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## MEMO

**TO: All Building Officials in Miami-Dade County**

**FROM: Francisco J. Quintana, R.A.,  
Director Building Code Compliance**

**DATE: November 27, 2001**

**SUBJECT: Arc Fault Circuit Interruption Protection**

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As you know, the National Electrical Code (NEC) 1999 edition was adopted on January 1, 2000 in Miami-Dade County. The Building Code Compliance Office would like to bring to your attention a specific effective date included in NEC Section 210-12 of the adopted Code. The following is an excerpt of that section.

### ***210-12. Arc-Fault Circuit-Interrupter Protection***

(a) **Definition.** *An arc-fault circuit interrupter is a device intended to provide protection from the effects of arc faults by recognizing characteristics unique to arcing and by functioning to de-energize the circuit when an arc fault is detected.*

(b) **Dwelling Unit Bedrooms.** *All branch circuits that supply 125-volt, single-phase, 15- and 20-ampere receptacle outlets installed in dwelling unit bedrooms shall be protected by an arc-fault circuit interrupter(s). This requirement shall become effective January 1, 2002.*

The manufactures are preparing for the implementation of this code section by developing a receptacle with integrated arc-fault circuit interrupter.

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact Mr. Oriol T. Haage of my staff at (305) 375-2901.

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