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Telecommunications Service Providers Requirements to Purchase Permits

Statute and Rule: ORS 479.630(12), OAR 918-282-0050(1)(b)

Date: April 1, 2008

Subject: Permit requirements for work performed by telecommunications service providers

Question: When are telecommunication service providers (TSP) required to purchase permits or be licensed?

- Answer:**
1. A TSP is required to purchase electrical permits for the installation of more than 10 telecommunication outlets in any building or structure, unless:
 - The building or structure is a multi-family dwelling of four or less units;
 - The building or structure is a one- or two-family dwelling.
 2. A TSP is required to purchase electrical permits for installations that penetrate fire-resistive construction, air-handling systems or pass through hazardous locations as defined or described by the applicable building code. This applies to all buildings or structures, regardless of their size or type.
 3. Electrical licensing of a TSP or their employees is not required if the TSP is installing, maintaining or providing voice, data transmission or intercom and paging associated with their data telecommunication system (Class “B” limited energy work as defined by ORS 479.905). The licensing exemption granted under ORS 479.943 applies on both the provider and customer side of demarcation.
 4. Electrical licensing and electrical permitting are not required for:
 - Installations of 10 telecommunication outlets or less for an appropriately licensed electrical contractor, provided the installation does not penetrate fire-resistive construction, air-handling systems or involve a hazardous location as defined or described by the applicable building code;
 - Cord or plug connected telecommunications equipment or for patch cord and jumper cross-connected equipment;
 - Telecommunication service providers or their employees for maintenance, repair or replacement of a telecommunication system(s).
 5. Subcontractors and employees of subcontractors performing work for a TSP must comply with license and permit requirements on the customer side of the demarcation point.

Contact: Jon Hills, Licensing and Enforcement Manager
jon.hills@state.or.us
(503) 373-1367