



PATTONVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

FIRE ALARM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

A fire district permit is required for the installation, alteration, modification, or repairs of any fire alarm system. These systems shall comply with the requirements of IFC 2009, IMC 2009 and NFPA 72 2007.

- All system components must be UL listed and installed in accordance with their listing.
- NFPA inspection and test, record of completion forms and a UL Certificate are required at the time of final inspection. Owners operating manual and instructions shall be onsite.
- The system must be monitored by an approved UL Central Station with a UL Certificate on the system.
- A UL Certificate must be posted in an approved location.

When do I have to bring a fire alarm system up to current code?

Upon any change in occupancy or building alteration, the facility must be brought up to current code requirements. Change in building ownership does not initiate a code compliance upgrade. In addition, Section 907.1.3 requires all new or replaced fire alarm systems to comply with the requirements of Section 907. Therefore, any fire alarm control panel replacement is considered to be replacing the system and not merely repair work. Thus the panel and all associated equipment must meet the requirements of Section 907 (i.e. class "A" wiring, visual notification, etc.).

Notification Appliance Upgrade

Notification upgrade may not be restricted to a small remodeled area within a space. The entire space may need to be upgraded to meet current code requirements for visual notification and synchronization, regardless of the contractor's "scope of work".

No Permit is Required, when

The scope of your project only involves 4 or less notification appliances changes and no other work. A written notice indicating where the work is taking place will suffice. HOWEVER, when addressable devices are involved, then all work that involves any change to internal programming will require a permit and inspection. Just like sprinkler heads, the installation of five or more horn/strobes will require a permit.

Work Prior to Permit

Fire protection contractors who wish to start work before plans are approved may install wiring, cables, hangers, stub outs, boxes, piping, EMT and cabinets. These installations are allowed with the full understanding that corrections or modifications may be required when the permit is issued.

UL Certification

A (UL) Underwriters Laboratories Certificate (UULFX) or (FM) Factory Mutual Placard, in accordance with the 2007 Edition of NFPA 72, shall be issued by the UL Listed or FM Approved prime contractor for all newly installed fire alarm systems in commercial occupancies. This regulation shall apply to all fire alarm systems, including those design for dedicated function, that are newly installed in commercial occupancies for which permits are required by the Pattonville Fire Protection District on or after June 1, 2013. Any existing fire alarm system in a commercial occupancy wherein the fire alarm control panel is to be replaced shall be considered newly installed.

(See reverse side)

Permit Requirements

Two sets of drawings must be submitted to the fire district. One set will be returned to the installer to be kept on the job site.

The City of Maryland Heights also issues permits for fire alarm work. The City of Bridgeton does not.

A St. Louis County "Electrical Permit" is required for fire alarm system installations. An inspection of all wiring and appliances must be completed by the county electrical inspector prior to scheduling the fire marshal inspection. That inspector will sign the inspection card or leave a sticker indicating that the inspection has passed.

A Record of Completion form, that includes the software/firmware version, must be presented to the fire marshal at the time of the final inspection.

Stairwells

Audible and visual notification appliances are not required in stairwells. Speakers for emergency voice communication systems are required in stairwells.

HVAC Smoke Detection

- Access panels must be provided to enable one to reach into the duct in order to spray-can smoke into sampling tubes for testing to verify smoke transfer through sampling tubes to detector.
- HVAC Duct detection installation must be in accordance with the International Mechanical Code (IMC). Duct detectors, if required, must be installed on the RETURN side.
- Detectors shall immediately "shut down all operational capabilities of the air distribution system", per IMC 2009 Section 606.4.
- HVAC duct detection activation shall initiate a supervisory condition – NOT an alarm condition.
- The location of duct detectors shall be marked on the ceiling grid or a posted diagram (if not immediately above the ceiling). Units on the roof must be numbered to correspond with the ceiling grid label, annunciator, and/or fire alarm panel address or point description.
- HVAC connection to the alarm panel is not required on dedicated function sprinkler monitoring systems. They must, however, have a remote annunciator with audible and visual notification.
- Remote HVAC annunciators should be in a conspicuous location.
- Duct detectors are normally required on units 2,000 cfm and larger and when multiple units serve the same area (and the combined air movement is greater than 2,000).

Big Ass Fans

When oversized fans are installed in a building with an alarm or sprinkler system, these fans must shut down immediately when the alarm is activated. See "Fire Signal Relay" at www.bigassfans.com.

Monitoring

When an alarm is received, the alarm company/central station must immediately contact our dispatch agency at Central County 636-394-2212. Residential alarms must first attempt to contact the homeowner prior to fire department notification.