



APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The LPI-IP Master Installation Certified System is designed to provide stringent safety and quality control, improved timeliness, and professionalism for the installation of lightning protection systems. This assures the owner that essential inspections will be performed throughout the entire system installation. Typically, each system installation requires the following:

- Witness at the grounding and roof-top stages
- System design review by an LPI-IP engineer
- On-site inspection by trained and certified LPI-IP inspectors

To be eligible for an LPI-IP inspection, the installing contractor must provide proof that they have contracted with a nationally recognized testing agency for inspections for a minimum of two of the past four years and employ or contract with an LPI Master Installer to oversee the project. If not, the contractor must employ an LPI Master Installer for a period of the last three years or currently employ an LPI Master Installer who worked for a qualifying contractor for a period of three years minimum or they are not eligible for certification under the LPI-IP.

Finally, each contractor must be a member in good standing of the LPI or pay the non-member fee rate. Please contact the LPI-IP office for current rates/fees.

CERTIFICATES & INSPECTIONS

There are four different types of certificates / inspections available.

LPI-IP Master Installation Certificate

A general certificate for inspections of lightning protection systems that protect an entire independent structure, indicating compliance with the standard specified during the application process. An entire independent structure includes any and all parts of a structure that are connected by common walls, firewalls, walkways or are otherwise contiguous.

LPI-IP Extended Master Installation Certificate Inspection

The Extended Master Installation Certificate Inspection includes all the features of the Master Installation Certificate Inspection plus ground electrode resistance testing and continuity testing per selected military standards. All test measurements are witnessed and recorded per an approved lightning protection test plan.

LPI-IP Reconditioned Master Installation Certificate

A general certificate for inspections of lightning protection systems that have previously received an LPI-IP Master Installation Certificate or equivalent, which has expired and where the square footage and/or the footprint of the structure have not changed since the last certification, for compliance with the standard specified during the application process. If the square footage and/or footprint of the structure have changed, the structure is not eligible for an LPI-IP Reconditioned Installation Master Certificate. A new LPI-IP Master Installation Certificate or LPI-IP Limited Scope Inspection is required instead.

LPI-IP Limited Scope Inspection Report

An inspection for a portion of a lightning protection system specifically to review a limited scope of work as designated by the applicant. Issuance of a satisfactory Limited Scope Inspection Report will be based upon, and limited to, the findings that relate to that portion of the lightning protection system inspected on a limited scope, and does not constitute certification that the entire system or structure has been inspected and/or is in compliance with LPI 175 or any other standard specified in the application.

STANDARDS

Air terminals, conductors, ground rods, fittings, and all other system materials shall be manufactured in compliance with standards for lightning protection components as reviewed by accredited testing agencies as specified in LPI-175. Locations, spacings, fastening methods, means of connecting and bonding and all of the details of installations shall comply with LPI-175, current edition, or the specified standard in the submitted application.

WITNESSES

All witness signatures of grounding and/or lightning protection stages of the lightning protection system shall be by the building owner, his designated agent, the project general contractor, or the electrical contractor. This person shall be a bona fide "independent party" having no direct affiliation with the lightning protection project contractors. In all cases, the application must be signed by this designated agent.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The appropriate application should be completed by the contractor who completed the lightning protection system on the structure. Upon completing the application and obtaining the necessary witness signatures, the applicant can submit the application by mail or electronically. Typically, every project requires a lightning protection design drawing that must reflect the actual system installed (i.e. as built, record drawing, etc.) to be submitted with the application. These drawings can be as simple as a hand drawn sketch, provided all necessary information is submitted, including the locations of critical equipotential bonding (i.e. water, gas, electric, etc.).

Digital photographs are required as well, though the number and content may vary with the project. "Typical" pictures are accepted for concealed portions of grounding and lightning protection systems, though it is recommend that you call the LPI-IP office with any questions concerning content and quantity of pictures required on a particular project. Please note all pictures submitted with the application must be dated.

After receiving the application, an LPI-IP engineer will review the drawings for compliance. If approved, the drawings will receive an approval stamp and be returned to the contractor. Typically, this will take 3-5 business days after receipt of the application. At this point, the LPI-IP will determine, if not already required by the applicant, if the system will be physically inspected.

INSPECTION PROCEDURE

After reviewing the submitted application and drawings, the contractor will be contacted regarding scheduling of an inspection. The LPI-IP will make every effort to have the inspections completed in a timely matter. In instances where down conductors, connections to steel columns, or other components are concealed, digital photographs will be required.

Upon passing the inspection, a certificate will be sent electronically to the contractor for distribution at its discretion. A copy of the certificate will be kept on file with the LPI-IP for future reference. All certifications have an expiration date of three years from the date of issuance. The LPI-IP will contact the contractor at the end of the three years to remind them of the expiration of the certification.

DEVIATIONS

Deviations cited during reviews and inspections should be corrected promptly. The contractor will have two weeks to resolve them and submit up to three corrected deviations via digital photographs. Before and after pictures are needed to verify the correction of the deviations. In the event that more than three deviations are found, a physical re-inspection must be performed. Also, at maximum, one contractor can only have three outstanding applications with deviations.

If there is a deviation that the contractor disagrees with, the contractor can submit the LPI-IP Inspection Deviation Appeal form. Each appeal will be reviewed by a panel of at least three members of LPI-IP Board of Directors or its designates. If the contractor disagrees with the result of the review panel, the final decision of the appeal shall be made by the LPI-IP Program Manager. The appeal will be disposed of within three business days following its submission.



LIGHTNING PROTECTION INSTITUTE INSPECTION PROGRAM

A step forward.

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Rules and policies of the program are subject to change.

Please visit www.lpi-ip.com for more information.

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