

## CHAPTER 42

# CLASS 2 REMOTE-CONTROL, SIGNALING AND POWER-LIMITED CIRCUITS

### SECTION E4201 GENERAL

**E4201.1 Scope.** This chapter contains requirements for power supplies and wiring methods associated with Class 2 remote-control, signaling, and power-limited circuits that are not an integral part of a device or appliance. Other classes of remote-control, signaling and power-limited conductors shall comply with Article 725 of NFPA 70.

#### E4201.2 Definitions.

**CLASS 2 CIRCUIT.** That portion of the wiring system between the load side of a Class 2 power source and the connected equipment. Due to its power limitations, a Class 2 circuit considers safety from a fire initiation standpoint and provides acceptable protection from electric shock.

**REMOTE-CONTROL CIRCUIT.** Any electrical circuit that controls any other circuit through a relay or an equivalent device.

**SIGNALING CIRCUIT.** Any electrical circuit that energizes signaling equipment.

### SECTION E4202 POWER SOURCES

**E4202.1 Power sources for Class 2 circuits.** The power source for a Class 2 circuit shall be one of the following:

1. A listed Class 2 transformer.
2. A listed Class 2 power supply.
3. Other listed equipment marked to identify the Class 2 power source.
4. Listed information technology (computer) equipment limited power circuits.
5. A dry cell battery provided that the voltage is 30 volts or less and the capacity is equal to or less than that available from series connected No. 6 carbon zinc cells.

**E4202.2 Interconnection of power sources.** A Class 2 power source shall not have its output connections paralleled or otherwise interconnected with another Class 2 power source except where listed for such interconnection.

### SECTION E4203 WIRING METHODS

**E4203.1 Wiring methods on supply side of Class 2 power source.** Conductors and equipment on the supply side of the power source shall be installed in accordance with the appropriate requirements of Chapters 33 through 40. Transformers or other devices supplied from electric light or power circuits shall be protected by an over current device rated at not over 20 amperes. The input leads of a transformer or other power

source supplying Class 2 circuits shall be permitted to be smaller than 14 AWG, if not over 12 inches (305 mm) long and if the conductor insulation is rated at not less than 600 volts. In no case shall such leads be smaller than 18 AWG.

**E4203.2 Wiring methods and materials on load side of the Class 2 power source.** Class 2 cables installed as wiring within buildings shall be listed as being resistant to the spread of fire and listed as meeting the criteria specified in Sections E4203.2.1 through E4203.2.3. Cables shall be marked in accordance with Section E4203.2.4. Cable substitutions as described in Table E4203.2 and wiring methods covered in Chapter 37 shall also be permitted.

**TABLE E4203.2  
CABLE USES AND PERMITTED SUBSTITUTIONS**

CABLE TYPE	USE	PERMITTED SUBSTITUTIONS <sup>a</sup>
CL2P	Class 2 Plenum Cable	CMP, CL3P
CL2	Class 2 Cable	CMP, CL3P, CL2P, CMR, CL3R, CL2R CMG, CM, CL3
CL2X	Class 2 Cable, Limited Use	CMP, CL3P CL2P, CMR, CL3R, CL2R, CMG, CM, CL3, CL2, CMX, CL3X

a. For identification of cables other than Class 2 cables, see NFPA 70.

**E4203.2.1 Type CL2P cables.** Cables installed in ducts, plenums and other spaces used to convey environmental air shall be Type CL2P cables listed as being suitable for the use and listed as having adequate fire-resistant and low smoke-producing characteristics.

**E4203.2.2 Type CL2 cables.** Cables for general-purpose use, shall be listed as being resistant to the spread of fire and listed for the use.

**E4203.2.3 Type CL2X cables.** Type CL2X limited-use cable shall be listed as being suitable for use in dwellings and for the use and in raceways and shall also be listed as being flame retardant. Cables with a diameter of less than 0.25 inches (6.4 mm) shall be permitted to be installed without a raceway.

**E4203.2.4 Marking.** Cables shall be marked in accordance with Table E4203.2. Voltage ratings shall not be marked on cables.

### SECTION E4204 INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

**E4204.1 Separation from other conductors.** In cables, compartments, enclosures, outlet boxes, device boxes, and raceways, conductors of Class 2 circuits shall not be placed in any cable, compartment, enclosure, outlet box, device box, race-

## CLASS 2 REMOTE-CONTROL, SIGNALING AND POWER-LIMITED CIRCUITS

way, or similar fitting with conductors of electric light, power, Class 1 and nonpower-limited fire alarm circuits.

### Exceptions:

1. Where the conductors of the electric light, power, Class 1 and nonpower-limited fire alarm circuits are separated by a barrier from the Class 2 circuits. In enclosures, Class 2 circuits shall be permitted to be installed in a raceway within the enclosure to separate them from Class 1, electric light, power and nonpower-limited fire alarm circuits.
2. Class 2 conductors in compartments, enclosures, device boxes, outlet boxes and similar fittings where electric light, power, Class 1 or nonpower-limited fire alarm circuit conductors are introduced solely to connect to the equipment connected to the Class 2 circuits. The electric light, power, Class 1 and nonpower-limited fire alarm circuit conductors shall be routed to maintain a minimum of  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6.4 mm) separation from the conductors and cables of the Class 2 circuits; or the electric light power, Class 1 and nonpower-limited fire alarm circuit conductors operate at 150 volts or less to ground and the Class 2 circuits are installed using Types CL3, CL3R, or CL3P or permitted substitute cables, and provided that these Class 3 cable conductors extending beyond their jacket are separated by a minimum of  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6.4 mm) or by a nonconductive sleeve or nonconductive barrier from all other conductors.

**E4204.2 Other applications.** Conductors of Class 2 circuits shall be separated by not less than 2 inches (51 mm) from conductors of any electric light, power, Class 1 or nonpower-limited fire alarm circuits except where one of the following conditions is met:

1. All of the electric light, power, Class 1 and nonpower-limited fire alarm circuit conductors are in raceways or in metal-sheathed, metal-clad, nonmetallic-sheathed or Type UF cables.
2. All of the Class 2 circuit conductors are in raceways or in metal-sheathed, metal-clad, nonmetallic-sheathed or Type UF cables.

**E4204.3 Class 2 circuits with communications circuits.** Where Class 2 circuit conductors are in the same cable as communications circuits, the Class 2 circuits shall be classified as communications circuits and shall meet the requirements of Article 800 of NFPA 70. The cables shall be listed as communications cables or multipurpose cables.

Cables constructed of individually listed Class 2 and communications cables under a common jacket shall be permitted to be classified as communications cables. The fire-resistance rating of the composite cable shall be determined by the performance of the composite cable.

**E4204.4 Class 2 cables with other circuit cables.** Jacketed cables of Class 2 circuits shall be permitted in the same enclosure or raceway with jacketed cables of any of the following:

1. Power-limited fire alarm systems in compliance with Article 760 of NFPA 70.

2. Nonconductive and conductive optical fiber cables in compliance with Article 770 of NFPA 70.
3. Communications circuits in compliance with Article 800 of NFPA 70.
4. Community antenna television and radio distribution systems in compliance with Article 820 of NFPA 70.
5. Low-power, network-powered broadband communications in compliance with Article 830 of NFPA 70.

**E4204.5 Installation of conductors and cables.** Cables and conductors installed exposed on the surface of ceilings and sidewalls shall be supported by the building structure in such a manner that they will not be damaged by normal building use. Such cables shall be supported by straps, staples, hangers, or similar fittings designed so as to not damage the cable. The installation shall comply with Table E3702.1 regarding cables run parallel with framing members and furring strips. The installation of wires and cables shall not prevent access to equipment nor prevent removal of panels, including suspended ceiling panels. Raceways shall not be used as a means of support for Class 2 circuit conductors, except where the supporting raceway contains conductors supplying power to the functionally associated equipment controlled by the Class 2 conductors.