

# Third-Party Lightning Protection System Certification Program for Explosives Facilities

Lightning Protection Institute – Inspection Program

www.lpi-ip.com

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### Outline

- History LPI-IP Programs
- Program Objective
- Program Description
- Applicable Requirements Summary
- How it Works
- Lightning Protection Test Plan
- Summary and Recommendations





# LPI-IP Inspection Program History

- Established in 2010 as alternative to UL Master Label Program
- > 1500 Systems Certified in 2017
- Master Installation Certification Program
  - NFPA 780

LPI 175

**UL 96A** 

Extended Master Inspection Program





# Extended Master Inspection Program Objective

- Based on Master Installation Certification Program
- Provide a standardized approach to inspections to get repetitive results
- Fill void in industry

#### NDIN

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# Program Description

- Standards Included in Program
  - NFPA 780

LPI-175

**UL 96A** 

- UFC 3-575-01
- AFI 32-1065

PAM 385-64

NAVSEA OP 5

- Interaction between Installer, Owner, and Cert body
- Visual Inspection
- Electrical Testing
- Lightning Protection Test Plan

#### Applicable Requirements Summary



- NFPA 780 provides baseline criteria
- UFC 3-575-01 indicates AE facilities to comply with applicable:
  - UFC 4-420-01 NAVSEA OP 5 DA PAM 385-64 AFMAN 91-201
- DoD 6055.09M New or modified facility LPS to be electrically tested
  - NFPA 780 Annex D R (bond) =  $1\Omega$  R (gnd) =  $25 \Omega$
- Visual inspection
  - AFI 32-1065 —to include all visible parts of LPS
  - NAVSEA OP 5 100% visual plus surge protection systems
  - DA PAM 385-64 Confirm bonding connections firmly attached and verify installation requirements of NFPA 780

### **Electrical Testing**



- Sketch identifying test points to be provided
- Bonding / Continuity testing
  - DA PAM 385-64 reference point is down conductor at point if enters earth
  - NAVSEA OP 5 each air terminal to its grounding electrode for integral systems
- Resistance-to-Earth
  - 3-point Fall-of-potential test method specified by all
  - AFI 32-1065 + NAVSEA OP 5 allow electrode configuration options
  - Recommendations for reference electrode spacing provided by each service
  - AFI 32-1065 allows temporary disconnection of electrical service from other grounds and requires test @ each electrode if no ground loop conductor installed
  - PAM 385-64 S-curve plot required if ground loop electrode > 25 Ω (ρ possible)

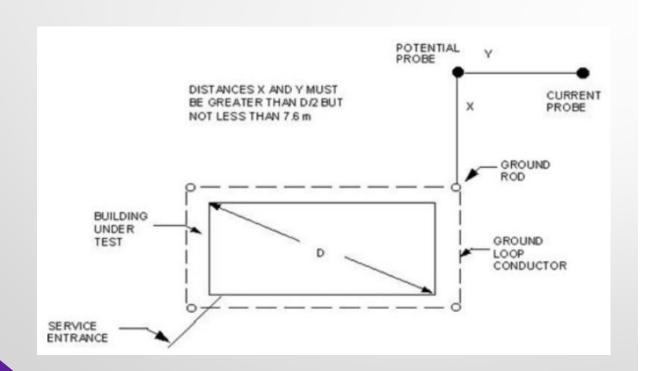


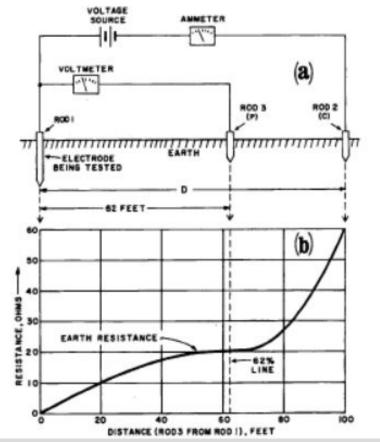
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# Electrode Configurations









# Installer – Owner Interchange

- Confirm scope of certification with all parties
  - Applicable standards surge protection included?
- Provide Owner deliverables as specified in contract
  - Likely includes a Maintenance and Inspection Plan
- Identify and schedule witnesses
- Document and distribute any pre-inspection reference material required as a part of certification
- Confirm with Owner all details of installation and data packages





# Program Application – Installer

- LPI-IP Extended Master Installation Certificate application.
- Lightning Protection As-Built Drawings Reference test Points
- Approved Grounding System Plan Reference Test Points
- Calibrated test equipment
- Photos/photo waiver (as applicable)
- Site AHJ sign off on test plan





# Lightning Protection Test Plan

- Not intended to be same as M&I plan as required by standards
- Visual Inspection requirements similar across standards
- Electrical testing
  - Continuity (bonding) testing
  - 3- point Fall-of-Potential Resistance to earth testing

# Summary / Recommendations



- Extended Master Inspection Certification Program:
  - Based on well-established lightning protection system certification program
  - Provides positive controls to allow consistency between inspections with flexibility to meet the needs of the customer
  - Relies on positive confirmation through documentation.
- Lightning Protection Test Plan
  - tool to address deviations between standards providing consistency in comparison
  - takes subjective decisions out of the hands of the inspectors
  - Evaluation plan documented and agreed by both installer and owner prior to on-site inspection
- Suggest UFC 3-575-01, 3-1 be revised to reflect that an LPI-IP Extended Master Inspection Certification is acceptable alternative to UL Lightning Protection Inspection Certificate to ensure compliance with NFPA 780