

- (1) Name of manufacturer
- (2) Rated kilovolt-amperes
- (3) Frequency
- (4) Primary and secondary voltage
- (5) Impedance of transformers 25 kVA and larger
- (6) Required clearances for transformers with ventilating openings
- (7) Amount and kind of insulating liquid where used
- (8) For dry-type transformers, temperature class for the insulation system

**(B) Source Marking.** A transformer shall be permitted to be supplied at the marked secondary voltage, provided that the installation is in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Not all transformers are designed to be backfed. Transformers are typically designed and evaluated with the supply on the primary side and the load on the secondary side. Backfeeding is permitted only when the manufacturer indicates so in the instructions.

**450.12 Terminal Wiring Space.** The minimum wire-bending space at fixed, 1000-volt and below terminals of transformer line and load connections shall be as required in 312.6. Wiring space for pigtail connections shall conform to Table 314.16(B)(1).

**450.13 Accessibility.** All transformers and transformer vaults shall be readily accessible to qualified personnel for inspection and maintenance or shall meet the requirements of 450.13(A) or 450.13(B).

Transformers are not accessible if wiring methods, or other equipment, obstruct access by a worker or prevent removal of the covers for inspection or maintenance. Practical clearance considerations required for removal and replacement of the transformer are also important.

**(A) Open Installations.** Dry-type transformers 1000 volts, nominal, or less, located in the open on walls, columns, or structures, shall not be required to be readily accessible.

**(B) Hollow Space Installations.** Dry-type transformers 1000 volts, nominal, or less and not exceeding 50 kVA shall be permitted in hollow spaces of buildings not permanently closed in by structure, provided they meet the ventilation requirements of 450.9 and separation from combustible materials requirements of 450.21(A). Transformers so installed shall not be required to be readily accessible.

Transformers are permitted by 300.22(C)(3) to be installed in hollow spaces where the space is used for environmental air, provided the transformer is in a metal enclosure (ventilated or non-ventilated) and the transformer is suitable for the ambient air temperature within the hollow space.

**450.14 Disconnecting Means.** Transformers, other than Class 2 or Class 3 transformers, shall have a disconnecting means located

either in sight of the transformer or in a remote location. Where located in a remote location, the disconnecting means shall be lockable open in accordance with 110.25, and its location shall be field marked on the transformer.

The requirement for a disconnecting means is especially important in installations utilizing the requirements of 240.21(B)(3) where several transformers in different locations could all be tapped from one feeder, and it would be impractical to de-energize the feeder to work on one of the transformers. The disconnect is required to be located within sight from the transformer but may be in a remote location if it is lockable. The location of any remote disconnect is required to be marked on the transformer.

## Part II. Installation

### 450.21 Dry-Type Transformers Installed Indoors.

**(A) Not Over 112½ kVA.** Dry-type transformers installed indoors and rated 112½ kVA or less shall have a separation of at least 300 mm (12 in.) from combustible material unless separated from the combustible material by a fire-resistant, heat-insulated barrier.

*Exception: This rule shall not apply to transformers rated for 1000 volts, nominal, or less that are completely enclosed, except for ventilating openings.*

**(B) Over 112½ kVA.** Individual dry-type transformers of more than 112½ kVA rating shall be installed in a transformer room of fire-resistant construction having a minimum fire rating of 1 hour.

*Exception No. 1: Transformers with Class 155 or higher insulation systems and separated from combustible material by a fire-resistant, heat-insulating barrier or by not less than 1.83 m (6 ft) horizontally and 3.7 m (12 ft) vertically shall not be required to be installed in a transformer room.*

*Exception No. 2: Transformers with Class 155 or higher insulation systems and completely enclosed except for ventilating openings shall not be required to be installed in a transformer room.*

**Informational Note:** See ASTM E119-18a, *Standard Test Methods for Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials*, for additional information on fire-resistance ratings.

Dry-type transformers with a Class 155 or higher insulation system rating are not required to be installed in transformer rooms or vaults if space separation or a fire-resistant heat-insulating barrier is provided. Although these units are designed for higher operating temperatures, the need for a transformer vault is mitigated by the fire-resistant characteristics of high-temperature insulations.

Further information on specific transformer class insulation systems may be found in UL 1561, *Dry-Type General Purpose and Power Transformers*.