(g) Grounded conductor. An overcurrent device must not be in a permanently grounded conductor, except:

(1) An overcurrent device that simultaneously opens all conductors of the circuit, unless prohibited by §111.05–17 for the bus-tie feeder connecting the emergency and main switchboards; and


§ 111.50–5 Location of overcurrent protective devices.

(a) Location in circuit. Overcurrent devices must be at the point where the conductor to be protected receives its supply, except as follows:

(1) The generator overcurrent protective device must be on the ship’s service generator switchboard. (See §111.12–11(g) for additional requirements.)

(2) The overcurrent protection for the shore connection conductors must meet §111.30–25.

(3) If the overcurrent device that protects the larger conductors also protects the smaller conductors, an overcurrent device is not required at the supply to the smaller conductors.

(4) If the overcurrent device protecting the primary side of a single phase transformer (two wire with single-voltage secondary) also protects the conductors connected to the secondary side, as determined by multiplying the current-carrying capacity of the secondary conductor by the secondary to primary transformer voltage ratio, and this protection meets §111.20–15 of this chapter, an overcurrent device is not required at the supply to the secondary side conductors.

(b) Location on vessel. Each overcurrent device:

(1) Must be:

(i) Readily accessible; and

(ii) In a distribution panelboard, switchboard, motor controller, or similar enclosure; and

(2) Must not be:

(i) Exposed to mechanical damage; and

(ii) Near an easily ignitable material or where explosive gas or vapor may accumulate.

§ 111.50–7 Enclosures.

(a) Each enclosure of an overcurrent protective device must meet Sections 240–30 and 240–33 of NFPA NEC 2002 (incorporated by reference; see 46 CFR 110.10–1).

(b) No enclosure may be exposed to the weather unless accepted by the Commandant.


§ 111.50–9 Disconnecting and guarding.

Disconnecting and guarding of overcurrent protective devices must meet Part IV of Article 240 of NFPA NEC 2002 (incorporated by reference; see 46 CFR 110.10–1).


Subpart 111.51—Coordination of Overcurrent Protective Devices

§ 111.51–1 Purpose.

The purpose of this subpart is to provide continuity of service for equipment vital to the propulsion, control or safety of the vessel under short-circuit conditions through coordination and selective operation of overcurrent protective devices.

§ 111.51–3 Protection of vital equipment.

(a) The coordination of overcurrent protective devices must be demonstrated for all potential plant configurations.

(b) Overcurrent protective devices must be installed so that:

(1) A short-circuit on a circuit that is not vital to the propulsion, control, or safety of the vessel does not trip equipment that is vital; and

(2) A short-circuit on a circuit that is vital to the propulsion, control, or safety of the vessel is cleared only by the protective device that is closest to the point of the short-circuit.