

## Industry Expert Comments on Yellow-Jacketed CSST

1. CSST has been around since the early 90's and used heavily in new construction since 2000.
2. Lightning fires have been an issue with this product since the very beginning.
3. There are and have been hundreds of fires per year. Lawsuits have been prevalent with settlements and non-disclosure agreements that keep information from getting out.
4. The products are listed and code approved for use. The original listings did not require testing for lightning damage. By the time it was widely realized that lightning was a problem, millions of feet had already been sold and installed.
5. To this day, the products are listed and tested to standards beneath the threshold of direct lightning strikes.
6. The CSST industry says that the products cannot handle a direct lightning strike. Verified testing proves that the product fails **rapidly and predictably** in relatively low levels of simulated lightning energy.
7. Since the beginning of its use in the US, the experts have gone back and forth on whether to bond and ground CSST when installed in homes. They have united on that issue since a class action lawsuit was settled in 2007, and now say that bonding/grounding is essential for a "reasonable level of safety in an INDIRECT lightning strike" event...conveniently ignoring that direct lightning strikes ever happen.
8. In 2012, Brennen Teel lost his life in a home in Lubbock, Texas, that was struck by lightning. It had yellow jacketed CSST and **IT WAS BONDED AND GROUNDED AS PER MANUFACTURERS REQUIREMENTS.**
9. We still have an available product that can be used in place of CSST. Black Iron Pipe (BIP) has been used for over one hundred years in our country with NO confirmed lightning strike punctures. The comparisons made to BIP and claims of failures of BIP made by the CSST industry cannot be verified and do not have statistical factual basis. Their own experts have admitted assumptions based on incomplete data.
10. Verifiable testing has shown that BIP can withstand hundreds of times more simulated lightning energy than yellow-jacketed CSST without failing.
11. This product appears to have followed a very similar historical path as aluminum wiring that was used in the 1970's. It also was listed and approved by code for its use. It also caused many fires that eventually led to it being removed from the market. The original testing did not reveal the problem that later resulted in fires nationwide.