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*Wire Insulation Colors for Lighting  
Systems*

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## Foreword

This Standards publication was developed to address the changes to the National Fire Protection Association *National Electrical Code*® 2020 version (NEC-20), specifically section 410.69, “Identification of Control Conductor Insulation.” The updated NEC-20 **did not** specify colors to be used for various dimming and other purposes; rather, it clarified that any of the reserved colors cannot be used. This change impacted the previous generally accepted practice of using gray-colored conductor insulation for the negative connection of 0-10V analog dimming controls; gray-colored conductors are otherwise reserved.

This document is not intended to specify the only wiring choices for connecting lighting controls. As of the publication date of this document, the wire color specifications will be addressed in expected revisions to Standards such as ANSI C137.1, ANSI C136.41, IEC 62386-101, etc. The industry has acknowledged, through the publication of NEMA Engineering Bulletin #119, that pink color can be used to replace the gray-colored conductor.

In the preparation of this Standards publication, the input of users and other interested parties has been sought and evaluated. Inquiries, comments, and proposed or recommended revisions should be submitted to the Indoor Lighting Equipment Subdivision of NEMA by contacting:

NEMA Technical Director Operations  
National Electrical Manufacturers Association  
1300 North 17th Street  
Rosslyn, Virginia 22209

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This Standard was developed by the Lighting Systems Division through joint efforts of the Luminaire, Lighting Controls, and Ballast & Driver Sections, building on initial efforts coordinated through a Joint Section NEMA committee including the Wire & Cable Section. Section approval of the Standard does not necessarily imply that all section Members voted for its approval or participated in its development.

## **1. General**

### **1.1. Scope**

This Standard specifies a visual reference for the violet, pink, and red colors of the wire insulation supplied with luminaires, controls, ballasts, drivers, and other devices that are part of a lighting system. This Standard could also be used for related components such as wire terminals, wire connectors, and terminal blocks for field connection of wires.

The Standard is not intended to address branch circuit, distribution, cabling, control conductors contained in the cabling, or other general-purpose wiring not associated with the scoped products. In addition, this Standard shall not be interpreted to provide adequate guidance for color matching but rather to provide a visual color reference.