

STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-68-00

November 13, 2000

The following is offered in response to your letter in which you request an interpretation of the provisions of Table 300-5 of the 1999 National Electrical Code portion of the 1999 State Building Code.

Question: Non-metallic conduit (schedule 40 PVC) is located under an exterior 5 inch thick reinforced concrete slab that is enclosed with partial masonry walls and chain link fence in a major building supply and garden center retail building. Forklifts are used occasionally in the building to move materials. Is this considered "vehicular traffic" for the purposes of row 4 of Table 300-5 of the 1999 National Electrical Code portion of the 1999 State Building Code?

Answer: No. After consultation with NFPA, I have determined that the frequency of use and weight of a forklift do not constitute vehicular traffic for the purposes of Table 300-5. It is NFPA's interpretation that vehicular traffic is that such as can be found in parking lots, roadways and driveways and that the use of a forklift does not require the additional coverage specified in rows five and six of Table 300-5.