ANSI/NEMA OS 1-2013 (R2020)

Sheet-Steel Outlet Boxes, Device Boxes, Covers, and Box Supports

Published by

National Electrical Manufacturers Association
1300 North 17th Street, Suite 900
Rosslyn, VA 22209

www.nema.org

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Note: This foreword is not part of this standard. It is merely informative and does not contain requirements necessary for conformance to the standard. It has not been processed according to the ANSI requirements for a standard and may contain material that has not been subject to public review or a consensus process. Unresolved objectors on informative material are not offered the right to appeal at NEMA or ANSI.

FOREWORD

The purpose of this standards publication is to provide a guide to the types and sizes of metal outlet boxes, and supports for general use or suggested for future design or both. The standards present dimensional data needed for the safety and convenience of interchangeability with associated equipment. All items when properly installed and properly used contribute to safety.

Properly manufactured boxes and covers are, however, only one factor in minimizing the hazards, which may be associated with the use of electricity. The reduction of hazard involves the joint efforts of the various equipment manufacturers, the system designer, the installer, and user. Information is provided herein to assist users and others in the proper selection of boxes and covers.

The manufacturer has limited or no control over the following factors which are vital to a safe installation:

a. Environmental conditions
b. System design
c. Equipment selection and application
d. Installation
e. Operating practices
f. Maintenance

This publication is not intended to instruct the user of the boxes and covers with regard to these factors except insofar as suitable equipment to meet needs can be recognized in this publication.

These standards are necessarily limited to defining the construction requirements for the products covered herein. The publication has been promulgated with a view towards reducing the hazard to persons and property when boxes and covers conforming to these standards are properly selected and installed in accordance with the *National Electrical Code*®.

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This standards publication has been reviewed with input obtained from independent testing laboratories and major consumer representatives.

This is a reaffirmation of NEMA OS 1 - 2013. OS 1-2013 revises and supersedes OS 1-2008 and its revision OS 1-2008 (R2010).

User needs have been considered throughout the development of this publication. The standard is reviewed periodically by NEMA Outlet and Switch Box Section so that it will be kept up to date with advancing technology. Proposed or recommended revisions should be submitted to.

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This Standards publication was developed by the NEMA Outlet and Switch Box Section. Section approval of the Standard does not necessarily imply that all section members voted for its approval or participated in its development. At the time it was approved, the Outlet and Switch Box Section was composed of the following members:

ABB, Inc.	Memphis, TN
Allied Moulded Products, Inc.	Bryan, OH
Arlington Industries, Inc.	Scranton, PA
Eaton	Cleveland, OH
Emerson	Saint Louis, MO
Hotwire, LLC	Virginia Beach, VA
Hubbell Incorporated	Shelton, CT
IPEX USA, LLC	Pineville, NC
Legrand, North America	West Hartford, CT
Madison Electric Products	Bedford Heights, OH
nVent	St. Louis Park, MN
Sigma Electric Manufacturing Corporation	Garner, NC
Titan3 Technology LLC	Tempe, AZ

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Section 1

GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

This standards publication covers those general-purpose metal outlet boxes, device boxes, covers, and supports that are widely used by the consumer. These items (covered by UL 514A) are designed to facilitate the pulling of wires, to protect and facilitate wiring splices and taps, to provide a means of mounting and protecting wiring devices, and to provide a connection for rigid conduit, electrical metallic tubing, armored cable, metal clad cable, nonmetallic sheathed cable, flexible metallic conduit and knob- and-tube wiring systems.

This standard provides useful guidance for design and performance of certain aspects of metallic floor boxes.

Excluded from this standards publication are the following: “conduit bodies” and similar types of boxes; cabinets or cutout boxes; pull boxes; floor boxes; flush device plates; boxes, plates and covers designed for use with surface metal raceway systems only; and boxes larger than 1650 cubic cm (100 cubic in.) in volume except multiple gang device boxes.