

South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation
Division of Labor
Office of Occupational Safety and Health
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

OSH Program Directive Number 81-1910.305-1

Subject: Splicing and Tapping of Flexible Cords and Cables in Accordance with Article VI, Section 1910.305.

Standard: Article VI, Section 1910.305 (g) (2) (ii), Rules and Regulations, Commissioner of Labor, State of South Carolina.

Cross Reference to Federal Standards: 29 CFR 1910.305 (g) (2) (ii).

Background: This directive clarifies the use of splices and taps for flexible cords and cables. This directive replaces OSH Program Directive number 74-1910.309-5 (REVISED).

Interpretation: Section 1910.305 (g) (1) (i) states that flexible cords and cables may be used only for:

- a. Pendants;
- b. Wiring of fixtures;
- c. Connection of portable lamps or appliances;
- d. Elevator cables;
- e. Wiring of cranes and hoists;
- f. Connection of stationary equipment to facilitate their frequency interchange;
- g. Prevention of the transmission of noise or vibration;
- h. Appliances where the fastening means and mechanical connections are designed to permit removal for maintenance or repair; or
- i. Data process cables approved as a part of the data processing system.

1. In the initial field usage and installation of flexible cords as listed in a. through i. above, the splicing or tapping of such flexible cords is not permitted. Section 1910.305 (g) (2) (ii) which states; "Splices. Flexible cord shall be used only in continuous lengths without splice or tap. The repair of hard-service flexible cords No. 12 and larger may be repaired if spliced so that the splice retains the insulation, other sheath properties, and usage characteristics of the cord being spliced."

2. The intent of this section is to permit the splicing and tapping of only hard-service flexible cords No. 12 and larger when made in accordance with the provisions of Section 1910.303 (c) which states; “Splices. Conductors shall be spliced or joined with splicing devices suitable for the use or by brazing, welding, or soldering with a fusible metal or alloy. Soldered splices shall first be so spliced or joined as to be mechanically and electrically secure without solder and then soldered. All splices and joints and the free ends of conductors shall be covered with an insulation equivalent to that of the conductors or with an insulating device suitable for the purpose.”

Effective Date: This instruction is effective upon receipt and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded by amendment to the Rules and Regulations.

William M. Lybrand, Director
June 12, 1981