



## Public Input No. 139-NFPA 5000-2021 [ Section No. 16.3.5 ]

### **16.3.5 Extinguishment Requirements.**

#### **16.3.5.1 Sprinkler Systems.**

##### **16.3.5.1.1**

The following assembly occupancies shall be protected throughout by an approved, ~~electrically supervised~~ automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 55.3.1.1(1) and electrically supervised in accordance with 55.3.2 :

- (1) Dance halls
- (2) Discotheques
- (3) Nightclubs
- (4) Bars
- (5) Restaurants
- (6) Assembly occupancies with festival seating

##### **16.3.5.1.2**

Any building containing one or more assembly occupancies where the aggregate occupant load of the assembly occupancies exceeds 300 shall be protected by an approved, electrically supervised automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 55.3 as follows:

- (1) Throughout the story containing the assembly occupancy
- (2) Throughout all stories below the story containing the assembly occupancy
- (3) In the case of an assembly occupancy located below the level of exit discharge, throughout all stories intervening between that story and the level of exit discharge, including the level of exit discharge

**16.3.5.1.3**

The requirements of 16.3.5.1.2 shall not apply to the following:

- (1)\* Assembly occupancies consisting of a single multipurpose room of less than 12,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (1100 m<sup>2</sup>) that are not used for exhibition or display and are not part of a multiple occupancy protected as a mixed occupancy
- (2) Gymnasiums, skating rinks, and swimming pools used exclusively for participant sports with no audience facilities for more than 300 persons
- (3)\* Locations in stadia and arenas as follows:
  - (4) Over the floor area used for contests, performances, or entertainment, provided that the roof construction is more than 50 ft (15 m) above the floor level and use is restricted to low fire hazard uses
  - (5) Over the seating areas, provided that use is restricted to low fire hazard uses
  - (6) Over open-air concourses where an approved engineering analysis substantiates the ineffectiveness of sprinkler protection due to building height and combustible loading
- (7) Areas in unenclosed stadia and arenas as follows:
  - (8) Press boxes of less than 1000 ft<sup>2</sup> (93 m<sup>2</sup>)
  - (9) Storage facilities of less than 1000 ft<sup>2</sup> (93 m<sup>2</sup>) where enclosed with not less than 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction
  - (10) Enclosed areas underneath grandstands that comply with 16.4.10.5

**16.3.5.1.4** –

~~Where another provision of this chapter requires an automatic sprinkler system to be electrically supervised, the sprinkler system shall be electrically supervised in accordance with 55.3.2.~~

**16.3.5.1.5**

High-rise buildings shall comply with 16.4.5.

**16.3.5.1.6**

~~Where required by Section 7.4, buildings containing assembly occupancies shall be protected by an approved, electrically supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 55.3.1 and electrically supervised in accordance with 55.3.2.~~

**16.3.5.2** Standpipes.**16.3.5.2.1**

Class I standpipe systems shall be provided in buildings four or more stories in height, or having four or more basement levels, as specified in 55.4.1.

**16.3.5.2.2**

Class I standpipe systems shall be provided in buildings where at least one occupiable level is more than 30 ft (9.1 m) above or below the level of fire department access.

**16.3.5.2.3**

Class I standpipe systems shall be provided in buildings not protected throughout by an approved, electrically supervised sprinkler system in accordance with Section 55.3 where an occupiable area is more than 150 ft (45 m) from the closest point of fire department entry into the building.

**16.3.5.3** Portable Fire Extinguishers.

Portable fire extinguishers shall be installed in assembly occupancies in accordance with Section 55.6, unless otherwise permitted by one of the following:

- (1) The requirement of 16.3.5.3 shall not apply to seating areas.
- (2) The requirement of 16.3.5.3 shall not apply to floor areas used for contests, performances, or entertainment.
- (3) The requirement of 16.3.5.3 shall not apply to outside assembly occupancy areas.
- (4) Portable extinguishers shall be permitted to be located in secure locations accessible to staff.

**Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Input**

No technical changes to 16.3.5.3.

The SAF-AAC and BLD-AAC formed a task group to review fire sprinkler supervision requirements in NFPA 101 and 5000. The task group recommends occupancy chapters to consider replacing text that points to Section 9.7.1.1 (likewise in NFPA 5000, Section 55.3.1.) for supervision, as this can be interpreted the installation standard, i.e. NFPA 13, drives the method of supervision which allows chains and locks on new installations. This is not the intent of NFPA 101 or NFPA 5000 as model codes that allow construction tradeoffs and exceptions based on electrical supervision of valves, waterflow, etc. The task group recommends occupancy TCs to revise text in XX.3.5.1 to be explicit as follows:

- ...protected by an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 9.7.1 and electrically supervised in accordance with 9.7.2.
- ...protected by an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 55.3 and electrically supervised in accordance with 55.3.2.

Submitted on behalf of the SAF-AAC and BLD-AAC task group on sprinkler supervision.

**Submitter Information Verification**

**Submitter Full Name:** Jeffrey Hugo  
**Organization:** National Fire Sprinkler Associ  
**Affiliation:** Submitted on behalf of the SAF-AAC and BLD-AAC task group on sprinkler supervision.  
**Street Address:**  
**City:**  
**State:**  
**Zip:**  
**Submittal Date:** Tue Jun 01 15:11:12 EDT 2021  
**Committee:** BLD-AXM

**Committee Statement**

**Resolution:** [FR-8137-NFPA 5000-2021](#)

**Statement:** No technical changes to 16.3.5.3.

The SAF-AAC and BLD-AAC formed a task group to review fire sprinkler supervision requirements in NFPA 101 and 5000. The task group recommends occupancy chapters

to consider replacing text that points to Section 9.7.1.1 (likewise in NFPA 5000, Section 55.3.1.) for supervision, as this can be interpreted the installation standard, i.e. NFPA 13, drives the method of supervision which allows chains and locks on new installations. This is not the intent of NFPA 101 or NFPA 5000 as model codes that allow construction tradeoffs and exceptions based on electrical supervision of valves, waterflow, etc. The task group recommends occupancy TCs to revise text in XX.3.5.1 to be explicit as follows:

- ...protected by an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 9.7.1 and electrically supervised in accordance with 9.7.2.
- ...protected by an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 55.3 and electrically supervised in accordance with 55.3.2.

Submitted on behalf of the SAF-AAC and BLD-AAC task group on sprinkler supervision.



## Public Input No. 30-NFPA 5000-2021 [ Section No. 16.4.7.9.3 ]

### 16.4.7.9.3

Sprinklers shall not be required under stage areas less than 48 in. (1220 mm) in clear height used exclusively for chair or table storage and lined on the inside with  $\frac{5}{8}$  in. (16 mm) ~~Type~~ type X gypsum wallboard panels or an approved equivalent.

### Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Input

The Building Code Technical Committee of the Gypsum Association reviewed references to gypsum products throughout NFPA 5000 and identified several instances where incorrect terminology was used. This is one of several Public Inputs being submitted to ensure consistency in the use of gypsum terms throughout all codes, standards, and industry publications.

### Submitter Information Verification

**Submitter Full Name:** Timothy Earl  
**Organization:** GBH International  
**Affiliation:** the Gypsum Association  
**Street Address:**  
**City:**  
**State:**  
**Zip:**  
**Submittal Date:** Tue May 18 10:56:39 EDT 2021  
**Committee:** BLD-AXM

### Committee Statement

**Resolution:** [FR-8138-NFPA 5000-2021](#)

**Statement:** The Building Code Technical Committee of the Gypsum Association reviewed references to gypsum products throughout NFPA 5000 and identified several instances where incorrect terminology was used. This is one of several revisions to ensure consistency in the use of gypsum terms throughout all codes, standards, and industry publications.



## Public Input No. 5-NFPA 5000-2021 [ Section No. A.3.3.445.2 ]

### **A.3.3.445.2** Assembly Occupancy.

Assembly occupancies might include the following:

- (1) Armories
- (2) Assembly halls
- (3) Auditoriums
- (4) Bowling lanes
- (5) Club rooms
- (6) College and university classrooms, 50 persons and over
- (7) Conference rooms
- (8) Courtrooms
- (9) Dance halls
- (10) Drinking establishments
- (11) Exhibition halls
- (12) Gymnasiums
- (13) Libraries
- (14) Mortuary chapels
- (15) Motion picture theaters
- (16) Museums
- (17) Passenger stations and terminals of air, surface, underground, and marine public transportation facilities
- (18) Places of religious worship
- (19) Pool rooms
- (20) Recreation piers
- (21) Restaurants
- (22) Skating rinks
- (23) Special amusement buildings, regardless of occupant load
- (24) Theaters

Assembly occupancies are characterized by the presence or potential presence of crowds with attendant panic hazard in case of fire or other emergency. They are generally open or occasionally open to the public, and the occupants, who are present voluntarily, are not ordinarily subject to discipline or control. Such buildings are ~~ordinarily occupied by able-bodied persons and are~~ not used for sleeping purposes. Special conference rooms, snack areas, and other areas incidental to, and under the control of, the management of other occupancies, such as offices, fall under the 50-person limitation.

Restaurants and drinking establishments with an occupant load of fewer than 50 persons should be classified as mercantile occupancies.

For special amusement buildings, see 16.4.9.

## Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Input

The NFPA Disability Access Review and Advisory Committee (DARAC) requests an update to the terminology used to describe individuals with disabilities. In general, we suggest using “people first” language to avoid characterizing a person or group of persons entirely by their disability. Also, where possible, we recommend substituting the appropriate technical term when describing building elements that are accessible to individuals with disabilities, rather than describing the element as being “for” such people. For example, we would say “accessible parking” instead of “handicap parking”. The substitute terms we recommend are found to be more acceptable to the disability community and its supporters and, therefore, demonstrate greater respect.

We used following resources to develop our input:

- “Guidelines for Writing About People with Disabilities” ADA National Network at <https://adata.org/factsheet/ADANN-writing>
- “Disability Style Guide” National Center on Disability and Journalism at <https://ncdj.org/style-guide/>
- “Resources for Reporters Writing About Blindness and Vision Loss” American Foundation for the Blind at <https://www.afb.org/news-publications/press-room/reporter-resources-writing-about-blindness-vision-loss>
- “Five Tips for Writing About People with Disabilities” Adaptive Sports Center at <https://www.adaptivesports.org/blog/announcements/five-tips-writing-about-people-disabilities>
- “Fact Sheet: Drug Addiction and Federal Disability Rights Laws” U.S. Department of Health and Hum Services: Office for Civil Rights at <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/drug-addiction-aand-federal-disability-rights-laws-fact-sheet.pdf>
- “People First Language” District of Columbia Office of Disability Rights at <https://odr.dc.gov/page/people-first-language>

## Submitter Information Verification

**Submitter Full Name:** Marsha Mazz

**Organization:** United Spinal Association

**Affiliation:** Representing the DARAC Advisory Committee

**Street Address:**

**City:**

**State:**

**Zip:**

**Submission Date:** Thu May 06 13:51:24 EDT 2021

**Committee:** BLD-AXM

## Committee Statement

**Resolution:** [FR-8139-NFPA 5000-2021](#)

**Statement:** The NFPA Disability Access Review and Advisory Committee (DARAC) requests an update to the terminology used to describe individuals with disabilities. In general, we suggest using “people first” language to avoid characterizing a person or group of persons entirely by their disability. Also, where possible, we recommend substituting the appropriate technical term when describing building elements that are accessible to individuals with disabilities, rather than describing the element as being “for” such people. For example, we would say “accessible parking” instead of “handicap parking”. The substitute terms we recommend are found to be more acceptable to the disability community and its supporters and, therefore, demonstrate greater respect.

We used following resources to develop our input:

- “Guidelines for Writing About People with Disabilities” ADA National Network at <https://adata.org/factsheet/ADANN-writing>

- “Disability Style Guide” National Center on Disability and Journalism at <https://ncdj.org/style-guide/>
- “Resources for Reporters Writing About Blindness and Vision Loss” American Foundation for the Blind at <https://www.afb.org/news-publications/press-room/reporter-resources-writing-about-blindness-vision-loss>
- “Five Tips for Writing About People with Disabilities” Adaptive Sports Center at <https://www.adaptivesports.org/blog/announcements/five-tips-writing-about-people-disabilities>
- “Fact Sheet: Drug Addiction and Federal Disability Rights Laws” U.S. Department of Health and Hum Services: Office for Civil Rights at <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/drug-addiction-aand-federal-disability-rights-laws-fact-sheet.pdf>
- “People First Language” District of Columbia Office of Disability Rights at <https://odr.dc.gov/page/people-first-language>

NOTE TO CORRELATING COMMITTEE: PLEASE MAKE CORRESPONDING REVISION TO A.6.1.2.1.