



Safety Measures ^{ELECTRICAL}

“Elimination is the first priority!
Ensure a risk assessment is completed before energized work tasks are completed.”

CSA Z462 7th Edition: Potential Updates And Changes Ahead

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The evolution of the CSA Z462 Workplace electrical safety Standard (CSA Z462) will continue with the anticipated changes and updates in the 7th Edition that will be published in January of 2027. It is anticipated that CSA Z462 will continue to diverge in some of its content from the NFPA 70E Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace, 2027 Edition that at its earliest will publish in June or July of 2026. CSA Z462, 7th Edition may include some of the independent changes or updates to NFPA 70E.

In the CSA Z462 2024 6th Edition significant technical

changes were implemented that were not adopted into NFPA 70E. The term “arc flash PPE category” was completely deleted from CSA Z462 to clarify that arc flash PPE is only specified with an Arc Thermal Performance Value (ATPV) in cal/cm^2 , never with an HRC #, Level letter or CAT #. Additional work task exemptions were added with respect to the Energized Electrical Work Permit (EEWP) and the renamed arc flash PPE selection tables, Table 6A and Table 6B have been relocated to normative Annex V and renamed to Table V.2 and Table V.3. Table 6C the table that converted an arc flash PPE category # to

a minimum arc rating of arc flash PPE was deleted.

The following changes and updates may potentially be included in the 2027, 7th Edition of CSA Z462. You are advised to purchase and confirm specific information in the published 7th Edition in January 2027:

Potential global change, changing the work “risks” to “risk” to clarify that CSA Z462 includes content to evaluate risk not “risks.”

Clause 3 Definitions

Some definitions may have wording changes or additions: avoid contact, electrically safe work condition, “hazard, arc blast (as applied to capacitors),” “hazard, electrical” and qualified person.

Clause 4 Safety-Related Work Practices

Clause 4.1 General requirements for electrical safety-related work practices and procedures

Possible changes and updates to Clause 4.1.7.3 Condition of maintenance (Note added pointing to Clause 5, which also provides a reference to CSA Z463 Maintenance of electrical systems Standard, NFPA 70B Standard for Electrical Equipment Maintenance, ANSI/NETA MTS and IEEE 3007.2); Clause 4.1.8.1.5 Type of training (Note added to reference CSA Z1001 with respect to design of training and evaluating, selecting and auditing trainers); Clause 4.1.8.3.2 Emergency response, first aid, and resuscitation (updated the Clause name and included new content related to electrical incident emergency response); Clause 4.1.9.1.2 Documentation (add wording that host shall document interaction with contractor); Clause 4.1.12.1 Maintenance handling and storage; Clause 4.1.12.3 Visual inspection and repair of portable cord-and-plug-connected equipment and flexible cord sets (adding

content to clarify repair of damaged cords).

Potential new Clauses may include Clause 4.1.7.12 PPE service life audit (new content with respect to formal in use audit/inspection of electric shock and arc flash PPE and evaluation of service life); Clause 4.1.7.13 Emergency response program (new content that employer’s emergency response program shall include electrical incident specific requirements); Clause 4.1.8.1.4 Ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) training; and Clause 4.1.7.8.2.2 Additional person (highlighting when a second person may be required as an Electrical Safety Watch).

Clause 4.2 Establishing an electrically safe work condition

Potential changes and updates to Clause 4.2.5 Process for establishing and verifying an electrically safe work condition (add a list item under Item G before the Exceptions, testing for absence of voltage: ensure approved test instrument, verify the operation of the test instrument before use, the difference between testing for absence on ac and dc electrical equipment and to verify the operation of the test instrument after it is used to measure zero voltage), change the title of Clause 4.2.5 to “Procedure to establish an electrically safe work condition.”

Updates and additions to Clause 4.2.6.5 Inspection with respect to temporary protective grounding equipment (inspection at least every 12 months, testing interval as service conditions require, and storage).

A significant deletion referenced in Clause 4.2 is Annex G Sample lockout policy and program and sample general lockout procedure (individual lockout). The justification is that this material is extracted from CSA Z460 Control of hazardous energy – lockout and other methods Standard (CSA Z460) and is repetitive, and may not remain current with the source material. Users of CSA Z462 can reference CSA Z460.

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