



National Electric Code (NEC®) Updates

NFPA 70 - Changes in Surge Protection Requirements

NEC 2020

230.67 (A)

All services supplying dwelling units

230.67 (B)

The SPD shall be an integral part of the service equipment or located immediately adjacent

230.67 (C)

Shall be Type 1 or Type 2

230.67 (D)

Where service equipment is replaced, all of the requirements of this section shall apply

240.21 (B)

Taps not over 3m (10ft) long

230.71 (A)

Shall not be considered a service disconnecting means: (2) Surge protective device(s)

Residential Dwellings and Tap Length <10ft

National Electric Code 2020 changes in the U.S. have been released, and many of them have far-reaching impacts, particularly for specifiers, contractors and those who support them. Every three years, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) collaborates with industry experts to update the NEC based on new standards in electrical safety and advances in electrical design and technology. These efforts reduce hazards such as shock, arc flash and arc blast. Buildings and people are safer because of the NEC.

Surge Protection is covered in section 230.67 of the 2020 NEC code. It now requires either Type 1 or Type 2 surge protection for services supplying all dwelling units, including single and multi-family residences. Surge protection devices must be located within the service equipment or adjacent to it. To keep the surge protection closer to the protected loads, particularly in a multi-family unit, consider installing a device at each load center or panelboard.

This 2020 NEC code change was designed to safeguard vital safety-focused electronics in a household, such as GFCI devices, smoke alarms, and heat detectors. Contact your local Square D office or Regional Product Specialist to discuss the best solutions for your specific application.

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NEC® 2020 – Article 230.76 for Residential & Multi Family

In order to meet the new NEC 2020 surge protection requirements, Square D offers three options:

- 1** The first, and most cost effective solution, is to field install a Square D SDSA3650 using the MMSAMK mounting kit, which is UL listed for installation within the EZM Main Device. This provides 40kA/phase of surge protection with a 200kAIC SCCR and meets the minimum NEC code requirements.
- 2** A second, and more robust option, is to install a Square D EMA, which is available in a NEMA 4X enclosure for outdoor applications, with an integral disconnect for serviceability. Connect via a Tap Box, part number EZM3225TB for three phase systems or EZM1225TB for single phase. This solution offers up to 480kA/phase for ultimate protection.
- 3** The third, and most comprehensive option, is to install an SPD device in each tenant load center, which provides surge protection for every individual residential panel. For Square D load centers, choose the appropriate Surgebreaker™ for installation within the panel.

Contact your local Square D office or Surge regional product specialist to discuss the best option for your unique project requirements.



EZM Main & Meter-Pak Meter Center



EZM3225TB or EZM1225TB

3 Surgebreaker™ for Residential Load Centers



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