



Canadian Standards Association
Mississauga, Ontario
To the Part I Committee

Subject No. 3241

Chair: R. Leduc

Date: March 31, 2005

Title: Location of Dry-Core, Open-Ventilated Transformers, Rule 26-248(6)

Submitted by: T. Olechna of Electrical Safety Authority on March 1, 2005.

Proposal: Add the following Subrule (6) in Rule **26-248 Dry-Core, Open-Ventilated Type Transformers**

(6) Dry-type transformers shall be located:

- (a) in a service room conforming to the requirements of the National Building Code of Canada; or
- (b) In a location where not accessible by unqualified individuals

An Appendix B Note should be added which states

To meet the requirement of location that is not accessible to unqualified individuals, mounting the TX at a height where it is not accessible

Reasons for Request:

The use of Dry type transformers has expanded further than just industrial locations. It is not uncommon to find these TX in back rooms of donut shops, retail facilities, etc. There is no requirement to have these TX be in service rooms and therefore accessible to non qualified staff. There was an accident a little while back where an employee removed the front panel of a TX to get keys which fell behind the TX, and the resulting incident was not pretty. Once the panel was removed, the 600 Volt terminals were exposed.

Chair's Comments:

In responding to this proposal, members should consider the impact it may have on other electrical equipment often located in public areas and accessible to unauthorized activity. SC members may want to examine the question as to what extent the code should be expected to anticipate and govern unintended activity?

Subcommittee Deliberations

10 members responded to the online survey seeking their thoughts on the proposal. Only 2 members agreed and 8 disagreed with the proposal. The comments are summarized as follows:

- Literally millions of installations with only the submitter's record of an incident.

- The Part II std has requirements to minimize contact with live parts with requirements for the use of a tool to remove covers.
- Accident was not the result of equipment or installation shortcomings but rather one of negligence.
- Unnecessary cost.
- The environment was safe... the person involved was negligent.
- The product standard considers the potential for unqualified persons around equipment and takes appropriate action to minimize risks.

Chair's Comments (final):

The Chair declares consensus for the following:

Subcommittee Recommendation:

Reject the proposal and close the subject.