


January 26, 2009

- 1) What is the Ontario Electrical Safety Code (OESC)?**
The Ontario Electrical Safety Code (OESC) is an Ontario Regulation. The object of this Code is to establish safety standards for the installation of electrical equipment. In its preparation, consideration has been given to the prevention of fire and shock hazards. Compliance with the requirements of this Code implies that the installation is basically safe.
- 2) Why is there a new OESC?**
The OESC includes changes to the Canadian Electrical Code (CEC). There have been significant changes made to the 2006 and 2009 CEC that warranted an update of the OESC. In 2007, as a result of the 2006 CEC update, ten (10) Ontario amendments were added to the OESC (23rd Edition/2002). Therefore, the full OESC (24th Edition/2009) is issued and includes changes to the 2006 and 2009 CEC and Ontario amendments.
- 3) When do the new OESC rules become effective?**
The regulation 453/08 adopts, by reference, the CEC together with specific Ontario amendments and is referred to as the Ontario Electrical Safety Code (the OESC). This regulation comes into force on May 1, 2009.
- 4) If I have an application for inspection or plan review submission prior to May 1, 2009, do I need to follow the OESC (24th Edition/2009)?**
No, provided your application or plan submission is made prior to May 1, 2009 you do not need to comply with the OESC (24th Edition/2009). The electrical installation must meet the OESC rules in effect at the time the application for inspection was filed or the plans were submitted to ESA for review.

If a contractor elects to comply with any part of the OESC (24th Edition/2009) after May 1, 2009 even though the inspection application or plan submission was made prior to May 1, 2009 then the entire installation must comply with the OESC (24th Edition/2009).
- 5) I have a CEC, why do I need the OESC?**
The law requires that all electrical installations in Ontario conform to the requirements of the OESC. Anyone performing electrical work in Ontario should have a current edition of the OESC (24th Edition/2009) which contains the complete text of the CEC and the Ontario amendments to that Code.
- 6) What is the difference between the Canadian Electrical Code and the Ontario Electrical Safety Code?**
In addition to very specific Ontario administrative requirements, there are also technical differences identified in the OESC which are different from the CEC.
- 7) How can I tell the differences in the OESC between Ontario amendments and CEC rules?**
The Ontario amendments are identified by a Black Trillium () and the Ontario text is in italic.

- 8) What is the price of the OESC (24th Edition/2009)?**
The cost of the OESC (24th Edition/2009) is \$157.50 (\$150.00 + GST) + shipping and handling.
- 9) Do I have to purchase a copy of the OESC (24th Edition/2009)?**
The law requires that all electrical installations in Ontario conform to the requirements of the OESC. The OESC (24th Edition/2009) contains the complete text of the CEC and Ontario amendments to that Code. There have been significant changes made to the 2006 and 2009 CEC and Ontario amendments that warranted an update of the OESC. It is recommended that anyone performing electrical work in Ontario should have a current edition of the OESC (24th Edition/2009).
- 10) When will the OESC (24th Edition/2009) be available for purchase?**
The OESC (24th Edition/2009) will be available for purchase in early February 2009 and can be purchased through Orderline.
- 11) How can I order an OESC (24th Edition/2009) and/or Bulletins?**
The OESC (24th Edition/2009) and/or Bulletins can be purchased through Orderline. Orderline's telephone numbers are:
- 1-888-361-0003
 - 1-416-369-9005
- Also, a link on the home page of ESA's website www.esasafe.com will take you to a page that contains a direct link to Orderline's online ordering system.
- 12) What is the process for a customer to have a defective OESC replaced (e.g. pages missing, etc)?**
The customer contacts Orderline (1-888-361-0003) and arranges for a replacement. Orderline will ship the replacement book at no charge to the customer.
- 13) Will a CD version of the OESC (24th Edition/2009) be available and if so when?**
A CD/electronic version will be available at a later date. The price will be the same as a paper version; \$150.00 plus GST (\$157.50).
- 14) What is the size of the OESC (24th Edition/2009)?**
The code book is 8 1/2 x 11 inch format, spiral bound, same as in 2002. The Pocket Reference guide is in a 4 x 6 1/4 inch format.
- 15) What is the price of Bulletins?**
Bulletin pricing is to be determined. Please call Orderline at 1-888-361-0003 or visit www.orderline.com
- 16) What training does ESA offer on the OESC (24th Edition/2009)?**
ESA offers two workshops on the new OESC:
- "General" Workshop – Includes all major changes to the OESC (24th Edition/2009)
 - "Residential" Workshop – Includes all OESC changes that are specific to single-dwelling installations.
- For more information about ESA's training visit www.esasafe.com or contact our Customer Service Centre at 1-877-ESA-SAFE (1-877-372-7233).