



Public Comment No. 283-NFPA 72-2020 [Section No. 18.1]

The Technical Committee is advised to review the new Chapter 11 on cybersecurity and determine whether it should be referenced in the Application statement for this Chapter.

18.1* Application.

18.1.1

The requirements of this chapter shall apply where required by the authority having jurisdiction governing laws, codes, or standards; or other parts of this Code.

18.1.2

The requirements of this chapter shall address the reception of a notification signal and not the signal's information content.

18.1.3

The performance, location, and mounting of notification appliances used to initiate or direct evacuation or relocation of the occupants, or for providing information to occupants or staff, shall comply with this chapter.

18.1.4

The performance, location, and mounting of annunciators, displays, and printers used to display or record information for use by occupants, staff, responding emergency personnel, or supervising station personnel shall comply with this chapter.

18.1.5*

The requirements of this chapter shall apply to the areas, spaces, or system functions where required by the authority having jurisdiction governing laws, codes, or standards; or other parts of this Code requiring compliance with this chapter.

18.1.6

Notification appliances shall be permitted to be used within buildings or outdoors and to target the general building, area, or space, or only specific parts of a building, area, or space designated in specific zones and sub-zones.

18.1.7

The requirements of Chapters 10, 14, 23, and 24 shall apply to the interconnection of notification appliances, the control configurations, the power supplies, and the use of the information provided by notification appliances.

Additional Proposed Changes

<u>File Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Approved</u>
CorrelatingNoteNo._79.pdf	NFPA 72 - CN No. 79	

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

NOTE: This Public Comment appeared as Correlating Committee Note No. 79 in the First Draft Report.

The Technical Committee is advised to review the new Chapter 11 on cybersecurity and determine whether it should be referenced in the Application statement for this Chapter.

Related Item

- CN No. 79

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: CC on SIG-AAC

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Submittal Date: Wed May 06 15:11:49 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected but see related SR

Resolution: [SR-5001-NFPA 72-2020](#)

Statement: The Technical Committee edits the text to include Chapter 11 and terms related to cybersecurity for notification.

**Public Comment No. 122-NFPA 72-2020 [New Section after 18.1.7]****18.1.8**

The requirements of Chapter 11 shall apply to this chapter.

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

Cybersecurity measures should be applied to notification appliances to mitigate security threats.

Related Item

- correlcomm note #79

Submitter Information Verification

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Submittal Date: Tue Apr 28 11:39:59 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected but see related SR

Resolution: SR-5001-NFPA 72-2020

Statement: The Technical Committee edits the text to include Chapter 11 and terms related to cybersecurity for notification.

**Public Comment No. 282-NFPA 72-2020 [New Section after 18.3.6]****Notification Appliance Circuit**

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Additional Proposed Changes

<u>File Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Approved</u>
Life_Safety_System_Notification_Appliance_Circuit_050620ms2.docx	Supporting documentation for PC	

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

Task Group Input

Related Item

- PI 338

Submitter Information Verification

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Submittal Date: Wed May 06 15:10:04 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected but see related SR

Resolution: SR-5022-NFPA 72-2020

Statement: The Technical Committee recognizes the importance of notification appliance circuits in the performance of the notification appliance.

**Public Comment No. 303-NFPA 72-2020 [Section No. 18.4]**

The Technical Committee is advised to review Public Input 252 for possible inclusion of the proposed signal for this technology.

18.4 Audible Characteristics.**18.4.1 General Requirements.****18.4.1.1***

An average ambient sound level greater than 105 dBA shall require the use of a visual notification appliance(s) in accordance with Section 18.5 where the application is public mode or Section 18.6 where the application is private mode.

18.4.1.2*

The total sound pressure level produced by combining the ambient sound pressure level with all audible notification appliances operating shall not exceed 110 dBA at the minimum hearing distance.

18.4.1.3*

Sound from normal or permanent sources, having a duration of at least 60 seconds, shall be included when measuring maximum ambient sound level.

18.4.1.4

Sound from temporary or abnormal sources lasting less than 60 seconds shall not be required to be included when measuring maximum ambient sound level.

18.4.1.5

Audible alert and evacuation signal tones, including those that precede or follow voice messages, shall meet the requirements of 18.4.4 (Public Mode Audible Requirements), 18.4.5 (Private Mode Audible Requirements), 18.4.6 (Sleeping Area Requirements), or 18.4.7 (Narrow Band Tone Signaling for Exceeding Masked Thresholds), as applicable.

18.4.1.5.1*

The designer of the audible notification system shall identify the rooms and spaces that will have audible notification and those where audible notification will not be provided.

18.4.1.5.2

Unless otherwise required by other sections of this Code, the coverage area for audible occupant notification shall be as required by other governing laws, codes, or standards.

18.4.1.5.3

Where other governing laws, codes, or standards require audible occupant notification for all or part of an area or space, coverage shall only be required in occupiable areas as defined in 3.3.195

18.4.1.5.4

The sound pressure levels that must be produced by the audible appliances in the coverage areas to meet the requirements of this Code shall be documented by the system designer during the planning and design of the notification system.

18.4.1.5.5

The greater of the expected average ambient sound pressure level or expected maximum sound pressure level having a duration of at least 60 seconds shall be documented for the coverage area by the system designer to ensure compliance with 18.4.4, 18.4.5, 18.4.6, or 18.4.7.

18.4.1.5.6

The design sound pressure levels to be produced by the notification appliances for the various coverage areas shall be documented for use during acceptance testing of the system.

18.4.1.5.7

Where required by the authority having jurisdiction, documentation of the design sound pressure levels for the various coverage areas shall be submitted for review and approval.

18.4.1.6*

Voice messages shall not be required to meet the audibility requirements of 18.4.4 (Public Mode Audible Requirements), 18.4.5 (Private Mode Audible Requirements), 18.4.6 (Sleeping Area Requirements), or 18.4.7 (Narrow Band Tone Signaling for Exceeding Masked Thresholds), but shall meet the intelligibility requirements of 18.4.11 where voice intelligibility is required.

18.4.1.7

Audible notification appliances used for exit marking shall not be required to meet the audibility requirements of 18.4.4 (Public Mode Audible Requirements), 18.4.5 (Private Mode Audible Requirements), 18.4.6 (Sleeping Area Requirements), or 18.4.7 (Narrow Band Tone Signaling for Exceeding Masked Thresholds), except as required by 18.4.8 (Exit Marking Audible Notification Appliance Requirements).

18.4.2 Distinctive Evacuation Signal.**18.4.2.1***

To meet the requirements of Section 10.11, the alarm audible signal pattern used to notify building occupants of the need to evacuate (i.e., leave the building) or relocate (i.e., from one area to another) shall be the standard alarm evacuation signal consisting of a three-pulse temporal pattern in accordance with ANSI/ASA S3.41, *Audible Emergency Evacuation (E2) And Evacuation Signals With Relocation Instructions (ESRI)*.

18.4.2.2*

The signal shall be repeated for a period appropriate for the purposes of evacuation of the building, but for not less than 180 seconds unless otherwise set forth in an emergency plan approved by the authority having jurisdiction.

18.4.2.3

The minimum repetition time shall be permitted to be automatically interrupted for the transmission of mass notification messages in accordance with Chapter 24.

18.4.2.4*

The standard evacuation signal shall be synchronized within a notification zone.

18.4.3 Distinctive Carbon Monoxide Audible Alarm Signal.**18.4.3.1**

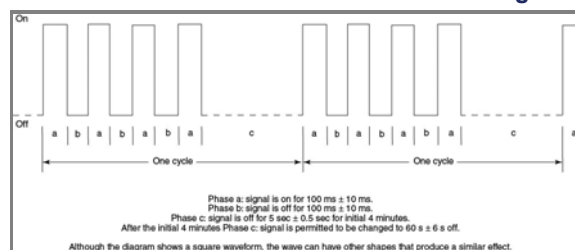
Where a carbon monoxide detector or alarm is required by other codes or standards or by the authority having jurisdiction and where an audible signal is required, a distinctive signal pattern shall be required that is different from a fire evacuation signal.

18.4.3.2

Where an audible signal is required, the carbon monoxide signal shall be a four-pulse temporal pattern and comply with the following:

- (1) Signals shall be a pattern consisting of four cycles of 100 milliseconds $\pm$ 10 percent "on" and 100 milliseconds $\pm$ 10 percent "off," followed by 5 seconds $\pm$ 10 percent "off," as demonstrated in Figure 18.4.3.2.
- (2) After the initial 4 minutes of the carbon monoxide signal, the 5-second "off" time shall be permitted to be changed to 60 seconds $\pm$ 10 percent.
- (3) The alarm signal shall be repeated in compliance with 18.4.3.2(1) and 18.4.3.2(2) until the alarm resets or the alarm signal is manually silenced.

Figure 18.4.3.2 Temporal Pattern Parameters — Carbon Monoxide Signal.

**18.4.3.3**

The signal shall be synchronized within a notification zone of a protected premises.

18.4.4* Public Mode Audible Requirements.

18.4.4.1*

To ensure that audible public mode signals are clearly heard, unless otherwise permitted by 18.4.4.2 through 18.4.4.5, they shall have a sound level at least 15 dB above the average ambient sound level or 5 dB above the maximum sound level having a duration of at least 60 seconds, whichever is greater, measured 5 ft (1.5 m) above the floor in the area required to be served by the system using the A-weighted scale (dBA).

18.4.4.2

Where approved by the authority having jurisdiction or other governing codes or standards, the requirements for audible signaling shall be permitted to be reduced or eliminated when visual signaling is provided in accordance with Section 18.5.

18.4.4.3

Audible notification appliances installed in elevator cars shall be permitted to use the audibility criteria for private mode appliances detailed in 18.4.5.1.

18.4.4.4

If approved by the authority having jurisdiction, audible notification appliances installed in restrooms shall be permitted to use the audibility criteria for private mode appliances detailed in 18.4.5.1.

18.4.4.5

A signaling system arranged to stop or reduce ambient noise shall comply with 18.4.4.5.1 through 18.4.4.5.3.

18.4.4.5.1

A signaling system arranged to stop or reduce ambient noise shall produce a sound level at least 15 dB above the reduced average ambient sound level or 5 dB above the maximum sound level having a duration of at least 60 seconds after reduction of the ambient noise level, whichever is greater, measured 5 ft (1.5 m) above the floor in the area required to be served by the system using the A-weighted scale (dBA).

18.4.4.5.2

Visual notification appliances shall be installed in the affected areas in accordance with Sections 18.5 or 18.6.

18.4.4.5.3

Relays, circuits, or interfaces necessary to stop or reduce ambient noise shall meet the requirements of Chapters 10, 12, 21, and 23.

18.4.5 Private Mode Audible Requirements.**18.4.5.1***

To ensure that audible private mode signals are clearly heard, they shall have a sound level at least 10 dB above the average ambient sound level or 5 dB above the maximum sound level having a duration of at least 60 seconds, whichever is greater, measured 5 ft (1.5 m) above the floor in the area required to be served by the system using the A-weighted scale (dBA).

18.4.5.2*

Where approved by the authority having jurisdiction or other governing codes or standards, the requirements for audible signaling shall be permitted to be reduced or eliminated when visual signaling is provided in accordance with Section 18.5.

18.4.5.3

A system arranged to stop or reduce ambient noise shall comply with 18.4.5.3.1 through 18.4.5.3.3.

18.4.5.3.1

A system arranged to stop or reduce ambient noise shall be permitted to produce a sound level at least 10 dB above the reduced average ambient sound level or 5 dB above the maximum sound level having a duration of at least 60 seconds after reduction of the ambient noise level, whichever is greater, measured 5 ft (1.5 m) above the floor, using the A-weighted scale (dBA).

18.4.5.3.2

Visual notification appliances shall be installed in the affected areas in accordance with Sections 18.5 or 18.6.

18.4.5.3.3

Relays, circuits, or interfaces necessary to stop or reduce ambient noise shall meet the requirements of Chapters 10, 12, 21, and 23.

18.4.6 Sleeping Area Requirements.**18.4.6.1***

Where audible appliances are installed to provide signals for sleeping areas, they shall have a sound level of at least 15 dB above the average ambient sound level or 5 dB above the maximum sound level having a duration of at least 60 seconds or a sound level of at least 75 dBA, whichever is greater, measured at the pillow level in the area required to be served by the system using the A-weighted scale (dBA).

18.4.6.2

If any barrier, such as a door, curtain, or retractable partition, is located between the notification appliance and the pillow, the sound pressure level shall be measured with the barrier placed between the appliance and the pillow.

18.4.6.3*

Audible appliances provided for the sleeping areas to awaken occupants shall produce a low frequency alarm signal that complies with the following:

- (1) The waveform shall have a fundamental frequency of 520 Hz $\pm$ 10 percent.
- (2)* The notification equipment shall be listed for producing the low frequency waveform.

18.4.7* Narrow Band Tone Signaling for Exceeding Masked Thresholds.**18.4.7.1 Masked Threshold Allowance.**

Audible tone signaling shall be permitted to comply with the masked threshold requirements in this subsection in lieu of the A-weighted signaling requirements in 18.4.4 and 18.4.5.

18.4.7.2* Calculation Method.

The effective masked threshold shall be calculated in accordance with ISO 7731, *Danger signals for public and work places — Auditory danger signals*.

18.4.7.3 Noise Data.

Noise data for calculating the effective masked threshold shall be the peak value of noise lasting 60 seconds or more for each octave or one-third octave band.

18.4.7.4 Documentation.

Analysis and design documentation shall be submitted to the authority having jurisdiction and shall contain the following information:

- (1) Frequency data for the ambient noise, including the date, time, and location where measurements were taken for existing environments, or projected data for environments not yet constructed
- (2) Frequency data of the audible notification appliance
- (3) Calculations of the effective masked threshold for each set of noise data
- (4) A statement of the sound pressure level that would be required by 18.4.4 or 18.4.5 if masked threshold signaling had not been done

18.4.7.5 Sound Pressure Level.

For masked threshold signaling, the audible signal tone shall meet the requirements of either 18.4.7.5.1 or 18.4.7.5.2 but not for the reproduction of prerecorded, synthesized, or live messages.

18.4.7.5.1

The sound pressure level of the audible tone signal shall exceed the masked threshold in one or more octave bands by at least 10 dB in the octave band under consideration.

18.4.7.5.2

The sound pressure level of the audible tone signal shall exceed the masked threshold in one or more one-third octave bands by at least 13 dB in the one-third octave band under consideration.

18.4.8 Exit Marking Audible Notification Appliance Requirements.

18.4.8.1*

Exit marking audible notification appliances shall meet or exceed the frequency and sound level settings and guidelines specified in the manufacturer's documented instructions.

18.4.8.2*

In addition to 18.4.8.1, as a minimum, to ensure that exit marking audible notification appliance signals are clearly heard and produce the desired directional effects for 50 ft (15.24 m) within an unobstructed egress path, they shall meet the audibility requirements of 18.4.7 in at least one one-third octave band or one octave band within the effective frequency ranges of the interaural time difference (ITD), interaural level or intensity difference (ILD or IID), and anatomical transfer function or head-related transfer function (ATF or HRTF) localization cues.

18.4.8.3

The exit marking audible notification appliance signal shall penetrate both the ambient noise and the fire alarm signal.

18.4.8.4

Where required by the authority having jurisdiction governing laws, codes, or standards; or other parts of this Code, exit marking audible notification appliances shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's published instructions.

18.4.8.5*

Where required by the authority having jurisdiction governing laws, codes, or standards; or other parts of this Code, exit marking audible notification shall be located at the entrance to all building exits and areas of refuge as defined by the applicable building or fire code.

18.4.8.6

Where exit marking audible notification appliances are utilized to mark areas of refuge, they shall provide an audible signal distinct from that used for other exits that do not have areas of refuge.

18.4.9 Location of Audible Notification Appliances for Building or Structure.**18.4.9.1**

If ceiling heights allow, and unless otherwise permitted by 18.4.9.2 through 18.4.9.5, wall-mounted appliances shall have their tops above the finished floors at heights of not less than 90 in. (2.29 m) and below the finished ceilings at distances of not less than 6 in. (150 mm).

18.4.9.2

Ceiling-mounted or recessed appliances shall be permitted.

18.4.9.3

If combination audible/visual notification appliances are installed, the location of the installed appliance shall be determined by the requirements of 18.5.5.

18.4.9.4

Appliances that are an integral part of a smoke detector, carbon monoxide detector, smoke alarm, carbon monoxide alarm, or other initiating device shall be located in accordance with the requirements for that device.

18.4.9.5

Mounting heights other than required by 18.4.9.1 and 18.4.9.2 shall be permitted, provided that the sound pressure level requirements of 18.4.4 for public mode or 18.4.5 for private mode, or 18.4.6 for sleeping areas, based on the application, are met.

18.4.10 Location of Audible Notification Appliances for Wide-Area Signaling.

Audible notification appliances for wide-area signaling shall be installed in accordance with the requirements of the authority having jurisdiction, approved design documents, and the manufacturer's installation instruction to achieve the required performance.

18.4.11* Voice Intelligibility.

Within the acoustically distinguishable spaces (ADS) where voice intelligibility is required, voice communications systems shall reproduce prerecorded, synthesized, or live (e.g., microphone, telephone handset, and radio) messages with voice intelligibility.

18.4.11.1*

ADSs shall be determined by the system designer during the planning and design of all emergency communications systems.

18.4.11.2

Each ADS shall be identified as requiring or not requiring voice intelligibility.

18.4.11.3*

Unless specifically required by other governing laws, codes, or standards, or by other parts of this Code, intelligibility shall not be required in all ADSs.

18.4.11.4*

Where required by the authority having jurisdiction governing laws, codes, or standards; or other parts of this Code, ADS assignments shall be submitted for review and approval.

18.4.11.5

Quantitative measurements shall not be required.

18.4.11.6

Quantitative measurements shall be permitted. (See D.2.4.)

Additional Proposed Changes

<u>File Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Approved</u>
CorrelatingNoteNo._33.pdf	NFPA 72 - CN No. 33	

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

NOTE: This Public Comment appeared as Correlating Committee Note No. 33 in the First Draft Report and is related to Public Input No. 252 and First Revision No.'s 5013 and 5018.

The Technical Committee is advised to review Public Input 252 for possible inclusion of the proposed signal for this technology.

Related Item

• CN No. 33 • PI No. 252 • FR No. 5013 • FR No. 5018

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: CC on SIG-AAC

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Submittal Date: Wed May 06 16:56:59 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected

Resolution: PI-252 does not provide any research or technical information regarding the need for monitoring devices of these appliances. In addition, there is no research or industry information to substantiate the type, pattern, timing or required sound level of the proposed signal. The Correlating Committee is also advised that their instructions to review FR's 5013 and 5018 as related material to PI-252 was confusing as they do not appear to be related to PI-252.



Public Comment No. 300-NFPA 72-2020 [New Section after 18.4.1.7]

Restricted Audible Mode Operation

18.4.1.8 Restricted Audible Mode Operation (RAMO) Notification

18.4.1.8.1 Where maximum sound pressure levels are required for a protected space, this operation shall be referred to as Restricted Audible Mode Operation (RAMO).

18.4.1.8.2 RAMO areas shall be indicated on the project drawings.

18.4.1.8.3 RAMO shall be permitted to be used only where there is constant awake and mobile staff.

18.4.1.8.4 RAMO shall not be used in protected areas where people may be sleeping without constant awake mobile staff.

18.4.1.8.5 Where required by the AHJ, for fixed use applications, the RAMO system shall be designed, installed and maintained such that the sound pressure level produced by the RAMO notification appliances throughout the protected space shall be at least 5 dBA-fast and not more than 20 dBA-fast above the average ambient sound pressure level or the maximum sound pressure level having a duration of 60 seconds, whichever is greater, measured at 5 ft. (1.5 m) above the finished floor in the protected space. The minimum sound pressure level produced in the protected area by the RAMO system shall be 45 dBA-fast.

18.4.1.8.6 Where required by the AHJ, for non-fixed use applications, the RAMO system shall be designed, installed and maintained with automatic sound pressure level adjustment controls such that the sound pressure level produced by the RAMO notification appliances throughout the protected space shall be maintained at least 5 dBA-fast and not more than 20 dBA-fast above the average ambient sound pressure level or the maximum sound pressure level having a duration of 60 seconds, whichever is greater, measured at 5 ft. (1.5 m) above the finished floor in the protected space. The minimum sound pressure level produced in the protected area by the RAMO shall be 45 dBA-fast.

18.4.1.8.7 Audible notification appliances for RAMO shall be Listed for a minimum of 45 dBA-fast at 10' on axis.

18.4.1.8.8 RAMO audible appliances shall be permitted to start their output cycle at 50% of the final volume for the 1st 1/3 of the output cycle. This operation shall be referred to as RMO Ramp-up.

18.4.1.8.8.1 RAMO Ramp-up shall not be permitted on live paging operation, where the system is capable of providing live paging.

18.4.1.8.8.2 RAMO audible output that utilizes RAMO Ramp-up shall be measured at the maximum tone output of the appliance.

18.4.1.8.9 RAMO areas shall be reviewed at least annually to determine if the occupancy has changed.

18.4.1.8.10 Visual notification appliances shall not be permitted to eliminate audible notification in the protected area.

A18.4.1.8.1 The purpose of this RAMO information is to provide guidance to designers, engineers, users and AHJs relative to applications where the maximum amplitude of general area audible notification appliances should be controlled so as to not cause undue health issues for facility occupants. This is

different than Public or Private Mode audible notification as these two modes set the minimum SPL for the use, but do not address the maximum amplitudes. An example of one of these applications would be facilities for people with Autism. The Risk Assessment should address the use of RAMO.

There have been situations where the system notification appliances can frighten or cause undo panic of occupants, which can impede the orderly evacuation of the protected space. Cases such as small children or autistic people reacting to the "instant on and very loud" notification appliance activation are of concern. For these types of environments, preference should be given to utilize voice alarm systems that utilize RAMO Ramp-up for pre-recorded messages.

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

Results of System Amplitude Task Group

Related Item

- Public Input 9

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: Morris Stoops

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Submittal Date: Wed May 06 16:33:50 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected but held

Resolution: The Technical Committee recognizes the efforts and dedication of the Task Group in crafting this document however, this material having been recently released and technical in nature and therefore should have additional review by the public and committee before inclusion into the Code. New definitions such as RAMO require an additional PC for inclusion into Chapter 3. PC-300 is also missing a substantiation. More research and/or documentation of existing research is needed in this area.

**Public Comment No. 301-NFPA 72-2020 [New Section after 18.4.1.7]****Maximum Public Mode Audible Level****18.4.1.9 Maximum Public Mode Audible Levels**

18.4.1.9.1 When the Risk Assessment determines it is warranted where design or actual testing indicates that the Public Mode audible notification SPL will/does exceed 45 dBA-fast above the average ambient sound pressure level or the maximum sound pressure level having a duration of 60 seconds, whichever is greater, measured at 5 ft. (1.5 m) above the finished floor in the protected space, the AHJ shall have the authority to require that the audible notification SPL output be lowered to a maximum of 45 dBA-fast above the average ambient sound pressure level or the maximum sound pressure level having a duration of 60 seconds, whichever is greater, measured at 5 ft. (1.5 m) above the finished floor in the protected space.

18.4.1.9.1.1 Where the Public Mode SPL of a protected space has been reduced, said reductions shall be recorded in system documentation.

18.4.1.9.1.2 For areas where the Public Mode SPL has been reduced, each application shall be reviewed annually to determine if the application has changed.

A14.4.1.9.1 The purposed of this code section is to provide a method for AHJs to require that the amplitude of a system be adjusted so as not to exacerbate a situation. The Risk Assessment should address these applications, the changes should be documented and all the applications reviewed regularly for changes that may require system modifications.

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

System Maximum Audible Mode Operation

Related Item

- Public Input 9

Submitter Information Verification

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Submittal Date: Wed May 06 16:37:02 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected but held

Resolution: The Technical Committee recognizes the efforts and dedication of the Task Group in crafting this document however, this material having been recently released and technical in nature and therefore should have additional review by the public and committee before inclusion into the Code. PC-301 is missing a substantiation and there is no rational or research to justify the PC. More research and/or documentation of existing research is needed in this area.



Public Comment No. 248-NFPA 72-2020 [Section No. 18.4.2.1]

18.4.2.1*

To meet the requirements of Section 10.11, the alarm audible signal pattern used to notify building occupants ~~of the need to evacuate (i.e., leave the building) or relocate (i.e., from one area to another) shall~~ occupants shall be the standard alarm evacuation signal consisting of a three-pulse temporal pattern in accordance with ANSI/ASA S3.41, *Audible Emergency Evacuation (E2) And Evacuation Signals With Relocation Instructions (ESRI)*.

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

Eliminates additional words that can be confusing and not needed for the requirement.

Related Item

- PI-167

Submitter Information Verification

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Submittal Date: Wed May 06 11:15:55 EDT 2020
Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected
Resolution: The Technical Committee disagrees with this change. The request modifies the intent of the Code and may create additional confusion by not clarifying this section is to apply to evacuation as well as relocation.



Public Comment No. 59-NFPA 72-2020 [Section No. 18.4.2.1]

18.4.2.1*

To meet the requirements of Section 10.11, the alarm audible signal pattern used to notify building occupants of the need to evacuate (i.e., leave the building)- or- shall be the standard alarm evacuation signal consisting of a three-pulse temporal pattern in accordance with ANSI/ASA S3.41, Audible Emergency Evacuation (E2).

18.4.2.1.1 When approved by the authority having jurisdiction, the alarm audible signal pattern to notify building occupants of the need to relocate (i.e., from one area to another within the building) shall be permitted to be one of the following:

a) the standard alarm evacuation signal consisting of a three-pulse temporal pattern in accordance with ANSI/ASA S3.41, Audible Emergency Evacuation (E2) And Evacuation Signals With Relocation Instructions (ESRI)

b) 1-second to 3-second alert tone followed by a message in accordance with Section 24.4.8.3.

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

1. The committee statement for FR 5013 States: "These changes are intended to return the text to the version following the 2019 edition 1st draft. The final 2019 edition does not reflect the 1st draft changes. Those changes were unchanged in the 2nd draft. However, a floor CAM was passed but failed final Standards Council (SC) approval. When that occurs, the text does not stay as approved by the Technical Committee (TC). Instead, the directive is to ignore 1st and 2nd drafts and CAMs and to revert the text to the previous edition. Thus, the 2019 edition was returned to 2016 text, undoing the 1st draft changes"

Based on this statement that "the 2019 edition was returned to the 2016 text, undoing the 1st draft changes" - NEW Code language should not have been allowed to amend the code. However the FIRST DRAFT language for section 18.4.2.1 DID NOT return to the 2016 Language as stated by the TC: The following First Draft text is not included in the 2016 text of Section 18.4.2.1: "in accordance with ANSI/ASA S3.41, Audible Emergency Evacuation (E2) AND Evacuation Signals With Relocation Instructions (ESRI)" - This is against the committee statement and against NFPA procedure which required to return the CODE to the previous agreed 2016 language. I would like to request that NFPA staff will look into this issue and verify if all NFPA rules and procedures were followed regarding FR 5013 and the resulting FD language in order to prevent future appeals on this procedure.

2. While I understand that there is an ANSI standard for ESRI (which was newly added to this section - not sure if per the correct NFPA procedure) - This ANSI standard should not be mandatory for all the Fire Jurisdictions who are enforcing NFPA 72 and make them to ONLY require Temp-3 signal for Relocation purposes.

As it was clear to the majority of NFPA members (at the Tech Session via a large majority vote supporting CAM 72-1) and as it is clear to many AHJs per NFPA 72 definitions and other code sections - Evacuation and Relocation are two DIFFERENT procedures. Evacuation means to leave the building (to the outside) and Relocation means to change location within the building. NFPA 72 (definitions and chapter 24) treats RELOCATION as an emergency procedure within the building which is NOT an evacuation, and therefore, the purpose of the alert tone is to alert the building occupants that an emergency voice message is to follow and they should act according to the message. (similar non-evacuation emergency messages could be a "shelter-in-place message, etc.)

NFPA 72 clearly indicates: "A.3.3.100 Evacuation. Evacuation does not include the relocation of occupants within a building."

I understand that some people think that leaving the building to the outside or relocating from one area to another area within the building is the same concept and therefore they want to mandate the T-3 signal for both procedures. However, in my opinion and the majority of NFPA members' opinion at the Tech Session, it seemed as a big stretch to treat RELOCATION within the building same as "EVACUATION" to the outside of the building.

In my opinion, the TC needs to also consider what the general public thinks (based on the Tech Session vote for CAM 72-1) and to also to allow for some permissive language within the code to allow for different fire jurisdictions to enforce this requirement differently if they believe that different alert tones should be provided for Evacuation and Relocation procedures.

My amended Public Comment proposal is trying to ensure that AHJs will have the flexibility within the code to either enforce the T-3 signal for both evacuation and relocation procedures OR they could enforce a 1-3 Second alert tone for Relocation per Section 24.4.8.3, which treats Relocation Messages as "NON-Evacuation" messages:

"24.4.8.3 Where the system is used to transmit relocation instructions or other fire emergency non-evacuation messages, a 1-second to 3-second alert tone followed by a message (or messages where multi-channel capability is used) shall be provided."

If the TC will keep insisting on requiring ONLY T-3 for both procedures, this will be against the NFPA membership majority's opinion and against many AHJs procedures and this code will keep to not be in consensus and will trigger future NITMAMs and appeals, etc. I encourage the TC to resolve this issue based on this Public Comment.

As a reference: This proposal has passed the Tech-Session CAM 72-1 with a large majority (262-176 Pass) to accept Public comments 386 and 387.

Based on the Tech-Session debate (see available script on the NFPA 72 online page) it was clear to most NFPA members that "Evacuation Signal" means to alert occupants to "Leave the building", While "Relocation signal" means to alert occupants to move from one area to another area within the building.

The definition for "Relocation" in section 3.3.242 clearly states this intent:

"3.3.242 Relocation. The directed movement of occupants from one area to another area within the same building"

The definition for "Evacuation" is:

"3.3.100* Evacuation. The withdrawal of occupants from a building. (SIG-PRO)"

It is specifically explained in the Annex as:

"A.3.3.100 Evacuation. Evacuation does not include the relocation of occupants within a building."

Also, the definition of an Evacuation Signal is:

"3.3.263.4 Evacuation Signal. A distinctive alarm signal intended to be recognized by the occupants as requiring evacuation of the building. (SIG-PRO)"

Therefore it is clear that an Evacuation Signal COULD Be different than a Relocation signal.

Related Item

• PI 167 • FR 5013 • CAM 72-1

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: Sagiv Weiss-Ishai

Organization: San Francisco Fire Department

Affiliation: SFFD

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Submittal Date: Sun Mar 29 12:46:05 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected

Resolution: The Technical Committee does not make the change requested by the submitter as ANSI/ASA S3.41 is the industry acceptable code reference that is to apply to evacuation and relocation signals.

**Public Comment No. 305-NFPA 72-2020 [Section No. 18.4.2.2]**

The Technical Committee is advised to review the usage of the phrase "appropriate for the purposes" in 18.4.2.2 for enforceability, per the Manual of Style.

18.4.2.2 *

The signal shall be repeated for a period appropriate for the purposes of evacuation of the building, but for not less than 180 seconds unless otherwise set forth in an emergency plan approved by the authority having jurisdiction.

Additional Proposed Changes

<u>File Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Approved</u>
CorrelatingNoteNo._34.pdf	NFPA 72 - CN No. 34	

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

NOTE: This Public Comment appeared as Correlating Committee Note No. 34 in the First Draft Report and is related to First Revision No. 5013.

The Technical Committee is advised to review the usage of the phrase "appropriate for the purposes" in 18.4.2.2 for enforceability, per the Manual of Style.

Related Item

• CN No. 34 • FR No. 5013

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: CC on SIG-AAC

Organization: NFPA 72 Correlating Committee

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Submission Date: Wed May 06 17:03:42 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected but see related SR

Resolution: SR-5017-NFPA 72-2020

Statement: Emergency or authorized personnel are not defined therefore the text is revised to reflect authorized or emergency personnel. The Technical Committee revises the text to comply with the manual of style.



Public Comment No. 60-NFPA 72-2020 [Section No. 18.4.2.2]

18.4.2.2*

The signal shall be repeated for a period appropriate for the purposes of evacuation of the building, but for until the fire alarm system is manually silenced or reset by emergency or authorized personnel, or when approved by the authority having jurisdiction based on an emergency plan, the signal shall be permitted to automatically silenced, but not less than 180 seconds unless otherwise set forth in an emergency plan approved by the authority having jurisdiction. after the signal was initiated.

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

This Section was amended per FR-5013, and the language in the proposed First Draft is NEW and is different than the previous language in NFPA 72 - 2016

The committee statement for FR-5013 indicates:

"These changes are intended to return the text to the version following the 2019 edition 1st draft. The final 2019 edition does not reflect the 1st draft changes. Those changes were unchanged in the 2nd draft. However, a floor CAM was passed but failed final Standards Council (SC) approval. When that occurs, the text does not stay as approved by the Technical Committee (TC). Instead, the directive is to ignore 1st and 2nd drafts and CAMs and to revert the text to the previous edition. Thus, the 2019 edition was returned to 2016 text, undoing the 1st draft changes."

1) Since the proposed First Draft language is different than the language in Section 18.4.2.3 of NFPA 72-2016 - I would like to request that an NFPA staff will look into the NFPA rules and procedures as mentioned in the Committee Statement for FR 5031 and verify why the language was not returned to the previous consensus language of the 2016 Edition. This request is to ensure that all NFPA procedures are followed based on the committee statement and to prevent future associated appeals on the process.

2) As it was explained to the NFPA members during the Tech Session discussion for CAM 72-2, which was won by an overwhelming majority of 396-42, there are two major problems with the proposed First Draft language:

First Problem:

The First Draft language includes the term: "for a period appropriate for the purposes of evacuation of the building" - As it was clear to most of the NFPA members attending the Tech Session (396 Vs. 42 majority) and to many Fire AHJs, this language is NOT enforceable, is confusing and could create major inconsistencies between different jurisdictions and different facilities. No-one can reliably determine what is an "appropriate" period for evacuation since every emergency has unknown factors, etc. This unclear and unenforceable code language puts AHJs in dilemmas and therefore, it should be avoided from being the code default language.

Second Problem:

NFPA 72 should have the SAFETY concern as its main concern and SAFETY should always have priority over convenience.

Therefore, the CODE should have the SAFEST option as the required DEFAULT and may allow other (Less Safe) options on a performance basis for convenience and other reasons, and not the other way around as the First Draft language proposes.

It was clear to most NFPA members (396-42 majority at the Tech Session) and to many other Fire AHJs, that the Safest option for the signal repetition is to require Emergency or Authorized personnel (see the new NEW definitions for these Terms) to manually shut down the audible signal after they physically assess the emergency situation and its associated evacuation process and determine that it is safe to shut it down.

However, it is acknowledged that for some facilities (for convenience and not necessarily Safety reasons), AHJs may allow to use an Automatic cut-off time of the audible signal programmed into the FACU, based on a specific approved emergency plan for a specific facility. But this performance option should not be the CODE default for all AHJs and All facilities, since it is less safe than the manual shut down by emergency/authorized personnel.

Related Item

• PI 168 • FR 5013 • CAM 72-1

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: Sagiv Weiss-Ishai

Organization: San Francisco Fire Department

Affiliation: SFFD

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Submittal Date: Sun Mar 29 15:31:55 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected but see related SR

Resolution: [SR-5017-NFPA 72-2020](#)

Statement: Emergency or authorized personnel are not defined therefore the text is revised to reflect authorized or emergency personnel. The Technical Committee revises the text to comply with the manual of style.

**Public Comment No. 69-NFPA 72-2020 [Section No. 18.4.4.3]****18.4.4.3**

Audible notification appliances installed in elevator cars shall ~~be permitted to use the audibility criteria for private mode appliances detailed in 18~~ comply with 24.4.8.5.4.

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

The original proposal in PI-195 to delete this section was rejected by the TC with the following statement: "This provision allows a slightly reduced sound pressure level where appliances are installed in elevator cars. It does not require appliances to be installed."

However, the committee did not address the problem of the reference to 18.4.5.1 (Private Mode)

While it is understood that this section "does not require appliances to be installed" inside elevator cars, there is still a problem with this section reference to 18.4.5.1 since no other code or standard requires private mode appliances in elevator cars.

The only FA system audible appliances that are sometimes installed inside elevator cars are FA speakers, where an EVACS is provided for the building and the elevator cars speakers are used for manual paging only.

If the TC is aware of any other code or any other scenario where private mode FA audible appliances (NOT Speakers) are installed inside elevator cars for FA signaling, please state so. However, If no such code or scenario could be found, this section must be amended to avoid conflicts with 24.4.8.5 and by indicating compliance with Private Mode where no private mode appliances are ever provided inside elevator cars. (FA speakers used for manual paging only are not Private Mode appliances per 18.4.5.1)

This proposed revised Public Comment resolves the issue by recognizing the fact that FA audible appliances may be required/installed inside elevator cars and if they do, they should be in compliance with Section 24.4.8.5

This will eliminate the conflict with 24.4.8.5 and resolve the issue with the reference to 18.4.5.1 (private mode)

24.4.8.5 Where provided, loudspeakers in each enclosed stairway, each exit passageway, each occupant evacuation elevator lobby, and each group of elevator cars within a common hoistway or bank shall be connected to separate notification zones for manual paging only.

24.4.8.5.1 The evacuation signal specified in 18.4.2 shall not operate in elevator cars, exit stair enclosures, and exit passageways.

24.4.8.5.2 Manually activated loudspeakers shall be permitted in exit stair enclosures, exit passageways, and elevators in buildings that have emergency voice/alarm communications systems in accordance with Section 24.4.

Related Item

- PI 195

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: Sagiv Weiss-Ishai

Organization: San Francisco Fire Department

Affiliation: SFFD

Street Address:

City:

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Submittal Date: Sat Apr 11 14:04:28 EDT 2020
Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected but see related SR
Resolution: [SR-5018-NFPA 72-2020](#)
Statement: The TC provides annex material from the NFPA 72 2016 National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code Handbook.

**Public Comment No. 70-NFPA 72-2020 [Section No. 18.4.4.5.3]***** 18.4.4.5.3**

Relays, circuits, or interfaces necessary to stop or reduce ambient noise shall meet the requirements of Chapters 10, 12, 21, and 23.

Add Annex to this Section:

A18.4.4.5.3: In facilities where an amplified sound system is used for music and other voice amplification, such as live performances in theaters, auditoriums, etc. and there are FA audible appliances installed at the same area of the facility, a FA control relay or interface should be provided to automatically shut down the amplified music and/or voice system upon activation of the FA audible signal. This automatic shut down of the non-emergency sound system should be performed in order to allow for the emergency FA system signal to sound and be audible to the occupants of the facility.

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

The problem with the current section is that it references "ambient noise only" and there is no specific indication for amplified sound systems for music and other voice sound systems.

Currently, Fire AHJs need to interpret this section related to amplified music or other sound systems as "ambient noise" and some AHJs are not aware that in facilities with amplified sound systems such as theaters, clubs, auditoriums, where FA system audible appliances are installed they should require that a FA relay/interface should be provided to automatically shut down the amplified sound system and to allow the FA audible signal to be heard by the occupants of the facility.

This amended Public Comments does not propose to change the code. It is just proposing to provide some more guidance to AHJs enforcing FA systems in facilities with amplified music/voice sound systems.

Related Item

• PI 247 • PI 196

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: Sagiv Weiss-Ishai

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Affiliation: SFFD

Street Address:

City:

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Submittal Date: Sat Apr 11 14:54:19 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected but see related SR

Resolution: SR-5019-NFPA 72-2020

Statement: The Technical Committee changes FA to "fire alarm" in two places. The TC changes Audible appliances to "audible notification appliances". The TC agrees with providing additional clarification within the annex to further expand on the intent of this section.

**Public Comment No. 296-NFPA 72-2020 [Section No. 18.4.6.1]****18.4.6.1***

18.4.6.1* Where audible notification appliances are installed to provide signals for designated sleeping areas, they shall be Listed for low-frequency output and have a sound level of at least 15 dB above the average ambient sound level or 5 dB above the maximum sound level having a duration of at least

60 seconds

60 seconds or a sound level of at least 75 dBA -fast, whichever is greater, measured at the

pillow level

point where the human head is normally expected to be at in the

area required to be served by the system using the A-weighted scale (dBA).

protected area. Any area that is intended to be used for sleeping shall be designated on the plans and in site system documentation.

A18.4.6.1 Listed low-frequency audible notification appliances have been required for sleeping areas in previous versions of the Code. These areas have typically been defined as sleeping areas only if they had fixed beds in them. What has been experienced since that implementation is that there are other areas where people typically can and do fall asleep. These areas also should be evaluated to determine if they should be provided with low-frequency audible notification appliances. Some of these areas are:

- Areas and rooms with “Murphy” beds
- Common spaces within dwelling units, such as living rooms, dens, etc. (with couches, beds, etc.).
- Doctor’s/Staff sleeping rooms
- Nap rooms or areas

Sleeping areas that are provided with constant awake staff are not required to be provided with low-frequency audible notification appliances.

Designated sleeping areas should be reviewed at least annually to determine if the use of the area has changed.

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

These updates are the result of the Sleeping Area Notification Task Group

Related Item

- relates to PI 9

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: Morris Stoops

Organization: Carrier

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Submittal Date: Wed May 06 16:09:19 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected but see related SR

Resolution: [SR-5021-NFPA 72-2020](#)

Statement: The Technical Committee agrees with the verbiage proposed by the TG on sleeping area notification. The added annex text provides additional clarification to the standard.



Public Comment No. 190-NFPA 72-2020 [New Section after 18.5.5.4]

TITLE OF NEW CONTENT

18.5.5.5 The minimum height of a visual notification appliance listed for ceiling mounting shall be 80 in. (2.03 m) or the actual ceiling height, whichever is less.

Type your content here ...

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

Add new 18.5.5.4 as noted in 18.5.5.5 as suggested in Committee Input No. 5024 to establish a minimum height for ceiling listed appliances.

Related Item

- Committee Input No. 5024-NFPA 72-2019 [Section No. 18.5.5.4]

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: Robert Schifiliti

Organization: R. P. Schifiliti Associates, I

Street Address:

City:

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Submittal Date: Tue May 05 12:30:26 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected but see related SR

Resolution: SR-5020-NFPA 72-2020

Statement: The Technical Committee adds a new paragraph to establish reference to finished floor level. The Technical Committee adds "above the finished floor" for clarity. The TC also includes annex text previously developed from CI-5024.

**Public Comment No. 191-NFPA 72-2020 [Section No. 18.5.5.5]**

18.5.5.5* Obstructions.

18.5.5.5.1 —

~~Ceiling mount visual notification appliances shall be mounted such that the effect of the appliance is not blocked by obstructions.~~

18.5.5.5.2

The effect of obstructions on the distribution of light ~~from wall-mounted~~ to surrounding surfaces from visual appliances shall be considered when determining the location of appliances.

18.5.5.5.3

The effect of obstructions on the direct viewing of corridor appliances shall be considered when determining the location of appliances.

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

The changes made in the first draft use different language for ceiling vs wall mounted appliances. The language for ceiling appliances is particularly challenging as it raises significant enforcement issues. What is "blocked"? Totally? Partially? The changes proposed in this comment make the text generic.

Related Item

- First Revision No. 5084-NFPA 72-2019 [New Section after 18.5.5.4]

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: Robert Schifiliti

Organization: R. P. Schifiliti Associates, I

Street Address:

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Submittal Date: Tue May 05 12:37:51 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected

Resolution: The Technical Committee rejects the comment as the proposed language is unenforceable.

**Public Comment No. 306-NFPA 72-2020 [Section No. 18.10.2]**

The Technical Committee is advised to verify the correct UL reference standard for tactile appliances.

18.10.2* Performance.

Tactile appliances shall meet the performance requirements of UL 1971, *Signaling Devices for the Hearing Impaired*, or equivalent.

Additional Proposed Changes

<u>File Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Approved</u>
CorrelatingNoteNo._35.pdf	NFPA 72 - CN no. 35	

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

NOTE: This Public Comment appeared as Correlating Committee Note No. 35 in the First Draft Report.

The Technical Committee is advised to verify the correct UL reference standard for tactile appliances.

Related Item

- CN No. 35

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: CC on SIG-AAC

Organization: NFPA 72 Correlating Committee

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Submittal Date: Wed May 06 17:13:46 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected

Resolution: The Technical Committee confirmed with UL that UL 1971 is the correct applicable reference and makes no change to this paragraph.



Public Comment No. 192-NFPA 72-2020 [Section No. A.18.5.5.5]

A.18.5.5.5

Obstructions to consider include, but are not limited to, light fixtures, duct work, structural elements, and video monitors. In corridors, it is the viewing of the appliance which is of concern. In rooms, it is the pattern of light produced on walls and floors that might be of concern. For corridor application, see the requirements of 18.5.5.7.6.

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

This added text points to another relevant section.

Related Item

- First Revision No. 5084-NFPA 72-2019 [New Section after 18.5.5.4]

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: Robert Schifiliti

Organization: R. P. Schifiliti Associates, I

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Submittal Date: Tue May 05 12:46:07 EDT 2020

Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected

Resolution: The Technical Committee does not accept the comment. The current code language already clarifies this requirement.

**Public Comment No. 350-NFPA 72-2020 [Section No. D.5.2.3.5]**

The Technical Committee is advised to consider whether Fire Command Center should be included Emergency Command Center.

D.5.2.3.5

An emergency command center or fire command center will not be free of noise during an actual emergency. However, for testing purposes, the room should be relatively free of extraneous noises that could affect the results. The purpose of the tests is to establish the baseline capability of the system and acoustic environment to support intelligible communications. Good design practice for an emergency command center is to isolate the space so that only emergency command personnel have access. In addition, the location of the microphone for manual input should be such that background discussions and noise are minimized.

Additional Proposed Changes

<u>File Name</u>	<u>Description Approved</u>
CorrelatingNoteNo._71.pdf	

Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Public Comment

NOTE: This Public Comment appeared as Correlating Committee 71 in the First Draft Report.

The Technical Committee is advised to consider whether Fire Command Center should be included Emergency Command Center.

Related Item

- CN No. 71

Submitter Information Verification

Submitter Full Name: CC on SIG-AAC
Organization: NFPA 72 Correlating Committee
Street Address:
City:
State:
Zip:
Submission Date: Fri May 08 11:36:49 EDT 2020
Committee: SIG-NAS

Committee Statement

Committee Action: Rejected
Resolution: The Technical Committee reviewed the text and determines that further clarification is not needed as both fire command and emergency command centers are defined in Chapter 3. The Technical Committee agrees that Fire Command Center should be included with Emergency Command Center.