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NOVEMBER 2010 | 2010 NOVEMBRE

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THE 2010 NATIONAL BUILDING AND FIRE CODES

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LES CODES NATIONAUX DU BÂTIMENT ET DE PRÉVENTION DES INCENDIES 2010

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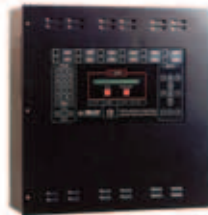
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*Maximize the Use and Effectiveness of
Fire Alarm Systems in the Protection of
Life and Property in Canada*

Volume 9, Number 4.

The Journal is published four times per year in the interest of safety from fire, through the use of properly designed, installed and maintained Fire Detection and Alarm Systems.

Association President: Gerry Landmesser

Publisher: Allen Hodgson

Advertising Coordinator: Ruth Kavanagh

Publishing & Printing: Business & Office Centro, Inc. (905) 470-1122

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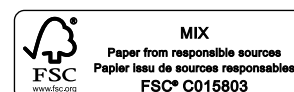
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From the Editor's Desk



Our particular segment of the fire-safety industry is certainly a code-driven industry, is it not? Our daily activities (or at least our decisions leading thereto) are based upon what the various codes and standards have to say about each particular decision point. Because our codes and standards are regularly revised and re-issued, it is incumbent on us to remain current with the latest versions. This November Journal Issue takes an initial close look at the latest release of the *National Building Code of Canada* – 2010 Edition.

A new 'residential care' classification is being created at the national building and fire code level. This new classification, Group B Division 3 Major Occupancy (B3), will involve 'care' facilities where persons receive special or supervisory care because of cognitive or physical limitations. You will find the related article on page 7.

Philip Rizcallah, P.Eng, Senior Technical Advisor, Canadian Codes Centre National Research Council, has penned a brief report (on page 9) outlining major Code content items related to our industry.

Of quite special interest, CFAA and Seneca College announce the introduction of a Fire Alarm System Design Course. David Sylvester, Chair of our National Education Committee describes the purpose, intent, and methodology of this important new initiative. This should be of major interest, not only to systems designers but also to individuals (installers, for example) who need to be aware of the requirements of systems designs. The article is on page 25.

We encourage you to pay special attention to the *Chapter News* Section. Reflecting upon past activities, we have a report of the very successful B.C. Chapter Technical Seminar held on October 14, 2010. In addition, our Alberta Chapter writes about their Technician Seminar held on October 13th in Edmonton as well as the highly successful (sold-out)

Lunch and Learn session held in early November in Calgary that attracted participants from all segments of our Industry. A hearty "well done" to personnel in both Chapters who created, presented and organized these very worthwhile endeavours.

Reading further, in the Chapter News Section you will see that our Quebec Chapter will hold a day-long Technical Seminar in Montreal on February 3, 2011. Our Manitoba Chapter will be presenting its first ever Technical Seminar in Winnipeg on April 5, 2011 and our Ontario Chapter will present a day-long Technical Seminar in Toronto on May 4, 2011.

We encourage you to attend your local seminars. Contact the Chapter people, and volunteer to become actively involved in their activities perhaps even by joining one of the special committees. The Chapter people are deserving of your continuing support.

We are rapidly approaching the Christmas holiday season with its Christmas trees, festive lights, coloured candles and flaming desserts! All of them so very festive but also potentially dangerous. If you have not already done so – now is the time to check/change your smoke-alarm battery.

Take good care of yourselves and your families. CFAA wishes all of you a very happy and fire-safe Holiday Season.

Yours in Fire Safety,

Allen Hodgson, Editor-in-Chief

En direct du rédacteur en chef

Notre segment particulier de l'industrie de la sécurité-incendie dépend certainement des codes. Nos activités quotidiennes (ou, du moins, les décisions qui y conduisent) sont fondées sur ce que les divers codes et normes ont à dire à propos de chaque élément de cette décision. Comme ces codes et normes sont révisés et réédités régulièrement, nous devons nous tenir au courant du contenu des versions les plus récentes. Dans ce numéro de novembre du Journal, nous jetons un premier coup d'œil sur la dernière édition du *Code national du bâtiment du Canada* (édition 2010).

Une nouvelle catégorie d'usage principal, « Groupe B, division 3 (B3) », a été créée dans les codes du bâtiment et de prévention des incendies pour les établissements de soins où des personnes doivent recevoir des soins spécialisés ou être supervisées en raison de déficiences cognitives ou physiques. Vous trouverez un article à ce sujet à la page 8.

Philip Rizcallah, ingénieur et conseiller technique principal au Centre canadien des codes, Conseil national de recherches, a rédigé pour nous un bref rapport (à la page 12) décrivant les principales nouvelles dispositions du code qui intéressent notre industrie.

À noter : l'ACAI et le Collège Seneca annoncent l'introduction d'un nouveau cours de conception des systèmes d'alarme-incendie. David Sylvester, président de notre Comité national de l'éducation, décrit la raison d'être, l'objectif et la méthodologie de cette nouvelle initiative importante. Ceci devrait intéresser particulièrement non seulement les concepteurs de systèmes, mais aussi les personnes (notamment les installateurs) qui doivent être au courant des exigences régissant la conception des systèmes. Vous trouverez cet article à la page 25.

Nous vous encourageons à prêter une attention particulière à la section des *Nouvelles des sections régionales*. À propos des activités passées, nous avons un rapport sur le séminaire technique de la section de Colombie-Britannique qui s'est tenu le 14 octobre 2010 et qui a remporté un franc succès. Par ailleurs, notre section de l'Alberta nous parle de son séminaire

technique, qui a eu lieu le 13 octobre à Edmonton ainsi que de son dîner-conférence très réussi (à « guichet fermé ») qui s'est tenu au début du mois de novembre à Calgary et a attiré des participants de tous les segments de notre industrie. Un grand « coup de chapeau » au personnel de ces sections pour avoir organisé ces excellentes activités!



Un peu plus loin, toujours dans les Nouvelles des sections régionales, vous apprendrez que notre section du Québec tiendra son séminaire technique annuel d'une journée à Montréal, le 3 février 2011. Notre section du Manitoba tiendra son tout premier séminaire technique à Winnipeg, le 5 avril 2011, tandis que notre section de l'Ontario présentera le sien à Toronto, le 4 mai 2011.

Nous vous encourageons à assister au séminaire de votre région. Contactez les représentants de la section de votre région et portez-vous volontaire pour des activités, peut-être même en devenant membre de l'un des comités spéciaux. Les bénévoles de votre section régionale méritent bien votre soutien continu!

La saison des Fêtes approche rapidement et avec elle, les arbres de Noël, les lumières décoratives, les bougies colorées et les desserts flambés! Tout ceci est bien joyeux, mais peut aussi être dangereux. Si vous ne l'avez pas déjà fait, le moment est venu de vérifier les piles de vos avertisseurs de fumée et de les remplacer au besoin.

Prenez bien soin de vous-même et de votre famille. L'ACAI vous souhaite une très heureuse saison des Fêtes, en toute sécurité.

Cordialement,

Le rédacteur en chef

Allen Hodgson

2010 NATIONAL MODEL CONSTRUCTION CODES AVAILABLE THIS NOVEMBER

CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION, Sept. 2010

The 2010 National Model Construction Codes will be available for purchase November 29, 2010. Prepared under the auspices of the Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes (CCBFC) and published by the National Research Council of Canada (NRC), they comprise the National Building Code of Canada (NBC), the National Fire Code of Canada (NFC) and the National Plumbing Code of Canada (NPC).

"I am very pleased to announce the launch of the 2010 National Model Construction Codes," says Bruce Clemmensen, Chair of the CCBFC for the 2005-2010 code cycle. "Their development is the result of broad consultation, a great deal of work from many dedicated volunteers, and the excellent staff support provided by NRC's Canadian Codes Centre. This work has benefited from, and been informed by, our ongoing partnership with the provinces and territories through the Provincial Territorial Policy Advisory Committee on Codes."

What's new?

Close to 800 technical changes have been incorporated in the 2010 National Model Construction Codes. They address the many technological advances and health and safety concerns raised since the 2005 editions were published.

Overviews of the most significant technical changes in the 2010 NBC, NFC and NPC will be provided by the NRC Institute for Research in Construction (NRC-IRC) as online presentations on the National Codes Website (<http://www.nationalcodes.ca/>) next winter. These presentations will replace the seminars held across the country for the 2005 codes.

Printed versions of the 2010 NBC, NFC and NPC will be available in two practical formats:



- A full-size binder (8.5 x 11 in.) that lies flat, for easy reference, and easily accommodates updates.
- A soft-cover version (8.5 x 11 in.) that contains the same information as the binder but weighs half as much. This format is ideal for the job site.

Electronic versions of the 2010 NBC, NFC and NBC will also be available as downloadable PDF documents, which will replace the CD-ROM versions. On-line subscriptions to the 2010 NBC, NFC and NPC will also be offered. Two User's Guides will be added later, namely the User's Guide – NBC 2010, Structural Commentaries (Part 4 of Division B) and the Illustrated User's Guide to Part 9 of the 2010 NBC.

To order the 2010 National Model Construction Codes, please visit NRC's Virtual Store at www.nrc.gc.ca/virtualstore starting on November 29. ®

LES CODES MODÈLES

NATIONAUX DE 2010

DISPONIBLES EN NOVEMBRE

INNOVATION EN CONSTRUCTION, sept. 2010

Il sera possible d'acheter l'édition 2010 des codes modèles nationaux de construction à compter du 29 novembre 2010. Préparés sous les auspices de la Commission canadienne des codes du bâtiment et de prévention des incendies (CCCBPI) et publiés par le Conseil national de recherches du Canada (CNRC), ces codes comprennent le Code national du bâtiment – Canada (CNB), le Code national de prévention des incendies – Canada (CNPI) et le Code national de la plomberie – Canada (CNP).

« Je suis très heureux d'annoncer le lancement des codes modèles nationaux de construction de 2010 », a déclaré Bruce Clemmensen, président de la CCCBPI pour le cycle 2005-2010 d'élaboration des codes. « Ils sont le fruit d'une large consultation et de beaucoup d'efforts de la part de nombreux bénévoles dévoués, ainsi que de l'excellent soutien fourni par le personnel du Centre canadien des codes du CNRC. Ce travail a aussi bénéficié de notre partenariat avec les provinces et territoires par le biais du Comité consultatif provincial-territorial des politiques sur les codes (CCPTPC). »

Quoi de neuf?

Près de 800 modifications techniques ont été incorporées aux codes modèles nationaux de construction de 2010 afin de tenir compte des nombreux progrès technologiques et des préoccupations relatives à la sécurité et à la santé survenus depuis la publication des éditions de 2005.

Un aperçu des principales modifications techniques apportées au CNB, au CNPI et au CNP 2010 sera fourni par l'Institut de recherche en construction du CNRC (IRC-CNRC) sous forme de présentations en ligne sur le site Web des codes nationaux (<http://www.codesnationaux.ca/>) l'hiver prochain. Ces présentations remplaceront les séminaires qui avaient



été offerts d'un bout à l'autre du pays pour les codes de 2005.

Les versions imprimées du CNB, du CNPI et du CNP 2010 seront offertes en deux formats pratiques :

- une reliure à anneaux (8,5 x 11 po) qui peut être posée à plat afin d'en faciliter la consultation et l'insertion des mises à jour;
- un livre à couverture souple (8,5 x 11 po) qui contient les mêmes renseignements que la reliure à anneaux mais pesant moitié moins. Ce format est idéal pour les chantiers.

Des versions électroniques des éditions 2010 du CNB, du CNPI et du CNP seront aussi disponibles sous forme de documents PDF téléchargeables, qui remplaceront la version sur CD-ROM. Des abonnements en ligne pour les codes de 2010 seront aussi offerts. Deux guides de l'utilisateur seront ajoutés plus tard, soit le Guide de l'utilisateur – CNB 2010, Commentaires sur le calcul des structures (Partie 4 de la division B) et le Guide illustré de l'utilisateur de la partie 9 – CNB 2010.

Pour commander les codes modèles nationaux de construction de 2010, veuillez visiter le magasin virtuel du CNRC à www.cnr-cnr.gc.ca/magasinvirtuel à compter du 29 novembre. ☎

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NEW RESIDENTIAL CARE CLASSIFICATION CREATED IN BUILDING AND FIRE CODES

CONSTRUCTION INNOVATION, June 2010

The Canadian Commission on Building and Fire Codes (CCBFC) has approved a series of technical changes related to residential care occupancies for inclusion in the 2010 National Model Construction Codes. It includes a proposal to create a new classification, Group B Division 3 Major Occupancy (B3), for care facilities where persons receive special or supervisory care because of cognitive or physical limitations. The new B3 occupancies will include, but are not limited to: retirement homes, certain group homes, supportive housing, children's custodial homes, convalescent homes and residential care facilities.

Residents of these care facilities may be adults or children and may receive care under a variety of different approaches. These range from a high-support setting in which residents with multiple disabilities receive 24-hour supervisory care, to a low-support setting in which adult residents receive less care.

Though these premises generally require more fire and structural safety features than those found in residential occupancies (i.e., Group C Major Occupancy), they do not generally require the extensive fire and structural safety features found in institutional uses such as hospitals (i.e., Group B, Division 2). Currently, owners of residential care facilities are often burdened with the capital cost of meeting the higher B2 requirements, without a corresponding benefit to their clients or occupants.

This new series of technical changes to the National Building and Fire Codes establishes requirements that are more stringent than those applied to residential uses, but less stringent than those currently applied to care and detention uses.

The approved technical changes can be summarized as follows:

- Establishment of a new Major Occupancy classification, Group B Division 3 (B3), for situations where residents require services because of cognitive, physical or behavioural

limitations. This new classification will not apply in cases where care services are provided by residents of dwelling units or suites, or where services are arranged directly by residents of dwelling units or suites with outside agencies.

- Permission to construct B3 occupancies up to three stories in building height having a limited occupancy using either combustible or non-combustible construction under Part 3 of the National Building Code.
- Elimination of the current fire resistance rating requirements for mezzanine floors in smaller one-storey (< 600 m²) B3 occupancies.
- Relaxation of sprinkler requirements that allows the use of systems designed according to the National Fire Protection Association's NFPA 13R "Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Residential Occupancies up to and Including Four Stories in Height." This would be in lieu of NFPA 13 "Installation of Sprinklers," provided that the building is three stories or less.
- Permission to use smoke alarms in lieu of smoke detectors within sleeping rooms and suites of residential care.
- Reduction in the width of corridors serving residential care occupancies from the current 1650 mm to 1100 mm where the occupant load does not exceed ten persons.
- Establishment of a clear doorway width of 850 mm for all residential care occupancies.

These changes have received general support by regulators, designers and facility management groups, and should improve the cost-effectiveness of construction.

For more information, contact Philip Rizcallah at 613-993-4064 or philip.rizcallah@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca. ☎

CRÉATION D'UNE NOUVELLE CATÉGORIE D'USAGE POUR LES ÉTABLISSEMENTS DE SOINS DE TYPE RÉSIDENCE SUPERVISÉE

INNOVATION EN CONSTRUCTION, juin 2010

La Commission canadienne des codes du bâtiment et de prévention des incendies (CCCBI) a approuvé des modifications techniques applicables aux établissements de soins de type résidence supervisée en vue de leur inclusion dans l'édition 2010 des codes modèles nationaux de construction. Ces modifications prévoient la création d'une nouvelle catégorie d'usage principal, « Groupe B, division 3 (B3) », pour les établissements où des personnes doivent recevoir des soins spécialisés ou être supervisées en raison de déficiences cognitives ou physiques. La nouvelle catégorie B3 inclura, sans s'y limiter, les foyers d'accueil pour personnes âgées, certains foyers de groupe, les résidences-services, les centres d'hébergement pour enfants, les maisons de convalescence et les établissements de soins pour bénéficiaires internes.

Ces établissements peuvent accueillir des adultes ou des enfants et dispenser une variété de soins. Ils vont de milieux offrant un soutien 24 heures sur 24 pour des résidents ayant des incapacités multiples à des milieux où les résidents sont des adultes bénéficiant d'un niveau moindre de services de soutien.

Même si ces établissements exigent des mesures de sécurité incendie et de sécurité structurale plus sévères que celles d'autres habitations (p. ex., usage principal du groupe C), ces exigences sont généralement moins rigoureuses que celles s'appliquant à des établissements institutionnels tels les hôpitaux (p. ex., groupe B, division 2 ou B3). Présentement, les propriétaires des établissements de soins de type résidence supervisée doivent souvent assumer des coûts en capital élevés pour satisfaire aux exigences rigoureuses des établissements de catégorie B2, sans que cela ne se traduise par des avantages particuliers pour leurs clients ou leurs occupants.

Cette nouvelle série de modifications techniques apportées aux codes nationaux du bâtiment et de prévention des incendies définit des exigences plus strictes pour ces établissements que celles réservées

aux habitations, tout en étant moins rigoureuses que celles applicables aux établissements de soins et de détention.

Les modifications techniques approuvées se résument comme suit :

- Création d'une nouvelle catégorie d'usage principal, « Groupe B, division 3 (B3) », pour les établissements dont les résidents ont besoin de services de soutien en raison de déficiences cognitives, physiques ou comportementales. Cette nouvelle catégorie ne s'applique pas aux situations où les soins sont fournis par les résidents de logements ou de suites ou lorsque ces services sont organisés directement par les résidents de logements ou de suites auprès d'organismes externes.
- Permission de construire des établissements de catégorie B3 ayant une hauteur de bâtiment d'au plus trois étages et un nombre de personnes limité, de construction combustible ou incombustible, et visés par la partie 3 du Code national du bâtiment.
- Élimination des exigences actuelles de résistance au feu pour les planchers de mezzanine dans les établissements de catégorie B3 d'un seul étage et d'une aire ne dépassant pas 600 m².
- Assouplissement des exigences relatives aux gicleurs permettant l'utilisation de systèmes conformes à la norme NFPA 13R de la National Fire Protection Association, « Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Residential Occupancies up to and Including Four Stories in Height », plutôt qu'à la norme NFPA 13, « Installation of Sprinklers », à condition que le bâtiment ait au plus trois étages.

Suite à la page 11.

2010 NATIONAL BUILDING AND FIRE CODES

We asked Mr. Philip Rizcallah, P.Eng, Senior Technical Advisor, Canadian Codes Centre, National Research Council, about the 2010 Edition of the National Building Code. He took time out from his very busy schedule to discuss three of the more important changes. We appreciate his observations.

Editor

The 2010 National Building and Fire Codes will be published and available on Nov 30, 2010. This edition of the *National Building Code* (NBC) will see a number of technical changes related to Fire Alarm and Detection Systems. Some of the more significant changes include:

Commissioning of Life Safety Systems: Although the National Building and Fire Codes require individual fire protection and life safety components to be commissioned to ensure proper operation, there are no specific requirements that stipulate that integrated systems are to be tested as a whole.

This change requires the life safety and fire protection systems, which are integrated, to be commissioned to ensure that they operate as intended. All too often one trade will commission a specific component of the life safety system or fire protection system (e.g. door hold-open device) but where there is reliance on the operation of another system (i.e. Fire Alarm) to ensure the function of this door, that interconnection is not confirmed.

Smoke alarms in each bedroom: This is considered one of the more significant fire safety technical changes affecting homes.

Smoke alarms are required to be installed in each bedroom, (this is in addition to alarms located in the corridors outside the bedrooms, and each storey including basement) of a home.

Statistics have shown that next to kitchen fires, fires originating in sleeping rooms within dwelling units account for the second highest causes of fire deaths in homes. Smoke alarms located only in corridors outside the sleeping rooms may cause a delay in notifying occupants within the sleeping rooms of a fire especially if the fire originates within that room with the door closed.

The benefits are:

- the audibility levels within the sleeping room will be enhanced with the door closed,
- smoke originating in a sleeping room will not be delayed in activating the alarm thus providing early notification to occupants, and
- interconnection between all alarms provides additional notification.

Smoke alarms located within the corridor will still be required as they are better capable of detecting a fire originating outside of the room.

Temporal Pattern Smoke Alarms: This change introduces a requirement for a temporal and/or combination voice relay/temporal smoke alarms in homes. The change was based on research and review of studies conducted on the effectiveness of alarms in waking children and the elderly.

The studies have demonstrated that possibly as little as 6% of children aged 6 to 15 awoke reliably to the standard high-pitch beeping alarm signal which is typical in households today. Installed in the hallway, the signal is usually received at around 60 dBA at the pillow. When the sound level is increased to 89 dBA at the pillow, by placing the sounder above the bed, 50% of the children awoke and only 29% of those 6-10 years old.

Alternative signals were also tested: the child's mother's voice, an actor's voice, a low-pitch T-3 signal and the standard high-pitch alarm. All the signals were tested at night in the child's home at 89 dBA. Results show that the mother's voice was the best signal to awake the child, then the actor's voice and the low pitch T-3 alarm. The standard alarm performed the worst, with 27% of the children not awakening after 60 seconds.

Continued on page 11.

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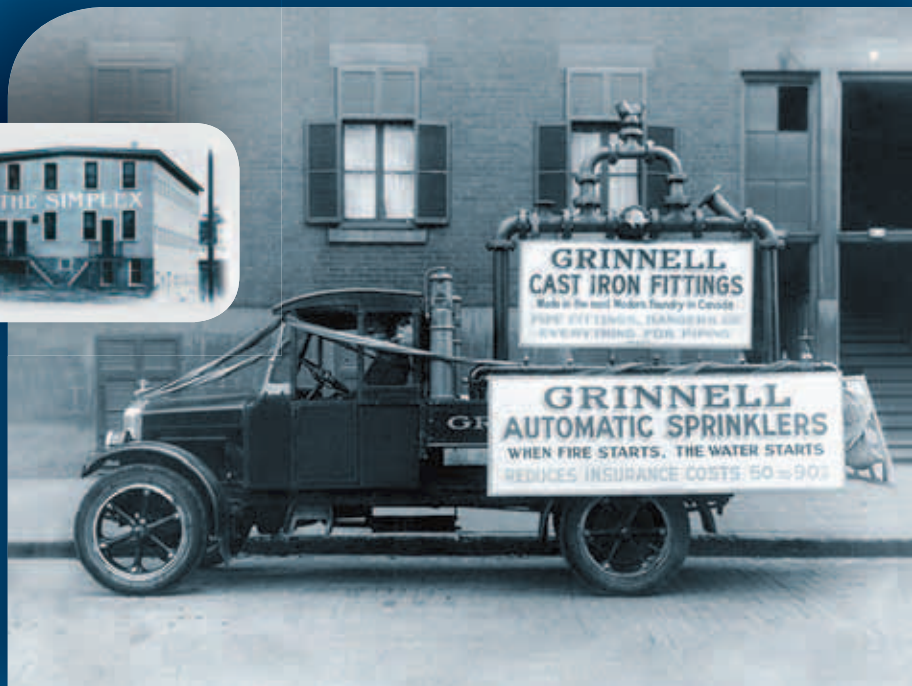
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2010 NATIONAL BUILDING AND FIRE CODES *Continued from page 9...*

By Philip Rizcallah, P. Eng, Senior Technical Advisor,
Canadian Codes Centre National Research Council

Battery back-up power supply smoke alarms –Under the previous codes there were no requirements for supplemental power supply for smoke alarms. This change introduces a requirement for an alternate power supply (battery back-up) for smoke alarms in homes.

As a result of the extended power outages that occurred in several Provinces, concern was expressed over the lack of Code provisions requiring secondary power supply to smoke alarms installed in residential occupancies. The risk of fire increases during power outages as building occupants rely more on candles for light, and portable, exposed-flame appliances for cooking and heating.

Providing the battery back-up capability in smoke alarms will reduce the probability of undetected fires. While people may generally rely on the hard-wired power supply, cautions are generally announced when there are power outages. Reminders in those announcements to check smoke alarm batteries would further reduce the likelihood of fire deaths and property loss.

Voice Communication Common-Intelligibility-Scale (CIS): The 2005 NBC currently asks for intelligible messaging for voice communication systems however it is unclear what is expected by this term 'intelligible.'

It was noted that in several facilities the intelligibility of messages through a voice communication system varies from very poor to very good, and there is no consistency.

The change introduces a measurable and quantifiable value 0.70 Common Intelligibility Scale (CIS) for the voice communication system required to be installed in buildings. There is further guidance on the CIS with a reference to NFPA 72.

Voice Communication System: Notwithstanding the high-building requirements and with the exception of Group B Division 1, and Group F Division 1, a voice communication system is required under the 2010 NBC in all buildings equipped with a two-stage Fire Alarm System where the occupant load exceeds 1000 persons.

This change was derived as a result of research conducted by a Task Group into the evacuation times and human behavior during alarm initiation in various occupancies. It was concluded that providing messaging to the occupants during an alarm was a critical factor in improving evacuation from a building. ⑩

CRÉATION D'UNE NOUVELLE CATÉGORIE D'USAGE POUR LES ÉTABLISSEMENTS DE SOINS DE TYPE RÉSIDENCE SUPERVISÉE

Suite de la page 8.

- Permission d'utiliser des avertisseurs de fumée plutôt que des détecteurs de fumée dans les pièces où l'on dort et dans les suites des établissements de soins de type résidence supervisée.
- Réduction de la largeur des corridors de 1650 mm à 1100 mm dans les établissements de soins de type résidence supervisée lorsque le nombre d'occupants ne dépasse pas dix personnes.
- Largeur libre des baies de portes de 850 mm pour tous les établissements de soins de type résidence supervisée.

Ces modifications ont reçu l'appui des agents chargés de réglementation, des concepteurs et des gestionnaires d'installations et devraient contribuer à améliorer le rapport coût-efficacité des constructions. Pour plus de renseignements, veuillez communiquer avec M. Philip Rizcallah au 613-993-4064 ou à philip.rizcallah@cnrc-nrc.gc.ca. ⑩

LES CODES NATIONAUX DU BÂTIMENT ET DE PRÉVENTION DES INCENDIES 2010

Par Philip Rizcallah, ingénieur, conseiller technique principal,
Centre canadien des codes Conseil national de recherches Canada

Les codes nationaux du bâtiment et de prévention des incendies 2010 seront publiés et disponibles le 30 novembre 2010. Cette nouvelle version du *Code national du bâtiment* (CNB) apportera un certain nombre de modifications techniques en rapport avec les systèmes de détection et d'alarme-incendie, dont voici les plus importantes :

Mise en service des systèmes de sécurité des personnes et de protection contre l'incendie : Bien que le CNB exige de mettre en service des éléments de protection contre l'incendie et de sécurité des personnes de façon à en vérifier le bon fonctionnement, aucune disposition particulière n'exige que les systèmes intégrés soient soumis à des essais comme un tout.

La modification exige que les systèmes de sécurité des personnes et de protection contre l'incendie intégrés soient mis en service comme un tout pour s'assurer qu'ils fonctionnent comme prévu. En effet, trop souvent, les membres d'un corps de métier mettent en service un élément particulier d'un système (p. ex., un dispositif de maintien d'une porte en position ouverte), mais lorsque le fonctionnement de ce dispositif dépend du fonctionnement d'un autre système (par exemple, du système d'alarme-incendie), cette interconnexion n'est pas vérifiée.

Avertisseurs de fumée dans chaque chambre à coucher : Il s'agit de l'une des modifications techniques les plus importantes en ce qui concerne la sécurité-incendie dans les habitations.

Il est exigé d'installer des avertisseurs de fumée dans chaque chambre à coucher d'un logement (en plus des avertisseurs situés dans les corridors à l'extérieur des chambres et à chaque étage, y compris les sous-sols).

D'après les statistiques, après les incendies de cuisine, ce sont les incendies qui prennent naissance dans les chambres à coucher qui représentent la deuxième

cause la plus importante des décès causés par les incendies dans les logements. S'il y a des avertisseurs de fumée seulement dans le corridor, à l'extérieur des chambres, les occupants des chambres pourraient être avertis trop tard de la présence d'un incendie, surtout si celui-ci prend naissance dans une chambre dont la porte est fermée. L'installation d'avertisseurs à l'intérieur des chambres présentera deux avantages :

- le niveau d'audibilité du signal à l'intérieur de la chambre, lorsque la porte est fermée, sera amélioré;
- la fumée dégagée dans la chambre atteindra plus rapidement l'avertisseur qui donnera ainsi plus rapidement l'alarme
- grâce à l'interconnexion entre les avertisseurs, les occupants seront mieux avertis.

Les avertisseurs de fumée dans le corridor resteront obligatoires, parce qu'ils sont mieux placés pour détecter un feu qui prendrait naissance à l'extérieur de la chambre à coucher.

Cadence temporelle du signal des avertisseurs de fumée : Cette modification introduit l'obligation de produire un signal à cadence temporelle, accompagné ou non d'un message vocal, pour les avertisseurs de fumée dans les logements. Cette modification est fondée sur des travaux de recherche et des études sur l'efficacité des avertisseurs pour réveiller les enfants et les personnes âgées.

Ces études ont démontré qu'il se pouvait qu'à peine 6 % des enfants âgés de 6 à 15 ans soient réveillés dans tous les cas par le déclenchement du signal sonore aigu standard produit typiquement par les avertisseurs de fumée actuels. Lorsque l'avertisseur est installé dans le corridor, l'intensité sonore du signal est habituellement d'environ 60 dBA au niveau de l'oreiller. Lorsqu'on fait passer le niveau sonore au niveau de l'oreiller à 89

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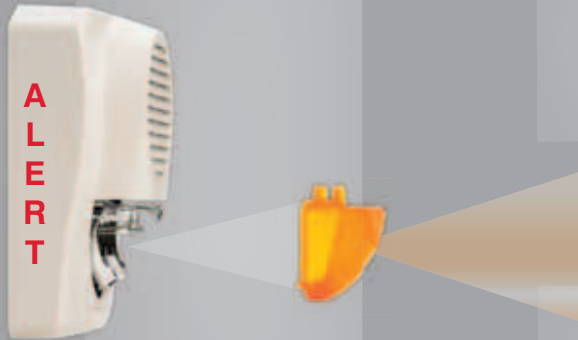


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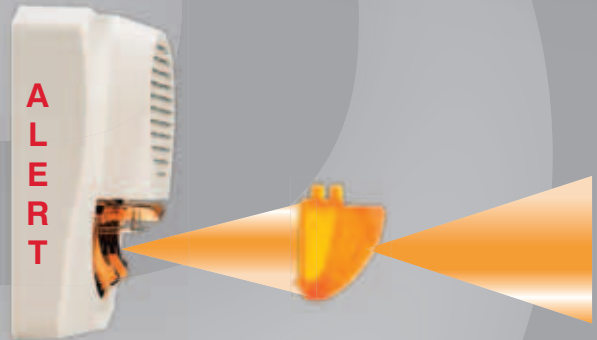
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5.7.4.1.2 Le fonctionnement de chaque détecteur de fumée doit être vérifié par l'introduction de fumée ou de fumée simulée dans la chambre de détection, conformément aux instructions du fabricant. CAN/ULC-S536-04

5.7.4.1.2 Each smoke detector shall be tested for operation by introducing smoke or simulated smoke to the detecting chamber in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. CAN/ULC-S536-04

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dBa en plaçant l'avertisseur au-dessus du lit, 50 % des enfants se réveillent et seulement 29 % dans le cas des enfants âgés de 6 à 10 ans.

D'autres signaux ont été aussi testés : la voix de la mère de l'enfant, la voix d'un acteur, un signal T-3 grave et l'alarme au son aigu standard. Tous les signaux ont été testés la nuit dans la maison de l'enfant, à une intensité sonore de 89 dBA. Les résultats ont montré que c'est la voix de la mère qui a donné les meilleurs résultats pour réveiller l'enfant, suivie de la voix de l'acteur et du signal d'alarme T-3 au son grave. C'est l'alarme standard qui a donné les pires résultats, avec 27 % des enfants qui ne s'étaient toujours pas réveillés après 60 secondes.

Piles de secours pour les avertisseurs de fumée branchés sur le secteur : Dans les codes précédents, rien n'exigeait de prévoir une alimentation de secours pour les avertisseurs de fumée. La version 2010 du Code exige une alimentation de secours (piles de secours) pour les avertisseurs de fumée dans les habitations.

Du fait des pannes de courant prolongées qui se produisent dans plusieurs provinces, on s'inquiétait du manque de disposition dans le Code exigeant une source de courant secondaire pour les avertisseurs de fumée installés dans les habitations. Le risque d'incendie augmente durant les pannes d'électricité, étant donné que les occupants utilisent alors souvent des bougies pour s'éclairer et des appareils portatifs et à flamme nue pour la cuisson et le chauffage.

En prévoyant une pile de secours dans les avertisseurs de fumée, la probabilité qu'un début d'incendie passe inaperçu sera réduite. Même si les gens peuvent généralement compter sur l'alimentation secteur, des mises en garde sont généralement annoncées en cas de panne d'électricité. En rappelant dans ces annonces de vérifier les piles des avertisseurs de fumée, on pourrait contribuer à réduire les risques de décès et de dommages matériels en cas d'incendie.

Échelle d'intelligibilité commune des réseaux de communication phoniques : La version 2005 du CNB prescrit l'installation de réseaux de communication phonique transmettant des messages intelligibles, sans toutefois préciser ce qu'on entend par « intelligible ».

On a observé que, dans plusieurs installations, l'intelligibilité des messages transmis par un réseau de communication phonique variait de « très mauvaise » à « très bonne », sans uniformité.

La modification introduit une valeur mesurable et quantifiable de 0,70 sur l'échelle d'intelligibilité commune (EIC) pour les réseaux de communication phoniques dont l'installation est exigée. Un renvoi à la norme NFPA 72 précise la nature de cette échelle.

Réseau de communication phonique : Sauf pour les usages principaux du groupe B, division 1 ou du groupe F, division 1, et outre les exigences pour les bâtiments de grande hauteur, un réseau de communication phonique doit être installé dans les bâtiments comportant un système d'alarme-incendie à double signal et dans lequel le nombre de personnes dépasse 1 000.

Cette nouvelle exigence résulte d'une étude effectuée par un groupe de travail sur les durées d'évacuation et le comportement humain lors du déclenchement d'une alarme dans divers types de bâtiments. Cette étude a conclu que le fait de fournir des instructions sous forme de messages aux occupants d'un bâtiment lors d'une alarme constituait un élément essentiel pour améliorer l'évacuation. ④

Le chapitre de Québec tiendra des élections le 9 février 2011, pour la nomination des nouveaux membres du conseil d'administration. Seuls les membres en règle de l'Association (ACAI) sont habilités à poser leur candidature.

Intéressé à vous impliquer au sein de l'ACAI section Québec? Appelez-nous au 514-219-4485

The Quebec chapter will hold elections February 9, 2011, for the appointment of new board members. Only members in good standing (ACAI) are eligible to apply.

Interested in getting involved with the CFAA Quebec Chapter? Please call us at 514-219-4485

Canadian Fire Alarm Association: Edmonton Technical Conference

Knowledge is Power | Wednesday, October 13, 2010

By Dave Noble , *Director at Large*

The CFAA Alberta Chapter hosted their first ever Technical Conference in Edmonton, at the Marriott River Cree Resort. This was a well- attended Conference for a first- time event in Edmonton with just over 200 attendees from all facets of the Fire Alarm industry. Alberta Chapter President Kirk Thordobson took the reins as the Conference Moderator, and did an outstanding job keeping things on track, and adding his own input along the way.

Conference attendees were presented with a solid line up of expert presenters from within the industry travelling from Toronto, Vancouver, and a few of our own from Edmonton. The Conference adopted the same slogan as Toronto, with the “Knowledge is Power” theme, which worked very well.

After Kirk welcomed everyone, and presented an overview of the CFAA Chapter and activities, the Conference was led off by Kevin Jess, Chief Fire Administrator from Alberta Municipal Affairs. His presentation on ULC Standards sparked an interesting debate. Ken Baird from Leber/Rubes reviewed Section 6 of *CAN/ULC-S527 Standard for the Verification of Fire Alarm Systems*. Paul Jewett from Mircom led a very lively presentation on common mistakes made by Technicians when performing verifications to ULC standards. Keven Lefebvre from Millenium Electric updated everyone on the ever- controversial Elevator Code Requirements. Phil Anderson from System Sensor provided everyone with new information on smoke detector types, their applications, and their differences. Glenn Staines from Umbra Engineering presented an overview of an investigation, as a registered expert witness with the Supreme Court of Canada covering the loss of a DND Early Warning Site, and the importance of record keeping. The City of Edmonton Fire Prevention Department gave an excellent overview of dealing with false alarms and shut- off notices. The presenters were closed off by a very energetic, and enthusiastic Ark Tsisserev from Stantec Vancouver. Ark’s presentation covered the



Doug Warne and Door Prize Winner



Glenn Staines



Paul Jewett

verification of Fire Alarm Systems and signals to the Fire Department: . What, Why, and How.

Kirk Thordobson concluded this very successful event with his closing remarks, and the lucky draw. The lucky draw winner of a Best Buy Gift Certificate was Doug Warne. This Conference was a solid success and will generate new interest and participation from Edmonton area people. The CFAA Alberta Chapter continues to grow and get stronger with each event. A huge thanks to all who contributed in getting this event pulled together and off the ground. Without your support we would not have had the success we did.

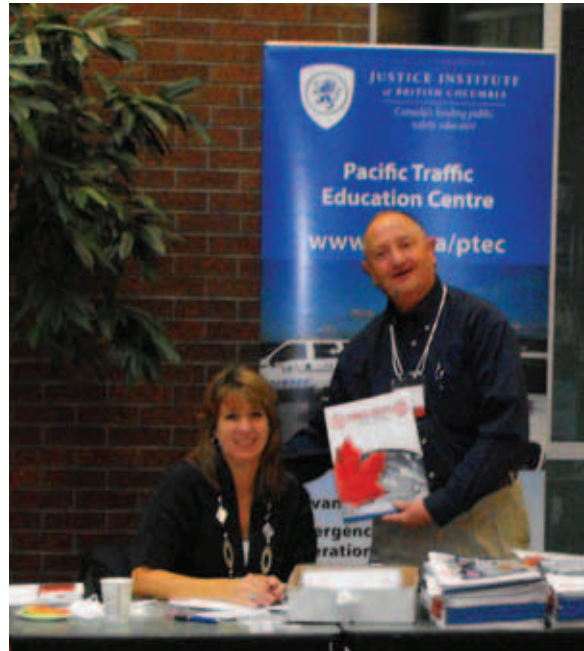
See everyone at next year’s CFAA Alberta Technical Seminar. ☺

Canadian Fire Alarm Association: 2010 Vancouver Technical Seminar

Knowledge is Power | Thursday October 14, 2010

The British Columbia chapter of the CFAA presented its second technical seminar on Thursday, October 14, 2010 at the Justice Institute in New Westminster. The FPOA of BC again assisted in securing a great facility in The Justice Institute. The staff at the Justice Institute went above and beyond in ensuring attendees were comfortable and well taken care of in regards to coffee breaks and a wonderful hot lunch. The 120+ attendees were made up from all sectors of the life safety industry in BC. Representatives from fire alarm manufactures, service companies, electrical engineers, consulting engineers, fire department officials and end user clients were in for an extremely informative seminar. The list of presenters was a great cross section of the fire alarm industry in British Columbia as well as a few from Toronto.

Ark Tsisserev of Stantec Engineering provided the opening remarks and the seminar began on a high energy, positive note. Paul Jewett of Mircom Engineered System provided an insight in to mistakes made by technicians during the verification process. Andrew Harmsworth of GHL Consulting gave a great presentation on the human reaction to fire alarms, fire conditions and other emergency events. Don Boynowski of Siemens Canada presented a look in to mass notification systems trends and requirements. Ray DeMeyer of Vertech Elevator Services Inc. explained the requirements for elevator recall alternate home and code compliance. Rob Mennie of Gage Babcock & Associates presented a detailed look at suppression systems requirements in regards to type, components needed and operation. Victor Smart of Cadillac Fairview Corporation gave a well received and entertaining view of the fire service company from the client's point of view. Ken Baird of Leber/Rubes Inc. provided a review of CAN/ULC-S537 the Standard for the Verification of Fire Alarm Systems, proposed code changes and enhancements. Ark Tsisserev provided the closing presentation in testing of the fire alarm system as part of the building commissioning.



Inge Holvik of SimplexGrinnell, CFAA BC Vice-president took the role of mediator and kept the seminar running smoothly and on schedule. Gord Morrison, the CFAA BC president gave the closing remarks and gave away a HP Netbook Computer as the lucky draw prize. The CFAA BC chapter board through its dedication and hard work did a great job in making the technical seminar a resounding memorable success. The assistance and the support of the FPOA of BC proved again to be invaluable.

The CFAA BC chapter with the continued support of the FPOA, ASTT, specifying engineers, authorities having jurisdiction and life safety organizations will continue to work towards its goals of education and certification in the fire alarm industry.

“Knowledge Is Power”. ☺



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L'ACAI est heureuse de présenter le **SÉMINAIRE TECHNIQUE 2011 SECTION QUÉBEC**. Venez assister à nos conférences et actualisez vos connaissances par la présentation de sujets techniques, juridiques et pratiques sur les codes en vigueur au Québec.

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Lunch & Learn in Calgary

Wednesday, November 3, 2010

At noon on Nov. 3rd, 2010 in Calgary, approximately 100 people assembled to enjoy a superb roast beef lunch and to listen to a timely address by Jim Heynen – Technical Services Officer with of the Calgary Fire Department. As the Authority Having Jurisdiction for the City of Calgary, Jim addressed a number of code issues under the Alberta Fire Code as they relate to contractors, consultants, manufacturer’s representatives and property managers. A few of these issues are described below.

Jim reminded the audience of a clause in the Alberta Fire Code stating that if an owner refuses to correct a defect in a fire protection installation, it becomes the legal responsibility of the person performing the maintenance to advise both the Fire Department and the building owner in writing. He spoke of penalties in place for building owners who refuse to maintain their systems.

He addressed the issue of education and endorsed the Canadian Fire Alarm Association (CFAA) certification courses being offered by the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT). He and his colleagues across the province are pressing for provincial legislation similar to that of Manitoba where only those fire alarm technicians that are registered with the CFAA and that qualify for a limited electrical license can work on fire alarm systems.

Jim clarified the City’s position on the issue of smoke detector sensitivity testing. While he does encourage sensitivity testing where the appropriate data is available, the City of Calgary Fire Department is complying with the Fire Code Interim Alert issued on September 16, 2010, that encouraged Fire Safety Code Officers not to commence any enforcement or restricted actions in regards to the smoke detector sensitivity testing requirements of the CAN/ULC-S536-04 ‘Inspection and Testing of Fire Alarm Systems’ until the Province issues a Standata.

Jim stressed the cooperative roll that is necessary between the Authority Having Jurisdiction and the various groups represented in the audience.

Following the address, the number of pertinent questions asked indicated that the speaker had touched upon issues of direct concern to the audience.

Comments and feedback on the “Lunch and Learn” received from those that attended have been both very positive and encouraging.

Please check the CFAA Website regularly at www.cfaa.ca for upcoming events in the New Year. ☺



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3. Adapt and analyze specific types of fire signatures and building environments in context with initiating device placement for the following devices: Manual Station, Smoke Detector, Heat Detector, Air Sampling Type Detection, Beam Detection, Linear Heat Detection, Sprinkler Flow Alarm, and Sprinkler System Impairment Monitoring.
4. Make a distinction between the Psychoacoustic Principals of Human Hearing, the building's ambient noise level, message intelligibility and the types of Audible Notification Appliances to be applied.
5. Create visual and audible notification appliance layouts on plan drawings based on good engineering practice, code prescriptions and referenced standards application.
6. Show knowledge of Fire Alarm System risers and schematics, Central Control Unit, Transponder, Display & Command Centres, Life-Safety Network Topologies and Performance Tables and Circuit Failure Analysis.
7. Create a Fire Alarm System sequence-of-operation matrix in context with the building emergency response measures, ancillary systems and occupancy classification.
8. Adapt various Engineering documents such as: Project Requirement Document, Opinion of Probable Cost, Specification, Bidding and Procurement Documents
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For more information go to:

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