



**GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE NATIONAL
ELECTRICAL CODE (NEC) BALLAST DISCONNECT (BD)
REQUIREMENT FOR FLUORESCENT FIXTURES**
REFERENCE: NEC Article 410.73 (G) (2005 Addition)
Revised February 2, 2010

The following information reflects H.E. Williams' current understanding and effort to comply with the NEC Fluorescent Ballast Disconnect Requirement. We will make every attempt to keep you updated as details and specifics are further clarified and revised.

NEC Required Implementation Date: January 1, 2008

GENERAL GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION:

- H.E. Williams' fixtures are listed by various recognized testing laboratories (UL/CUL/CSA/ETL, etc.).
- Some of these entities have not issued any specific guidelines or instructions as to whether the BD(s) are to be factory installed or if they may be field installed.
- None of the devices accept stranded wire (all flexible cords use stranded wire).

OUR POSITION

- BD(s) will be factory installed in all fluorescent fixtures using double ended fluorescent lamps (except for fixtures equipped with "EM" battery packs) effective 12/3/2007. Fixture catalog number will contain the designation of "BD" within it. (Example: 76-4-232-**BD**-EB2-UNV.)
- Fixtures equipped with "EM" battery packs are exempt from the NEC requirement and will not have a "BD" factory installed.
- Fixtures which operate "compact fluorescent (single ended) lamps" are also exempt from the NEC requirement. BD(s) will **only** be factory installed in these fixtures **when specified on purchase order**. (Example: DIG-S22-240TT-WPR-**BD**-EB2-UNV.)
- We will install one single-circuit BD per ballast, except for two-level switched ballast(s) which will use a two-circuit BD.
- Fixtures will be labeled "Ballast Disconnect" adjacent to the BD.
- Fixtures with quick-wire access plates will have BD(s) located at access plate.
- Fixtures incorporating flexible cord, cord and plug, flex and leads, modular wiring devices, quick-connect wiring harness, etc., will have BD(s) located at point of connection to the device.
- Low voltage control wires of dimming ballasts(s) will not be connected to BD.
- Fixture ground wires or ground wires from ballasts(s) (where applicable) to fixture housing will not be connected to BD(s).