

NFPA's NEC® 700.3 (F)

The National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) National Electrical Code® (NEC®) Article 700 governs the installation, operation, and maintenance of emergency systems (which must continue to function during power outages to ensure safety to human life) such as emergency lighting, fire alarms, and egress systems. These systems are typically supported by alternate power sources, like generators or battery systems.

Section 700.3 specifically addresses the maintenance and testing of emergency power systems to ensure ongoing reliability. Within this section, 700.3(F) focuses on what must be done when maintenance or repair work requires the primary alternate power source to be taken offline. Since emergency systems must remain operational even when the backup power system is undergoing service, the code now requires a method for connecting a temporary alternate power source under certain conditions.





NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE 700.3 (F)

- If the emergency system relies on a single alternate / backup power source, which will be unavailable during testing, maintenance, or repair, the emergency system shall include permanent switching means to connect a portable or temporary alternate source of power.
- The permanent switching means to connect a portable or temporary alternate power source that shall comply with the following:
 - Connection to portable / temporary power shall not require modification of the permanent system wiring
 - Transfer of power between the normal power source and the emergency power source shall be in accordance with 700.12
 - Connection point for the portable / temporary shall be marked with the phase rotation and system bonding requirements
 - Mechanical or electrical interlocking shall prevent interconnection of power sources
 - Switching means must include a contact point that shall annunciate at a location remote from the generator or at another facility monitoring system to indicate that the permanent emergency source is disconnected from system.
- Testing can only be done one way: load banking
- "Shall not require modification" completely disallows the ability to connect the required load bank, unless load bank Cam-Loks™ are added to the quick connect

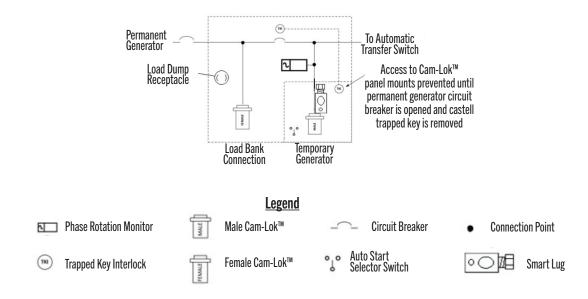




NEC 700.3 (F)

Dual Purpose Trapped Key Interlock and Isolation Breaker

Meets 700.3 (F) and allows for simultaneous load banking of permanent generator with portable generator connected



Dual Purpose Rotary Transfer Switch

Meets 700.3 (F) and allows simultaneous load banking of permanent generator with portable generator connected

