

1.3 DEFINITIONS

accessible (switchboards): Not permanently closed in by the section structure and capable of being inspected and maintained, through access plates or doors, without disturbing switchboard section structure.

This is not intended to imply that the switchboard should be maintained while energized. There is danger due to hazardous voltage and exposed electrical conductors which will result in electric shock, burn, or explosion. Before performing any maintenance operations, turn off all power supplying the switchboard. Check the voltage of all incoming line terminals to positively ascertain that the equipment is totally de-energized. Failure to do so will result in electric shock, severe personal injury, or death.

accessible, front: : An enclosure in which incoming and outgoing field termination points are accessible from the front. Other connections shall be permitted to be rear or side accessible. If necessary, a limited number of barriers or covers shall be permitted to be removed to achieve this accessibility.

accessible, rear: An enclosure in which all incoming and outgoing field termination points are accessible from the rear. Other connections shall be permitted to be front or side accessible. If necessary, a limited number of barriers or covers shall be permitted to be removed to achieve this accessibility.

ambient temperature: The temperature of the air or other medium where the equipment is to be used.

ampacity: The current in amperes a conductor can carry continuously under the conditions of use without exceeding its temperature rating.

asymmetrical current: An alternating current having a waveform which is offset with respect to the zero axis due to a transient condition. The offset occurs at the initiation of a short circuit or other change in current. The offset usually decays quickly until steady-state conditions are reached and the current becomes symmetrical. Asymmetrical current is composed of the symmetrical and direct current components. It is expressed in rms total amperes or rms asymmetrical amperes at a specific time (normally $1/2$ cycle) after initiation of a short circuit or other change in current.

auxiliary section: A section other than the main, distribution, or combination section.

available short circuit current: The maximum current in rms symmetrical amperes which a circuit is capable of delivering to the line terminals of the equipment.

barrier: A partition for the insulation or isolation of electric circuits or electric arcs.

bonding: The permanent joining of metallic parts to form an electrically conductive path that will assure electrical continuity and the capacity to conduct safely any current likely to be imposed.

bonding jumper: A reliable conductor to assure the required electrical conductivity between metal parts required to be electrically connected.

bonding screw: A screw that is used as a bonding jumper or to attach a bonding jumper to a metal part of a grounding circuit.

branch circuit device: The final overcurrent device protecting a circuit.

bus: A conductor, or group of conductors, that serves as a common connection for two or more circuits.

bus, branch: A bus that usually originates at a section bus and terminates in one or more overcurrent devices.