

**NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
1202 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1202
919-661-5880**

Non-Metallic Conduit Subject to Physical Damage

Code: 2008 Electrical Code

Date: July 1, 2009

Section: 300.5(D)(1) and (4)

Question:

When is Schedule 80 non-metallic conduit required and Schedule 40 not permitted for certain installations?

Answer:

Rigid polyvinyl chloride (PVC) under Article 352 of the State Electrical Code lists conditions by which PVC conduit may be used. Section 352.12(C) prohibits PVC for installations where “subject to physical damage” unless identified for such use. Schedule 40 conduit is listed for use where not subject to physical damage. Schedule 80 specifically is identified for use where exposed to physical damage.

Note: Whether equipment and materials are subject to physical damage is a situation that must be determined by the Authority Having Jurisdiction responsible for inspecting that particular installation. Variables of conditions may be extremely different at each site restricting a specific definition of what may constitute an electrical system component being “subject to physical damage”.

Keywords:

conduits, raceways