

CA Title 24

an overview

How does the CA Title 24 affect our industry?

California's building code revisions, referred to as Title 24, mean major changes for the open office furniture concept, as well as buildings. All projects in the State of California, needing a building permit, will need to comply with the new standards, which are intended to require automatic energy conservation in offices and homes.

This is how the code will affect us:

- A. Half of the outlets in System workstations must be on controlled circuits, which can be controlled by a timer or occupancy sensor to turn off automatically.
- B. Lighting must be planned on a separate circuit from other loads. The lighting should be equipped with occupancy sensors, or that circuit must be controlled by a timer or occupancy sensor.
- C. Controlled outlets need to be identifiably and permanently marked differently from uncontrolled outlets.

Friant products support CA Title 24.

Friant & Associates' four-circuit power raceways are well suited to support Title 24, in combination with careful electrical engineering in new building projects.

As an example, two of the circuits from the building power supply can be associated with uncontrolled receptacles identified as # I or # II. These two circuits typically would serve short-term uses for devices that do not use much energy.

One of the circuits, perhaps outlets on circuit # II uncontrolled or circuit # III controlled, could be set aside for lighting including desk lamps and under cabinet lighting. The other controlled circuit # IIII should be set aside for computers.

Between the building power supply and the other two controlled circuits, can be a timer or occupancy sensor that turns off each circuit after hours or when a specific space is not occupied. These timers and occupancy sensors are not Friant & Associates products and should be procured separately. In addition, there are also Smart Meters available from other suppliers that can monitor energy use as well as occupancy throughout the building. The intent of the law is to automatically eliminate power wasted by devices and lights left on in unoccupied spaces.

Friant & Associates' tasklights equipped with occupancy sensors can enable the separate lighting circuit to be considered controlled without an arbitrary timer control.

Controlled outlets can be identified simply by their circuit # designation.