electric Code to be adopted nationwide can be lengthy however, it is important to note that 28 states have already adopted NEC 2017.

In Florida, the update process is still underway, and NEC 2017 will go into effect on 12/31/2020. Though, it could be several years until NEC 2020 is adopted across the country, both 2017 and 2020 editions present new code requirements for the surge industry.

