

N Audio Signal Processing Equipment (Audio Equipment). Electrically operated equipment that produces, processes, or both, electronic signals that, when appropriately amplified and reproduced by a loudspeaker, produce an acoustic signal within the range of normal human hearing (typically 20–20 kHz). Within Article 640, the terms equipment and audio equipment are assumed to be equivalent to audio signal processing equipment. (640) (CMP-12)

Informational Note: This equipment includes, but is not limited to, loudspeakers; headphones; pre-amplifiers; microphones and their power supplies; mixers; MIDI (musical instrument digital interface) equipment or other digital control systems; equalizers, compressors, and other audio signal processing equipment; and audio media recording and playback equipment, including turntables, tape decks and disk players (audio and multimedia), synthesizers, tone generators, and electronic organs. Electronic organs and synthesizers may have integral or separate amplification and loudspeakers. With the exception of amplifier outputs, virtually all such equipment is used to process signals (using analog or digital techniques) that have nonhazardous levels of voltage or current.

The definition of the term *audio signal processing equipment* clarifies the limits of signal processing (frequency bandwidth), which falls under Article 640.

“MIDI (musical instrument digital interface) equipment or other digital control systems” is mentioned specifically because, while MIDI or similar digital control signals may come from an electronic musical instrument, such signals also can be produced by a computer.

N Audio System. The totality of all equipment and interconnecting wiring used to fabricate a fully functional audio signal processing, amplification, and reproduction system. (640) (CMP-12)

N Audio Transformer. A transformer with two or more electrically isolated windings and multiple taps intended for use with an amplifier loudspeaker signal output. (640) (CMP-12)

Audio transformers are intended only for use with audio signals, not light and power.

Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). An organization, office, or individual responsible for enforcing the requirements of a code or standard, or for approving equipment, materials, an installation, or a procedure. (CMP-1)

Informational Note: The phrase “authority having jurisdiction,” or its acronym AHJ, is used in NFPA documents in a broad manner, since jurisdictions and approval agencies vary, as do their responsibilities. Where public safety is primary, the authority having jurisdiction may be a federal, state, local, or other regional department or individual such as a fire chief; fire marshal; chief of a fire prevention bureau, labor department, or health department; building official; electrical inspector; or others having statutory authority. For insurance purposes, an insurance inspection department, rating bureau, or other insurance company representative may be the authority having jurisdiction. In many circumstances, the property owner or his or her designated agent assumes the role of the authority having jurisdiction; at government installations,

the commanding officer or departmental official may be the authority having jurisdiction.

In the North American safety system, the importance of the AHJ’s role cannot be overstated. The AHJ verifies that an installation complies with the *NEC*. See the definition of *approved*.

See also

90.4, 90.7, 110.2, and 110.3 for more information on inspection, approval, and listing

Automatic. Performing a function without the necessity of human intervention. (CMP-1)

Δ Bathroom. An area including a sink with one or more of the following: a toilet, a urinal, a tub, a shower, a bidet, or similar plumbing fixtures. (CMP-2)

N Battery. A single cell or a group of cells connected together electrically in series, in parallel, or a combination of both. (CMP-13)

N Battery, Flow. (Flow Battery) An energy storage component that stores its active materials in the form of one or two electrolytes external to the reactor interface. When in use, the electrolytes are transferred between reactor and storage tanks. (706) (CMP-13)

Informational Note: Three commercially available flow battery technologies are zinc air, zinc bromine, and vanadium redox, sometimes referred to as *pumped electrolyte ESS*.

N Battery, Sealed. (Sealed Battery) A battery that has no provision for the routine addition of water or electrolyte or for external measurement of electrolyte specific gravity and might contain pressure relief venting. (CMP-13)

N Battery, Stationary Standby. (Stationary Standby Battery) A battery that spends the majority of the time on continuous float charge or in a high state of charge, in readiness for a discharge event. (CMP-13)

Informational Note: Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) batteries are an example that falls under this definition.

N Battery-Powered Lighting Units. Individual unit equipment for backup illumination consisting of a rechargeable battery; a battery-charging means; provisions for one or more lamps mounted on the equipment, or with terminals for remote lamps, or both; and a relaying device arranged to energize the lamps automatically upon failure of the supply to the unit equipment. (517) (CMP-15)

N Berth. The water space to be occupied by a boat or other vessel alongside or between bulkheads, piers, piles, fixed and floating docks, or any similar access structure. [303:3.3.2] (555) (CMP-7)

Informational Note: See the definition of *Slip* for additional information.

N Bipolar Circuit. A dc circuit that is comprised of two monopole circuits, each having an opposite polarity connected to a common reference point. (CMP-4)