

**NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
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Guard Requirements for Rooftop HVAC Equipment

Code: 2012 Mechanical Code
Section: 304.11

Date: September 1, 2011

Question:

Are new guards required to be installed when replacing existing rooftop HVAC equipment in the same location with new equipment and no guards are present and none were required when the equipment was originally installed?

Answer:

No, the requirements for guards for existing equipment locations is governed by the code that was in effect at the time of the initial installation of the existing HVAC equipment. If existing equipment is replaced with new equipment in the same location, the location is unchanged and the requirements for guards continue to be dictated by the requirements of the prior code. If the new equipment is relocated to a different location, then the requirements for guards shall be as required by Section 304.11.

Keywords:
replacement