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AGENDA

NFPA Technical Committee on Chimneys, Fireplaces, and Venting Systems for Heat-Producing Appliances (CHI-AAA) NFPA 211 Second Draft Meeting (A2026)

August 20, 2025

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Web/Teleconference

To join the meeting, please contact Sarah Caldwell (scaldwell@nfpa.org)

- 1. Call to order.** Randy Brooks.
- 2. Introductions.** See committee roster attached.
- 3. Chair report.** Randy Brooks.
- 4. Staff liaison report.** Alex Ing.
- 5. Previous meeting minutes.** August 2024 Web/Teleconference. See attached.
- 6. NFPA 211 Second Draft.**
 - a. **Public Comments.** See attached.
 - b. **Task group report(s).**
 - i. **NFPA 31/54/211.** Dale Hersey.
 - ii. **Chapter 15 Update.** Dale Feb. See Attached
 - c. **Committee Inputs.** See attached.
- 7. Other Business.**
- 8. Future meetings.**
- 9. Adjournment.**

Address List No Phone

06/11/2025

Alex Ing

Chimneys, Fireplaces, and Venting Systems for Heat-Producing

CHI-AAA

Randy Brooks	IM 8/9/2011	Eric Adair	SE 03/20/2023
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Chimneys, Fireplaces, and Venting Systems for Heat-Producing

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NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

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MINUTES

NFPA Technical Committee on Chimneys, Fireplaces, and Venting Systems for Heat-Producing Appliances (CHI-AAA) NFPA 211 First Draft Meeting (A2026)

August 26th and 27th
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Eastern) each day

Web/Teleconference

1. **Call to order.** Randy Brooks, chair, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. on August 26th.
2. **Introductions.** Attendees introduced themselves and identified their affiliation and NFPA staff took attendance.
3. **Chair report.** Randy Brooks welcomed attendees and provided an overview of the meeting.
4. **Staff liaison report.** Alex Ing provided an overview of the standards development process and the revision cycle schedule.
 - a. The no members declared that they had been retained to represent the interest of an entity that would be classified in an interest category different from their own with respect to a specific issue or issues that were addressed by the committee.
5. **Previous meeting minutes** The minutes from September 2022 were approved with the following revisions: Item 6(c)(i) **Chapter 15 Fireplace Requirements Update Task Group**. TG Chair: Dale Feb. Members: Jim Brewer, Shaun Ray, Jonathan Brania, Rick Vlahos, Leo Herrmann, Tom Pierce. The task group will look at updating inspection coordinating requirements for heat producing appliances and their venting systems fireplaces based on fuel source.
6. **NFPA 211 First Draft.**
 - a. **Review of Public Inputs.** The Technical Committee reviewed the Public Inputs and developed First Revisions and Committee Inputs as necessary. These will be available in the First Draft Report at www.nfpa.org/211.
 - b. **Task group report.** The following task groups provided their reports and recommendations.
 - i. **NFPA 31/54/211 Terminology.** Shaun Ray. The task group provided a report. The task group was reconstituted to continue work. See new task groups for further information.
 - ii. **Chapter 15 Update.** Dale Feb. The task group provided a report. The task group was reconstituted to continue work. See new task groups for further information.

These minutes are considered preliminary until approved at the next committee meeting.

- c. **New task groups.** The following task groups were appointed to work subsequent to the meeting:
- i. **NFPA 31/54/211.** TG Chair: Dale Hersey. Members: Todd Metzger, Shaun Ray, Brian Ryglewicz, Keith Page, Bob Harper, Tim McNulty, Jim Brewer, Dale Feb. This task group will look at coordinating terminology and definitions between NFPA 31/54/211.
 - ii. **Chapter 15 Update.** TG Chair: Dale Feb. Members: Jim Brewer, Shaun Ray, Jonathan Brania, Rick Vlahos, Leo Herrmann, Tom Pierce, Hoss Brooks, Jacob Feb. The task group will look at updating inspection requirements for heat producing appliances and their venting systems.
7. **Other Business.**
8. **Future meetings.** The next committee meeting will be June to November of 2025. A meeting notification will be posted at www.nfpa.org/211next when the meeting is scheduled.
9. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m. on August 27th.

Attendees

Committee Members:

✓	Brooks, Randy	Chair	Brooks Chimney Sweeping
✓	Adair, Eric	Principal	Hearth Patio & Barbecue Education
	Ahasan, Mohammad	Principal	New York City Department of Buildings
✓	Brania, Jonathan	Principal	UL Solutions
✓	Braun, Gary	Principal	Self Employed
✓	Brewer, James	Principal	National Chimney Sweep Guild
✓	Cross, Jonathan	Principal	D.J. Cross, Inc.
	Dawe, Nicholas	Principal	Cobb County Fire Marshal's Office
	DeBlasio, Michael	Principal	M. DeBlasio, Inc.
	Evans, Marvin	Principal	CSA Group
✓	Feb, Dale	Principal	Fireplace Investigation, Research &
✓	Freeman, Daniel	Principal	The Chimney Doctor, LTD
✓	Grogan, Larry	Principal	AHPBA RMHPBA
	Harper, Robert	Principal	Hearthman Specialties
✓	Herrmann, Leo	Principal	Leo Herrmann Fireplace Inc.
✓	Hersey, Dale	Principal	State of Maine
✓	Hodges, Vickie	Principal	State Farm Insurance Companies
	Huff, Matthew	Principal	Van-Packer Company

✓	Kulik, Marek	Principal	Technical Standards and Safety Authority
✓	McNulty, Timothy	Principal	RM Manifold Group Inc., dba US Draft
✓	Metzger, Todd	Principal	Schaefer Engineering Inc.
✓	Nelms, Tommy	Principal	Sweeps and Ladders
✓	O'Neill, Anthony	Principal	
	Ornstein, Harold	Principal	EFI Global, Inc.
✓	Page, Keith	Principal	Selkirk/Hart & Cooley, Inc.
✓	Pierce, Thomas	Principal	Pierce Fire Investigations
✓	Ray, Shaun	Principal	Air-Conditioning, Heating, & Refrigeration
✓	Rucker, Robert	Principal	Superior Clay Corporation
✓	Ryglewicz, Brian	Principal	Chimney Design Solutions Inc.
✓	Savage, Michael	Principal	Marion County Building Safety
	Stegmeir, Paul	Principal	
	Ziegler, Brian	Principal	Intertek Testing Services
✓	Brooks, Hoss	Alternate	Kern County Chimney Sweeping LLC.
✓	Feb, Jacob	Alternate	Fire Associates
	Jones, Richard	Alternate	Forensic Investigations Group, LLC
	Sedgwick, Richard	Alternate	Hearth Patio & Barbecue Education
	Shrewsbury-Gee, Nick	Alternate	CSA Group
	Zimmerman, Robert	Alternate	UL Solutions
	Buyer, Janet	Nonvoting Member	US Consumer Product Safety Commission
✓	Ing, Alex	Staff Liaison	National Fire Protection Association

Total number in attendance: 26



Public Comment No. 1-NFPA 211-2025 [New Section after 11.2.10]

11.2.10 (New) Masonry Fireplace Inserts

Fireplace inserts installed in masonry fireplaces shall be listed in accordance with the requirements of CAN/UL/ULC 1390. and shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

—

11.2.1011 Masonry Fireplace Accessories.

Fireplace accessories shall be one of the following:

(1) Installed by a qualified agency

(2) Listed and installed in accordance with the terms of their listing

(3) Installed in accordance with the accessory manufacturer's installation instructions

—

Add to 2.3.3:

CAN/UL/ULC 1390 Solid Fuel Fireplace Inserts and Hearth-Mounted Stoves for Installation into Masonry Fireplaces, 2024

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

This Public Comment is provided as a follow up to Public Input No. 19. In addition to the substantiation provided in the original Public Input, additional substantiation is provided below in response to the Committee Statement. For consideration:

The committee stated that "UL 1390 is still in draft development and cannot be referenced in NFPA 211 as it is not readily available." However, be advised that this standard has been published as a joint Canada-United States National standard, with the first edition dated 11/13/2024. UL 1390 is publicly available at <https://www.shopulstandards.com> and can be viewed at no cost.

As noted in the original reason statement, this standard was developed in response to incidents resulting from insufficient standards requirements. This proposal recommends directly referencing this standard in the body of the code to eliminate confusion with the inappropriate application of existing standards that do not specifically address the hazards related to these fireplace inserts.

Related Item

- PI 20

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: Kelly Nicoletto

Organization: UL Solutions

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Submittal Date: Sat May 31 15:03:05 EDT 2025

Committee: CHI-AAA



Committee Input No. 9-NFPA 211-2024 [Chapter 15]

See attached Document for proposed changes regarding inspection of chimneys, vents, and heat-producing appliances

Chapter 15 Inspection of Existing Chimneys

15.1* General.

Inspections shall be conducted by a qualified agency.

15.1.1*

Observations that are incidental to a chimney maintenance or repair task not shown in Table 15.2.1 shall not be required to comply with the minimum levels of inspection set forth in this chapter.

15.1.2

Defects that are observed during the course of such work shall be reported to the property owner, occupant, or responsible party.

15.2 Type of Inspection.

The scope of the inspection, the areas of the chimney examined, and the degree of invasiveness of the inspection shall be appropriate for the conditions giving rise to the inspection.

15.2.1

The type of inspection shall be determined in accordance with Table 15.2.1.

Table 15.2.1 Selection of Inspection Type

		<u>Inspection Types</u>	
<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Level I</u>	<u>Level II</u>	<u>Level III</u>
Scope	Readily accessible areas of chimney, structure, and flue; lack of obstruction or combustible deposits in flue; basic appliance installation and connection	All subjects of a Level I inspection; proper construction and condition of accessible portions of the chimney structure and all enclosed flues; proper clearances from combustibles in accessible locations; size and suitability of flues for connected appliances	All subjects of Level I and Level II inspections; proper construction and condition of concealed portions of chimney structure and enclosed flues; proper clearances from combustibles
Degree of access required	Readily accessible portions of chimney exterior and interior; accessible portions of appliance and chimney connection	All accessible portions of the chimney exterior and interior, including areas within accessible attics, crawl spaces, and basements, and accessible portions of the appliance and chimney connection; includes inspection by video scanning or other means	External and internal portions of chimney structure, including concealed areas of the building or chimney; includes removal of components of building or chimney where necessary, but only as necessary to gain access to areas that are the subject of the inspection
Circumstances	Annual inspection as required by Section 14.2; during routine cleaning of chimney flue; upon direct replacement of connected appliance with one of similar type, input rating, and efficiency	Upon addition or removal of one or more connected appliances or replacement of appliance with one of dissimilar type, input rating, or efficiency; prior to relining or replacement of flue lining; upon sale or transfer of the property; after operating malfunction or external event likely to have caused damage to the chimney	Where necessary for the investigation of an incident that has caused damage to the chimney or building; where a hazard detected or suspected as the result of a Level I or II inspection cannot be fully evaluated without access to concealed areas
Indications	For verification of suitability of the chimney for continued service, under the same conditions and with the same appliance or appliances	For verification of suitability of the chimney for new or changed conditions of service; Level I inspection not sufficient to determine serviceability of the chimney	When construction of all or part of chimney is deemed critical to its renewed or continued use; required only for those areas that cannot be properly evaluated by a Level I or Level II inspection

Note: The inspection is not required when the last connected appliance is removed and chimney use is discontinued.

15.2.2

The type of inspection performed shall be based on the circumstances that give rise to the inspection.

15.2.3

For situations shown in the Circumstances row of Table 15.2.1, the minimum level of inspection shall be that indicated by the column in which the situation is found.

15.2.4

For situations not shown in the Circumstances row, the type of inspection shall be based on the descriptions in the Indications row.

15.2.5

The following shall apply to examination of the chimney at a level higher than that indicated by Table 15.2.1:

- (1) Nothing shall prevent the examination of all or part of the chimney at a higher level than the minimum indicated by Table 15.2.1.
- (2) Partial examination of the chimney at a higher level shall not require that the entire inspection be conducted at that higher level.

15.2.6

Where inspections are indicated or requested at a specific level of inspection but circumstances prevent the completion of that level, the inspector shall do the following:

- (1) Indicate the level of inspection completed
- (2) Document the reasons the higher level inspection was not completed

15.3* Level I Inspections.

A Level I inspection shall be utilized when verification of the suitability of the chimney or flue for continued service, under the same conditions and with the same or similar appliance or appliances, is needed.

15.3.1 Circumstances.

A Level I inspection shall be conducted under the following circumstances:

- (1) During annual inspections in accordance with Section 14.2
- (2) During routine cleaning of a flue or flues within the chimney
- (3) At the time of replacement of one or more connected appliances with an equal number of appliances of similar type, input rating, and efficiency, in accordance with Section 14.4
- (4) At other times as indicated in Section 15.3

15.3.2 Scope and Access.

Level I inspections shall include examination of readily accessible portions of the chimney and accessible portions of the connected appliance and chimney connection.

15.3.2.1

The following shall apply to the inspection of locations with panels, doors, or coverings:

- (1) The chimney exterior and surroundings shall be inspected at locations that can be accessed without removal of panels, doors, or coverings.
- (2) Where panels, doors, or coverings are opened as part of the performance of another task, such as chimney cleaning, such locations shall be examined as part of a Level I inspection.

15.3.2.2

Readily accessible areas of the chimney flue that can be observed through existing openings, such as a thimble, cleanout opening, or flue termination, shall be examined for the presence of a continuous flue liner, proper installation, and no damage or deterioration.

15.3.2.3

The following shall apply to inspection of flues:

- (1) Where an inspection is conducted in accordance with Section 14.2, the inspection shall include all flues within the chimney and connected appliances.
- (2) An inspection conducted during cleaning or appliance replacement shall include the flue or flues being cleaned and the appliance or appliances connected to each.

15.3.2.4

The inspection shall include verification that the flue or flues being inspected are free of combustible deposits and blockage or obstruction.

15.3.2.5

The connected appliance or appliances, their chimney connectors, and surroundings shall be examined for proper clearances, protection, damage or deterioration, and observable evidence of operating malfunction.

15.3.2.6

Chimney connector inspection shall meet the following criteria:

- (1) Connectors shall be examined for proper support and fastening of joints, pitch, and securement to the chimney.
- (2) Connectors shall be examined for damage, deterioration, internal blockage or obstruction, and freedom from combustible deposits.

15.3.2.7

Internal surfaces of fireplaces and smoke chambers shall be examined for damage and deterioration, combustible deposits, and evidence of operating malfunction.

15.3.2.7.1

Fireplace inserts, stoves, or accessories shall be removed from the fireplace as necessary to permit such examination.

15.3.2.7.2

The means of connecting a fireplace insert or stove to the chimney flue shall be examined for compliance with 13.4.5.

15.3.2.7.3*

Fireplace inserts, stoves, or accessories shall not be required to be removed when the venting system can be thoroughly cleaned without such removal.

15.4* Level II Inspections.

A Level II inspection is indicated when verification of the suitability of the chimney for new or changed conditions of service is needed or when a Level I inspection is not sufficient to determine the serviceability of the chimney.

15.4.1 Circumstances.

A Level II inspection shall be conducted under the following circumstances:

- (1) * Upon addition or removal of one or more connected appliances or upon replacement of an appliance with one or more of dissimilar type, input rating, or efficiency, unless the last connected appliance is removed and chimney use will be discontinued
- (2) Prior to relining of a flue or replacement of flue lining, in accordance with 7.1.10
- (3) Upon sale or transfer of the property
- (4) After a building or chimney fire, weather or seismic event, or other incident likely to have caused damage to the chimney
- (5) At other times as indicated in Section 15.3

15.4.2 Scope and Access.

Level II inspections shall include all accessible portions of the chimney exterior and interior, including the following:

- (1) Areas within accessible attics, crawl spaces, and basements
- (2) Accessible portions of the appliance and chimney connection

15.4.2.1

The inspection shall include examination of all areas covered in 15.3.2 for Level I inspections.

15.4.2.2

All areas of the chimney and its surroundings that can be accessed without the removal or destruction of permanently attached portions of the chimney or building structure shall be inspected, including examination of the following:

- (1) Locations within attics
- (2) Crawl spaces
- (3) Basements that can be accessed through doors, hatches, or other openings that do not require removal of permanently attached parts of the building

15.4.2.3

The inspection shall include examination of accessible areas of all chimney flues and the internal surfaces of all flue liners incorporated within the chimney with image scanning equipment or more advanced technological viewing systems used as necessary to observe those areas.

15.4.2.4

The requirement to inspect all chimney flues and all flue liners in 15.4.2.3 shall be limited to the chimney flues and flue liners requested to be inspected.

15.4.2.5

Where multiple factory built fireplaces or chimneys are installed in a common structure or chase, the inspector shall not be required to inspect more than the system(s) requested to be inspected by the inspector's client.

15.4.2.6

The inspection shall include verification of proper clearances from the chimney to combustibles at all locations that can be accessed as described in 15.3.2.2.

15.4.2.7

The inspection shall include evaluation of the proper type of flue lining material and flue sizing for the type and input rating of the connected appliances.

15.4.2.7.1

Sizing of flues for solid fuel-burning and pellet fuel-burning equipment shall be in accordance with this standard.

15.4.2.7.2

Sizing of flues for gas appliances shall be in accordance with NFPA 54.

15.4.2.7.3

Sizing of flues for liquid fuel appliances shall be in accordance with NFPA 31.

15.5* Level III Inspections.

A Level III inspection shall be utilized for concealed areas.

15.5.1 Areas Required.

A Level III inspection shall be required only for those areas suspected of malfunction or damage that cannot be properly evaluated by a Level I or Level II inspection.

15.5.2 Circumstances.

A Level III inspection shall be conducted under the following circumstances:

- (1) Where necessary for the investigation of a building or chimney fire, weather or seismic event, or other incident known to have caused damage to the chimney or building
- (2) Where a hazard detected or suspected as the result of Level I or II inspection cannot be fully evaluated without access to concealed areas
- (3) At other times as indicated in Section 15.5

15.5.3 Scope and Access.

A Level III inspection shall include examination of concealed areas of the chimney suspected of damage or malfunction.

15.5.3.1

The inspection shall include examination of all areas covered in 15.3.2 for Level I inspections and in 15.4.2 for Level II inspections.

15.5.3.2

Examination of the chimney shall include concealed areas that can be accessed only by removal or destruction of permanently attached portions of the chimney or building structure, as necessary to determine compliance with this standard.

Supplemental Information

<u>File Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Approved</u>
2024_Edition_Rewrite_08-26-24_Draft_.docx	See attached Word Document for proposed changes to chapter 15	

Submitter Information Verification

Committee: CHI-AAA

Submittal Date: Tue Aug 27 16:11:49 EDT 2024

Committee Statement

Committee Statement: The technical committee is looking at revising chapter 15 in accordance with the attached document to refine inspection requirements and better specify the applicability of the chapter. A task group has been formed to work on the topic (See First Draft Minutes for further detail).

Response Message: CI-9-NFPA 211-2024

Task Group Reports

NOTE: We recognize that this chapter is not only about the chimney and vent systems, but confirmation of the proper application of fireplaces and appliances associated with such chimneys and vents as determined by the required Levels of inspection.

Chapter 15 / Inspection of Existing Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents, and Solid Fuel-Burning Appliances.

15. Inspection of Existing Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents, and Solid Fuel-Burning Appliances

15.1* General. Inspections shall be conducted by a qualified agency with the necessary knowledge to identify product deficiencies and safety concerns associated with the products within this standard.

15.1.1. All systems and their associated venting components must be identified and confirmed appropriate for the intended use.

15.1.2 All inspections shall observe conditions within accessible and readily accessible areas as defined by the levels of inspection and Table 15.2.1 of this standard.

15.1.2 Defects that are observed during the course of such work shall be reported to the property owner, occupant, or responsible party in writing or electronic format.

NOTE: (ie. Text, emails, printed documents / add to annex text ?).

~~**15.1.1*** Observations that are incidental to a chimney maintenance or repair task not shown in Table 15.2.1 shall not be required to comply with the minimum levels of inspection set forth in this chapter.~~

15.2 Type Level of Inspection. The levels of inspection within this chapter are intended to provide a professional guideline for the inspection of all products and their associated venting systems included within this standard. The scope of the inspection, the areas of the chimney examined, and the degree of invasiveness of the inspection shall be appropriate for the conditions giving rise to the inspection.

15.2.1 The type level of inspection shall be determined as indicated within this chapter, and in accordance with Table 15.2.1.

15.2.2 The type level of inspection performed shall be based on the circumstances that give rise to the inspection.

15.2.3 For situations shown in the Circumstances row of Table 15.2.1, the minimum level of inspection shall be that indicated by the column in which the situation is found.

15.2.4 For situations not shown in the Circumstances row, the type of inspection shall be based on the descriptions in the indications row.

15.2.5 The following shall apply to examination of the chimney at a level higher than that indicated by Table 15.2.1:

(1) Nothing shall prevent the examination of all or part of the chimney at a higher level than the minimum indicated by Table 15.2.1.

(2) Partial examination of the chimney at a higher level shall not require that the entire inspection be conducted at that higher level.

(3) The use of specialized tools or equipment shall not require that the entire inspection be conducted at a higher level.

15.2.6 Where inspections are ~~required indicated or requested~~ at a specific level by this standard ~~of inspection~~, but circumstances prevent the completion of that level, the inspector shall ~~do~~ provide the following:

- 1) Indicate the level of inspection ~~required completed~~ by this standard.
- 2) Document the reason ~~or reasons~~ the ~~higher level~~ inspection was not completed.
(example; denied access to roof, unsafe conditions in the attic space or crawl space).

15.3 Inspection of Gas Appliances. The inspection of gas fired appliances may require the use of common tools associated with that action such as an electronic gas detectors, CO detectors, infrared cameras, or other scanning or viewing systems. The installation of these products must meet or exceed the manufacturer's instructions and the adopted building codes. This inspection may also include testing for proper operation and performance as specified by the appliance and vent manufacturers. Reference NFPA 54, Annex G. This reference provides specific instruction on these procedures.

15.4 Inspection of Oil-Fired Appliances. The inspection of oil-fired appliances may require the use of common tools associated with that action such as draft sensors, CO detectors, infrared cameras, or other scanning or viewing systems. The installation of these products must meet the minimum requirements as specified by the manufacturer's instructions and the adopted building codes. This inspection may also include testing for proper operation and performance as specified by the appliance and vent manufacturers. Reference NFPA 31 for further details on these products.

15.5 Inspection of (any other products?)

15.3* Level I Inspections. A Level I inspection shall be performed when verification of the suitability of the chimney, fireplace, vent, and solid fuel-burning appliance chimney or flue for continued service, under the same conditions and with the same or similar appliance or appliances, is needed.

15.3.1 Circumstances. A Level I inspection shall be conducted under the following circumstances:

- (1) During annual inspections in accordance with Section 14.2
- (2) During routine cleaning of a flue or flues within the chimney
- (3) During the repair of components
- (4) During the installation of accessories
- (3) At the time of replacement of one or more connected appliances with an equal number of appliances of similar fuel type, and with the same input rating, and efficiency. ~~in accordance with Section 14.4~~
- (Continue to reference Section 14.4. Appliance or Connector Replacement or not?).
- (4) ~~At other times as indicated in Section 15.3~~ (do we need this line item?)

15.3.2 Scope and Access. Level I inspections shall include examination of all readily accessible portions of the chimney, fireplace, vent, and solid fuel-burning appliance. This shall include and accessible portions of the connected appliance and chimney connection.

15.3.2.1 The following shall apply to the inspection of locations with panels, doors, or coverings:

- (1) The chimney exterior and surroundings shall be inspected at locations that can be accessed without the use of common tools to removal of panels, doors, or coverings.
- (2) Where panels, doors, or coverings are opened as part of the performance of another task, such as chimney cleaning or repair, such locations shall be examined as part of a Level I inspection.

15.3.2.2 Readily accessible areas of the chimney, fireplace, vent, and solid fuel-burning appliance flue that can be observed through existing openings, such as a thimble, cleanout opening, or flue termination, shall be examined for the presence of a continuous flue liner, proper installation, and no damage or deterioration.

15.3.2.3 The following shall apply to inspection of flues:

- (1) Where an inspection is conducted in accordance with Section 14.2, the inspection shall include all flues **requested to be inspected** within the chimney **or vent**. ~~and connected appliances.~~
- (2) An inspection conducted during **servicing of an appliance** ~~cleaning or appliance replacement~~ shall include the flue or flues being **serviced** ~~cleaned~~ and the appliance or **fireplace** ~~appliances~~ connected to each.

15.3.2.4 The inspection shall include verification that the flue or ~~flues~~ **vent** being inspected ~~is~~ **are** free of combustible deposits and blockage or obstruction.

15.3.2.5 The connected appliance or appliances, their chimney connectors, and surroundings shall be examined for proper clearances, protection, damage or deterioration, and observable evidence of operating malfunction.

15.3.2.6 Chimney connector inspection shall meet the following criteria:

- (1) Connectors shall be examined for proper support and fastening of joints, pitch, and securement to the **connector pipe**. ~~chimney.~~
- (2) Connectors shall be examined for damage, deterioration, internal blockage or obstruction, and freedom from combustible deposits.

15.3.2.7 Internal surfaces of fireplaces, ~~and~~ smoke chambers, **and solid fuel-burning appliances** shall be examined for damage and deterioration, combustible deposits, and evidence of operating malfunction.

15.3.2.7.1 Fireplace inserts, stoves, or accessories shall be removed from the fireplace as necessary to permit such examination.

15.3.2.7.2 The means of connecting a fireplace insert or stove to the chimney flue shall be examined for compliance with 13.4.5.

15.3.2.7.3* Fireplace inserts, stoves, or accessories shall not be required to be removed when the venting system can be thoroughly cleaned without such removal.

15.4* Level II Inspections. A Level II inspection is indicated when verification of the suitability of the chimney, fireplace, vent, and solid fuel-burning appliance chimney for new or changed conditions of service is needed or when a Level I inspection is not sufficient to determine the serviceability* of the chimney.

* Can we discuss the term “serviceability”? Is there a better term more appropriate to this standard.

15.4.1 Circumstances. A Level II inspection shall be conducted under the following circumstances:

- (1)*Upon addition or removal of one or more connected appliances or upon replacement of an appliance with one or more of the same or dissimilar type, input rating, or efficiency, unless the last connected appliance is removed and chimney use will be discontinued
- (2) Prior to relining of a chimney flue or replacement of flue lining, in accordance with 7.1.10
- (3) Upon sale or transfer of the property
- (4) After a building or chimney fire, weather or seismic event, or other incident likely to have caused damage to the chimney
- (5)* Upon identification of an operational malfunction. (add to table 15.2.1 if approved)
- ~~(5) At other times as indicated in Section 15.3~~

15.4.2 Scope and Access. Level II inspections shall include all accessible portions of the chimney chimney, fireplace, vent, and solid fuel-burning appliance exterior and interior, including the following:

- (1) Areas within accessible roofs, attics, crawl spaces, and basements
- (2) Accessible portions of materials and products identified within this standard. the appliance and chimney connection

15.4.2.1 The inspection shall include examination of all readily accessible areas covered in Section 15.3.2 for a Level I inspections, in addition to the accessible areas required by Section 15.4.2

15.4.2.2 All areas of the chimney, fireplace, vent, and solid fuel-burning appliance and its surroundings that can be accessed without the removal or destruction of permanently attached portions of the chimney or building components structure shall be inspected, including examination of the following:

- (1) Accessible Roof terminations
- (2) Accessible Locations within attics
- (3) Accessible Crawl spaces
- (4) Basements that can be accessed through doors, hatches, or other openings that do not require removal of permanently attached parts of the building.

15.4.2.3 The inspection shall include examination of accessible areas of all **requested** chimney flues, and the internal surfaces of all flue liners incorporated within the chimney with image scanning equipment or more advanced technological viewing systems used as necessary to observe those areas.

15.4.2.4 The requirement to inspect all chimney flues and all flue liners in 15.4.2.3 shall be limited to the chimney flues and flue liners requested to be inspected.

15.4.2.5 Where multiple factory-built fireplaces or chimneys are installed in a common structure or chase, the inspector shall not be required to inspect more than the system(s) requested to be inspected by the inspector's client.

15.4.2.6 The inspection shall include verification of all building codes, manufacturer's requirements, and proper application of materials at all locations that can be accessed as described in 15.4.2.

15.4.2.6 If there is a suspicion of improper installation or application of materials that cannot be confirmed, then the inspector shall recommend further investigation or research as necessary.

~~**15.4.2.6** The inspection shall include verification of proper clearances from the chimney to combustibles at all locations that can be accessed as described in 15.3.2.2.~~

~~**15.4.2.7** The inspection shall include evaluation of the proper type of flue lining material and flue sizing for the type and input rating of the connected appliances.~~

15.4.2.7.1 Sizing of flues for solid fuel-burning **appliances** and pellet fuel-burning equipment shall be in accordance with this standard.

15.4.2.7.2 Sizing of flues for gas appliances shall be in accordance with NFPA 54, National Fuel Gas Code.

15.4.2.7.3 Sizing of flues for liquid fuel appliances shall be in accordance with NFPA 31, Standard for the Installation of Oil Burning Equipment.

15.5* Level III Inspections. A Level III inspection shall be utilized for concealed areas. The inspection shall include an examination of all areas covered in 15.3.2 for Level I inspections and in 15.4.2 for Level II inspections. (moved from Section 15.5.3.1)

15.5.1 Areas Required. A Level III inspection shall be required only for those areas suspected of malfunction or damage that cannot be properly evaluated by a Level I or Level II inspection.

15.5.2 Circumstances. A Level III inspection shall be conducted under the following circumstances:

- (1) Where necessary for the investigation of a building or chimney fire, weather or seismic event, or other incident known to have caused damage to the chimney or building
- (2) Where a hazard detected or suspected as the result of Level I or II inspection cannot be fully evaluated without access to concealed areas
- (3) ~~At other times as indicated in Section 15.5~~

15.5.3 Scope and Access. A Level III inspection shall include examination of all areas as required in Section 15.3 for Level I inspections, and Section 15.4 for level II inspections. A Level III inspection shall include concealed areas of the chimney suspected of damage or malfunction.

~~**15.5.3.1** The inspection shall include examination of all areas covered in 15.3.2 for Level I inspections and in 15.4.2 for Level II inspections.~~

15.5.3.2 Examination of the chimney shall include concealed areas that can be accessed only by removal or destruction of permanently attached portions of the chimney or building structure, as necessary to determine compliance with this standard.

15.5.3.3 the inspector shall document the following:

- 1) The reason for the Level III access and type of access provided
- 2) The location of the Level III access and the results from the suspected malfunction or damage

Annex A

REVIEW all marked* sections within the ANNEX for confirmation or modifications.

A.3.3.1 Accessible (for Inspections). Access can be described as the capability of being reached for the purpose of inspection, maintenance, or repair. Access could first require the movement or removal of a panel, door, or other covering, or the use of a common tool, such as a screw- driver or wrench. Access does not require any destructive actions to the building or property.

Level I / Add to the list in Section A.15.3

A.15.3

34) Modifications or Alterations

Identify any readily accessible modifications or alterations to the fireplace, appliance, chimney or vent system.

35) Shroud Application

Visually identify and report on any shroud or application that is suspect to affect the proper operation of the fireplace or solid fuel-burning appliance chimney system.

Level II / Add

A.15.4.1 Circumstances. A Level II inspection shall be conducted under the following circumstances:

(5)* When there are indications of a malfunction.

A malfunction may include:

- 1) the entry of dangerous gases and/or smoke into the residence during the operation of the fireplace or appliance.
- 2) Back puffing or billowing by the products of ignition
- 3) Improper flame performance
- 4) Cycling of the decorative gas appliance
- 5) Unexplained odors

An indication of a malfunction is represented by thermal patterns and/or creosote or soot deposits other than those locations intended for a proper operation. Any entry of dangerous gas or smoke is considered a potential health hazard. One hundred percent of these gases are now required to exit to the exterior of the building for safety by code.