



Berry Bros. General Contractors, Inc.
1414 River Rd.
Berwick, LA 70342

Date: 02-18-09

Section # 06

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**(HSE) Health, Safety & Environmental
Policies and Procedures Manual**

Doc # SWP 06

Approver: Joe Berry

Revision: 2

Assured Grounding Program

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SUBPART A - PURPOSE AND INTENT

With the wide use of portable electrical tools on construction sites as well as jobsites, the use of flexible extension cords often become necessary. Hazards are created when extension cords, connectors, receptacles, etc. are improperly used and maintained.

OSHA ground-fault protection rules and regulations have been deemed necessary for employee safety and health. Therefore, it is the employer’s responsibility to provide either:

- GFCI’s on job sites for receptacle outlets in use and not part of the permanent wiring of the building or structure or
- A scheduled and recorded assured equipment grounding conductor program on jobsites, covering all cord sets, receptacles which are not part of the permanent wiring of the building or structure, and equipment connected by cord and plug which are available for use by employees

As such BBGCI has opted to use GFCI’s in lieu of implementing and Assured Equipment Grounding Conductor Program (AEGCP). BBGCI will provide approved GFCI’s for all 120-volt, single phase, 15 and 20 ampere receptacle outlets on construction and jobsites which are not a part of the permanent wiring of the building or structure and which are in use by employees, shall have approved ground-fault circuit interrupters for personnel protection. Receptacles on a two-wire, single-phase portable or vehicle-mounted generator rated not more the 5kW, where the circuit conductors of the generator are insulated from the generator frame and all other grounded surface, need not be protected with ground-fault circuit interrupters.



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SUBPART B – DEFINITION

A GFCI is a fast-acting circuit breaker that sense small imbalances in the circuit caused by current leakage to ground and in a fraction of a second, shuts off the electricity. The GFCI, however; does not protect from line-to-line contact hazards such as a worker holding two hot wires or a hot and a neutral wire in each hand. It does however protect from the most common form of electrical shock hazard that of ground fault, and protects against fires, overheating, and destruction of insulation on wiring.

SUBPART C - GENERAL

GFCI's can be used successfully to reduce electrical hazards on construction and jobsites. "Tripping" of GFCI's interrupts current flow is sometimes caused by wet connectors and tools. It is a good practice to limit exposure of connectors and tools to excessive moisture by using watertight or sealable connectors. Providing more GFCI's or shorter circuits can prevent tripping by the cumulative leakage from several tools or by leakages from extremely long circuits.

SUBPART D – OTHER WAYS TO PREVENT ELECTRICAL INJURY

Insulation and grounding are two other means of preventing injury during electrical equipment operation. Conductor insulation may be provided by placing nonconductive material such as plastic around the conductor (use of double insulated electrical tools/equipment). Grounding may also be achieved through the use of a direct connection to a known ground such as a metal.

SUBPART E - RESPONSIBILITIES

It will be BBGCI's responsibility to provide GFCI receptacles for use with all portable electrical tools.
It will be the crew leaders and employee's responsibility to make sure the GFCI's are in good working order and not damaged. When damaged they shall be taken out of service / destroyed and replaced immediately.

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