

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

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(b) Standpipes shall be sufficient in number so that any part of every floor area can be reached within 20 feet by a nozzle attached to not more than 75 feet of hose connected to a standpipe.

Note: Standpipe outlets should be located in occupied areas, and usually at interior columns in large area buildings. Asylums and places of detention may require special arrangements. It should be possible in all cases to direct the stream into all important enclosures, such as closets, etc.

(c) No required standpipe shall be less than 2 inches in diameter, and not less than 2½ inches in diameter for buildings 5 stories or more in height. Material shall be wrought iron or steel and pipe and fittings shall be of suitable weight for the pressure used. An approved 1½ inch hose valve shall be located in each story, not more than 5 feet above the floor level; valves of the gate type shall be equipped with a suitable open drip connection. An approved pressure-reducing device shall be installed at hose valves where pressure would otherwise be over 50 pounds.

(d) Not more than 75 feet of hose shall be attached to each outlet. Hose shall be of unlined linen construction, 1½ inches in diameter, with a ½ inch nozzle attached, and shall be located in approved cabinets or racks.

(e) Water supply shall be automatic, and be designed for 70 gallons per minute for 30 minutes with 25 pounds flowing pressure at the top outlet. Such supply may be from city connection, gravity tank, pressure tank or pump.

Note: Data on the design of standpipe systems can be found in the Standards of the National Board of Fire Underwriters for the Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems. The industrial commission will ordinarily approve any installation which is approved by the Underwriters.

Ind 51.22 Fire extinguishers. (1) Where fire extinguishers are required, they shall be of a type approved by the industrial commission. All fire extinguishers shall be charged in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer.

(2) Extinguishers shall be conspicuously located where they will always be readily accessible and so distributed as to be immediately available in event of fire. They shall be hung on hangers or set on brackets or shelves so that the top of the extinguisher is not more than 5 feet above the floor.

Note: The industrial commission will ordinarily approve any extinguisher which bears the Underwriters' label and which is of the size, and suitable, for the hazard for which it is intended. Consult the industrial commission for lists of approved extinguishers.

Ind 51.23 Automatic sprinklers. (1) Required automatic sprinkler systems shall be designed and constructed in conformity with good established practice. Only materials and devices approved by the industrial commission may be used. Reinstallation of used sprinkler heads is prohibited, and other secondhand devices may be installed by special permission only.

(2) Where an automatic sprinkler system is required throughout a building, supply shall be from a city water main, or from a gravity or pressure tank. If the city water supply is inadequate in either pressure or volume, a tank of not less than 5,000 gallons capacity shall be provided. The bottom of a gravity tank shall be not less than 35 feet above the under side of the roof.

(3) Where automatic sprinklers are required in a basement only, the supply shall be from a city water main. Where there is no city

water supply, such basement sprinklers need not be installed; but at such time as a city supply becomes available, such required basement sprinklers shall be installed.

(4) Every basement sprinkler system shall also include sprinklers in all shafts (except elevator shafts) leading to the story above.

(5) Every sprinkler system shall have a suitable audible alarm and an approved siamese connection marked "To Automatic Sprinklers", and otherwise conforming to Wis. Adm. Code section Ind 51.21 (2) (e).

Note: It will be the policy of the industrial commission to approve equipment conforming to standards of the National Board of Fire Underwriters for Sprinkler Equipment, also materials and devices currently listed by the Underwriters' Laboratories. The commission reserves the right to order a sprinkler system in any building, regardless of height or number of persons, if the occupancy is especially hazardous.

Ind 51.24 Fire alarm systems. (1) Interior fire alarm systems required under Wis. Adm. Code sections Ind 54.16, Ind 56.19 and Ind 57.22 shall be designed and constructed in conformity with the following requirements:

(2) All such alarm systems shall consist of operating stations on each floor of the building, including the basement, with bells, horns, or other approved sounding devices which are effective throughout the building. The system shall be so arranged that the operation of any one station will actuate all alarm devices connected to the system except in the case of a presignal system. Fire alarms shall be readily distinguishable from any other signalling devices used in the building. A system designed for fire alarm and paging service may be used if the design is such that fire alarm signals will have precedence over all others.

(3) Every fire alarm system shall be electrically operated except as provided in Wis. Adm. Code section Ind 56.19 and shall be operated on closed circuit current under constant electrical supervision, so arranged that upon a circuit opening and remaining open, or in case of a ground or short circuit in the ungrounded conductor, audible trouble signals will be given instantly.

(4) In buildings more than 3 stories in height, coded fire alarm systems shall be provided, and the systems shall be so arranged that the code transmitted shall indicate the location and the story of the structure in which the signal originated.

Exception: (a) In apartment buildings, non-coded electrically supervised continuous sounding fire alarm systems will be approved.

(5) Operating stations shall be prominently located in an accessible position at all required exit doors and required exit stairways. Operating stations shall be of an approved type and shall be conspicuously identified. All such operating stations shall be of a type, which after being operated, will indicate that an alarm has been sent therefrom until reset by an authorized means. (Operating stations having a "Break Glass" panel will be acceptable. On coded systems having a device to permanently record the transmission of an alarm, "Open Door" type stations may be used). The fire alarm operating stations shall be mounted approximately 5 feet above the finished floor as measured from the floor to the center of the box.

(6) All such alarm systems shall be tested at least once a week and a record of such tests shall be kept.

(7) Existing fire alarm systems that are effective in operation will be accepted if approved by the industrial commission.

Note: The following sections are taken from the Wisconsin state electrical code:

(8) The energy for operation of fire alarm systems shall be taken from sources suited to the design of the system. Primary batteries shall not be used.

(9) A 3-wire 120-240 or 120-208 volt (3 phase 4 wire) service will be accepted for supervised systems provided the operating current is secured from one ungrounded conductor and the neutral, or grounded conductor, and the current for operating trouble signal or signals is secured from the other ungrounded conductor and the neutral or grounded conductor.

(10) Electrical wiring in connection with fire alarm systems shall be installed in rigid metal conduit, flexible metal conduit, electrical metallic tubing or surface metal raceway. Armored cable (metal) may be used where it can be fished in hollow spaces of walls or partitions in apartments or rooming houses not over 3 stories in height. Where the wiring is subject to excessive moisture or severe mechanical injury, rigid metal conduit shall be used. The smallest size conductor to be used in any fire alarm system in a building over 3 stories in height shall be #14 AWG or #16 AWG for buildings not over 3 stories in height. The wires shall be provided with insulation suitable for use on circuits not exceeding 600 volts. Fire alarm systems shall be connected to the line side of the service switch or to the emergency bus, where available, through an approved fire alarm cutout or equivalent.

History: 1-2-56; am. (3) (a), Register, November, 1963, No. 95, eff. 12-1-63.

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