BF Arc-Fault Circuit-Interrupter Protection

(A) Definition: Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupter

An arc-fault circuit interrupter is a device intended to provide protection from the effects of arc faults by recognizing characteristics unique to arcing and by functioning to de-energize the circuit when an arc fault is detected.

(B) All 120-volt, single phase, 15- and 20-ampere branch circuits supplying outlets installed in dwelling unit family rooms, dining rooms, living rooms, parlors, libraries, dens, bedrooms, sunrooms, recreation rooms, closets, hallways, or similar rooms or areas shall be protected by a listed arc-fault circuit interrupter, combination type, installed to provide protection of the branch circuit.

FPN: For information on types of arc-fault circuit interrupters, Standard for Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupters.

Exception 1: Where RMC, IMC, EMT or steel armored cable, Type AC, meeting the requirements of the CEC using metal outlet and junction boxes is installed for the portion of the branch circuit between the branch-circuit overcurrent device and the first outlet, it shall be permitted to install a combination AFCI at the first outlet to provide protection for the remaining portion of the branch circuit.

Exception 2: Where a branch circuit to a fire alarm system installed in accordance with the CEC is installed in RMC, IMC, EMT, or steel armored cable, Type AC, meeting the requirements of the CEC, with metal outlet and junction boxes, AFCI protection may be omitted.