

Solar Energy South Africa

Does the photovoltaic bracket include a grounding device



Overview

Eustace Soares referred to those parts of an electrical system that perform the grounding and bonding functions as “safety circuits,” which, in fact, they are. Without them, many electrical systems would fail.

Do PV systems need equipment grounding?

Regardless of system voltage, equipment grounding is required on all PV systems. Appropriate bonding and equipment grounding limits the voltage imposed on a system by lightning, line surges and unintentional contact with higher-voltage lines.

Why is proper grounding important for a photovoltaic power system?

Proper grounding of a photovoltaic (PV) power system is critical to helping ensure electrical safety during its lifetime. PV equipment needs to be properly bonded, in addition to code-compliant grounding, so that the low current flows on metal parts can facilitate the operation of over current and ground-fault protection devices.

What are the bonding and grounding requirements for PV systems?

The specific bonding and grounding requirements for PV systems in Article 690 are in Part V. Section 690.41 covers system grounding, allowing both grounded and ungrounded PV array conductors.

Do I need a grounding electrode for a PV array?

While a separate grounding electrode system is still permitted to be installed for a PV array, per 690.47 (B), it is no longer required to be bonded to the premises grounding electrode system. In PV systems with string inverters, the equipment grounding conductor from the array terminates to the inverter’s grounding bus bar.

Can a solar PV system be grounded?

Solar PV systems are still permitted to be grounded, per 690.41 (A) (1) and (5), and, for those PV systems that are, the dc grounded conductor is directly

coupled (or coupled through electronic circuitry) to the ac grounded conductor, which is then brought to ground potential by being terminated to the neutral bus bar at the main service panel.

Does a PV array need a grounding conductor?

Since the PV array and other electrical equipment in PV system, e.g., inverters, are often located remotely from one another, 690.43 (B) requires that an equipment grounding conductor (EGC) be run from the array to other associated equipment.

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PV Mounting Systems Certification , UL Solutions

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Regardless of system voltage, equipment grounding is required on all PV systems. Appropriate bonding and equipment grounding limits the voltage imposed on a system by lightning, line surges and unintentional ...

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