



WOODWORKING FACILITIES

- Pursuant to many requests from school districts, the State Electrical Board has reviewed the requirements of the National Electrical Code, which indicate that woodworking facilities should be classified as Class III, Division 1 locations.
- In an effort to maintain the standards, which provide for the efficient and practical safeguarding of life and property, and provide a rational approach to the situation, the Electrical Board has ruled that standard wiring methods may be permitted in these locations when documentation is presented to the Board for consideration and approval. This documentation must be submitted in writing. A Variance Request form must be submitted to the Board and be accompanied by the following items:
 - a. A list of all equipment to be installed. The equipment must be tested and approved for the purpose by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
 - b. Approved and adequate dust collection systems must be installed for each dust producing tool, such as saws and sanders.
 - c. Documentation of a preventative maintenance program and a planned housekeeping schedule for the woodworking facility.
 - d. Written acceptance of the change in classification from the local fire authority.
- See NFPA 70 Articles 500.5A, 500.5C2, 500.5D, 503.125 Exc., 503.145 Exc.; NFPA 499 Sect. 5.4.1
- Inspectors should perform follow-up inspections, when time permits, to assure continued compliance with the preventative maintenance and planned housekeeping program.
- If the above-listed criteria are not met, the installation must conform to the National Electrical Code requirements for a Class III, Division 1 location.
- Variance Request forms are available on the website.

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