



Safety Bulletin EM 385-1-1

Mobile District Safety and Occupational Health Office
FLEXIBLE CORDS

Bulletin 74-09

The 15 September 2008 Safety Manual (yellow book) is now in effect for most new contracts and government operations. Please note the requirements for flexible cords as stated below.

11.A.03 Flexible cords.

- a. For construction sites, all flexible cords shall be inspected by the user of the cord at least daily.
- b. Flexible cord sets used on construction sites or in damp locations shall contain the number of conductors required for the service plus an equipment ground wire. The cords shall be hard usage or extra hard usage as specified in the NEC.
- c. Electric wire and flexible cord passing through work areas shall be protected from damage (including that caused by foot traffic, vehicles, sharp corners, protections, and pinching). Flexible cords and cables passing through holes shall be protected by bushings or fittings.
- d. Flexible cord shall be used only in continuous lengths without splice or tap. The repair of hard-service cord 14 AWG and larger shall be permitted if conductors are spliced in accordance with NEC (the splices are made by a qualified electrician, the insulation is equal to the cable being spliced, and wire connections are soldered).
- e. Patched, oil-soaked, worn, or frayed electric cords or cables shall not be used.
- f. Extension cords or cables shall be supported in place at intervals that ensure that they will be protected from physical damage. Support shall be in the form of cable ties, straps or similar type fittings installed so as not to cause damage. They shall not be hung from nails, or suspended by bare wire.

