

## STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-12-99

February 11, 1999

### Section 300-11(a), 1993 National Electrical Code

**Question 1:** “Is it permissible to support EMT or rigid metal conduit on a single support wire secured only to the underside of the floor deck with no lateral support at the bottom?”

**Answer 1:** The 1993 National Electrical Code, Section 300-11(a), Secured in Place, states: “Raceways, cables assemblies, boxes, cabinets, and fittings shall be securely fastened in place. Support wires that do not provide secure support shall not be permitted as the sole support.” The support wires would have to be secured to the underside of the floor deck and the ceiling grid to prevent movement of the raceways and junction boxes, which could result in loss of grounding continuity and damage to the wiring raceway at the couplings and connectors at the junction boxes.

**Question 2:** “Is it permissible to support junction boxes, above a suspended ceiling, that are attached to a support wire which is secured solely at the underside of the floor deck?”

**Answer 2:** No. See answer #1.

**Question 3:** “Are the junction boxes shown in Diagram “B” rigidly and securely fastened as required by Section 370-23 – Supports?”

**Answer 3:** Diagram “B” indicates that the box is supported by a support wire. This installation would be in violation of Section 300-11(a).

**Question 4:** “Do support wires shown in Diagram “B” provide rigid support as required by Section 370-23(b) – Structural mounting?”

**Answer 4:** No. The code language in the last sentence of Section 370-23(b) is redundant of Section 300-11(a).