



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

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Length Limitations for FMC and LFMC

The purpose of this Bulletin is to clarify the length limitations required by the National Electrical Code on Flexible Metal Conduit (FMC) and Liquid Tight Flexible Metal Conduit (LFMC).

Articles 348 and 350 of The National Electrical Code cover the installation requirements for FMC and LFMC. There is no length limitation specified for trade size 1/2 through 4 of either FMC or LFMC. Lengths of both FMC and LFMC trade size 3/8 are limited due to their use in specific installations specified in Section 348.20(A) and 350.20(A).

Some confusion exists on the permitted installed length of FMC and LFMC due to their use as an equipment grounding path as covered by NEC Section 250.118. Both FMC and LFMC may be used for equipment grounding under the specific conditions covered by NEC Section 250.118(6) for FMC and 250.118(7) for LFMC. One of these conditions requires that the total length of the ground path does not exceed 6 feet. However, this length limitation applies to the ground path, not the conduit. Where the length of the conduit exceeds 6 feet, an equipment grounding conductor must be used.

In summary, the only length limitation specified by the NEC on the installation of FMC and LFMC is where trade size 3/8 is used for specific installations specified in NEC Sections 348.20(A) for FMC and 350.20(A) for LFMC. All other trade sizes have no length limitation.

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