NFPA 13E Guide for Fire Department Operations in Properties Protected by Sprinkler and Standpipe Systems 1995 Edition

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Policy Adopted by NFPA Board of Directors on December 3, 1982

The Board of Directors reaffirms that the National Fire Protection Association recognizes that the toxicity of the products of combustion is an important factor in the loss of life from fire. NFPA has dealt with that subject in its technical committee documents for many years.

There is a concern that the growing use of synthetic materials may produce more or additional toxic products of combustion in a fire environment. The Board has, therefore, asked all NFPA technical committees to review the documents for which they are responsible to be sure that the documents respond to this current concern. To assist the committees in meeting this request, the Board has appointed an advisory committee to provide specific guidance to the technical committees on questions relating to assessing the hazards of the products of combustion.

Licensing Provision

Statement on NFPA Procedures

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NFPA 13E

Guide for

Fire Department Operations in Properties Protected by Sprinkler and Standpipe Systems

1995 Edition

This edition of NFPA 13E, *Guide for Fire Department Operations in Properties Protected by Sprinkler and Standpipe Systems*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Fire Safety Training and acted on by the National Fire Protection Association, Inc., at its Fall Meeting held November 14-16, 1994, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. It was issued by the Standards Council on January 13, 1995, with an effective date of February 7, 1995, and supersedes all previous editions.

The 1995 edition of this document has been approved by the American National Standards Institute.

Origin and Development of NFPA 13E

The NFPA adopted in 1933 an informative brochure, prepared by the Committee on Field Practice, "Use of Automatic Sprinklers by Fire Departments." This was published as a separate pamphlet and reprinted in 1936. The work formerly carried on by the Committee on Field Practice was distributed to a number of new committees in 1953 and at that time the Committee on Standpipes and Outside Protection was given responsibility for this brochure. A subcommittee of the Committees on Standpipes and Outside Protection, Automatic Sprinklers, Fire Department Equipment, and Fire Service Training prepared a revision, Fire Department Operations in Protected Properties, which, on recommendation of the four committees, was adopted as an informative report at the NFPA Annual Meeting, Detroit, May 16, 1961. The informative report was published and circulated as a separate pamphlet No. SPI-1961, but was not included in the annual volumes of the *National Fire Codes®*.

Recommendations for Fire Department Operations in Properties Protected by Sprinkler and Standpipe Systems, NFPA 13E, was adopted with minor revisions by the NFPA at its 1966 Annual Meeting on recommendation of the Committee on Standpipes and Outside Protection. It was amended and updated in 1973, 1978, 1983, 1989, and 1995.

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This list represents the membership at the time the Committee was balloted on the text of this edition. Since that time, changes in the membership may have occurred.

NOTE: Membership on a Committee shall not in and of itself constitute an endorsement of the Association or any document developed by the Committee on which the member serves.

Committee Scope: This Committee shall have primary responsibility for documents on all fire service training techniques, operations, and procedures to develop maximum efficiency and proper utilization of available personnel. Such activities include training guides for fire prevention, fire suppression, and other missions for which the fire service has responsibility.

Contents

NFPA 13E

Guide for

Fire Department Operations in Properties Protected by Sprinkler and Standpipe Systems

1995 Edition

Chapter 1 Administration

1-1 Scope.

1-1.1 This guide provides basic suggested procedures and information for fire department operations in properties equipped with certain fixed fire protection systems.

1-1.2 The fixed systems covered in this guide are automatic sprinkler systems, outside sprinkler systems, and standpipe systems.

1-2 Purpose.

1-2.1 The purpose of this guide is to assist fire departments in developing training programs and planning effective operations for supporting certain fixed fire protection systems in buildings where fire can or has occurred.

1-2.2 The adequate support and use of sprinkler and standpipe systems are important to the effective functioning of such systems.

1-2.3 Nothing herein is intended to restrict any jurisdiction from exceeding these minimum suggestions.

1-3 Units. In this guide, values for measurement are followed by an equivalent in parentheses, but only the first stated value should be regarded as the requirement. Equivalent values in parentheses should not be considered as the requirement as these values might be approximate.

Chapter 2 Properties Protected by Automatic Sprinkler Systems

2-1 General.

2-1.1 Records of the National Fire Protection Association clearly indicate the highly effective performance of automatic sprinkler systems. The actual performance is likely even better than the 95 percent effective performance statistics available, since many small fires involving only one or two sprinklers are probably not reported.

There are two principal causes of unsatisfactory sprinkler performance: a closed valve in the water supply line, and inadequate water delivered to the sprinkler system. Both of these situations can be reduced by effective fire department prefire planning and appropriate actions at the time the fire department is called. If the sprinkler system was initially designed for a low heat release product or only intended to accommodate low storage, a change to a high heat commodity, or significant increase in storage height, can result in unsuccessful sprinkler performance. Knowledge of sprinklered buildings within the response area will enable fire companies to be alert for these types of changes and to refer these changes to the authority having jurisdiction for determination of whether sprinkler system upgrading is needed.

Wherever automatic sprinklers are installed, the fire department training program should include a course on the fundamentals of automatic sprinkler systems. Where automatic sprinklers are in use, the fire department should recognize that:

(a) Where properly designed, installed, and maintained, the sprinkler system can put water directly on the fire in a more effective manner than the fire department can do using manual methods.

(b) Not all sprinkler systems are equally effective in their performance. Systems installed many years ago might not have been maintained properly or might not be fully effective for the occupancy now in the building.

(c) Changing water supply conditions might have reduced the water supply initially contemplated for sprinklers by the system designer.

(d) Newer occupancies and commodity storage methods might rely heavily on fire department support for the sprinkler system as compared to past sprinkler system performance and conventional storage methods.

(e) Sprinkler systems are being installed in single-family and multiple-family dwellings as well as other types of residential occupancies. Some of these systems might not have the traditional fire department connection and other traditional exterior building fittings or dedicated separate water supplies.

2-2 Inspection and Pre-Fire Planning. (*See Figure 2-2.*)

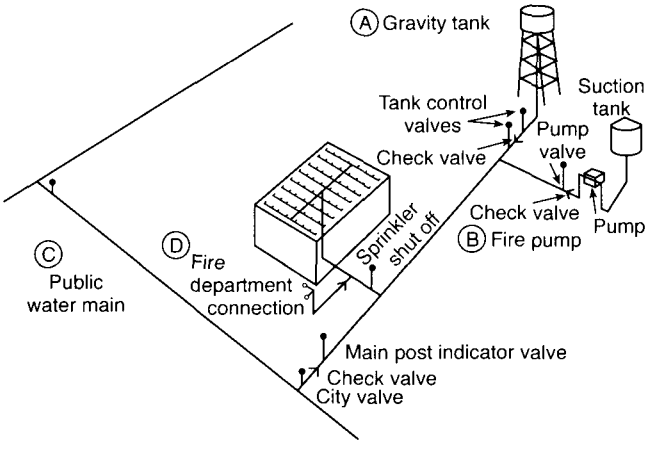

Figure 2-2 A typical layout.

2-2.1 In properties protected by automatic sprinklers, fire officers, including the chief of the battalion or district and officers assigned to first-due companies, should know:

(a) The construction and layout of the buildings and the nature of the occupancies protected by automatic sprinklers, the extent of this protection, and the type of sprinkler systems.

(b) The water supply to the sprinklers, including the source and type of supply, the flow and pressure normally available, and the anticipated duration of the supply available.

(c) The location of all sprinkler control valves, the function controlled by each valve, and the consequence of shutting off any valve.

(d) The location of fire department connections to sprinkler systems; the specific area each connection serves; and the water supply, hose, and pumper layout that will be used to feed the sprinkler connections. [*See Figure 2-2.1(d).*]

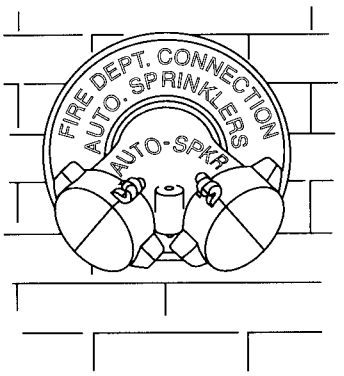

Figure 2-2.1(d) Fire department connection.

(e) The specific company assignment having the primary responsibility for charging the sprinkler connection.

(f) The location of water supplies for hand lines, without jeopardizing the water supply to operating sprinklers.

(g) An alternate means for supplying water to the system in case of damage to the fire department connection.

(h) The location of spare or replacement sprinkler heads.

(i) The location of waterflow indicators and annunciator panels associated with the systems.

(j) The name of the building owner or a tenant for contact in case of emergency.

2-2.2 During the periodic inspections by fire code officials, the location and accessibility of fire department connections and connections to the water source, as well as the availability of an adequate water supply, should be ascertained.

2-2.3 Arrangements should be made with the property owner for entering the building as quickly as possible when the building is unattended. If such arrangements are made, the necessity for using forcible entry equipment might be reduced and damage from the use of such equipment avoided.

2-3 Fire Ground Operations in Sprinklered Properties.

2-3.1 It is most important that each fire department responding to properties protected by automatic sprinkler systems have standard operating procedures developed for handling fires in sprinklered buildings. It is the duty of the officer in charge at the fire to see that these procedures are carried out as promptly and efficiently as possible.

2-3.2 When responding to a fire in properties protected by automatic sprinkler systems, it is important that fire fighters base operations upon a thorough knowledge of the property resulting from prior inspection and "prefire planning."

2-3.3 Accurate size-up can be hindered by low visibility from smoke resulting from downward air currents due to operating sprinkler heads. Experience shows that shutting down a sprinkler system to improve visibility could prove disastrous.

2-3.4 When arriving at a property protected by an automatic sprinkler system, fire companies should take prompt action to supply the system. [*See Figures 2-3.4(a) and 2-3.4(b).*]

A minimum of one sprinkler supply line should be connected to the fire department connection and should be supplemented according to fire conditions. The supply line should be pumped and the line charged to a pressure of 150 psi (10.3 bars), unless the system is posted for a different pressure. It might be necessary to alter the pressure of 150 psi (10.3 bars) to properly supply foam-water sprinkler systems or hydraulically calculated sprinkler systems. Performance of certain systems, such as foam-water sprinkler systems or hydraulically calculated sprinkler systems, can be adversely affected by increased pressures beyond the design limits of the system.

Additional hose lines should be stretched to the fire area as directed by the officer in charge. [*See Figure 2-3.4(c).*]

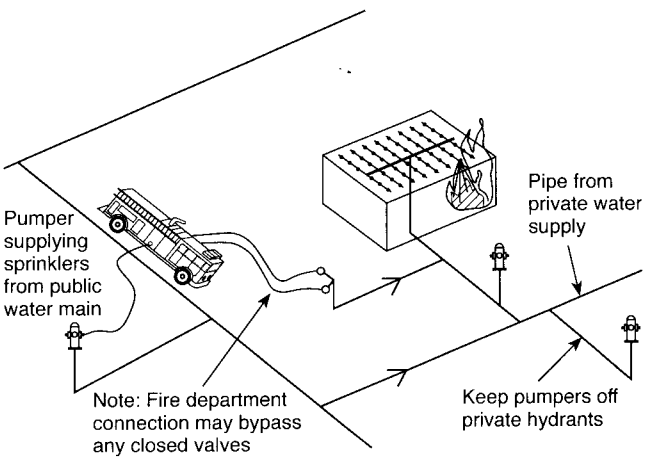

Figure 2-3.4(a) Supplying the system.

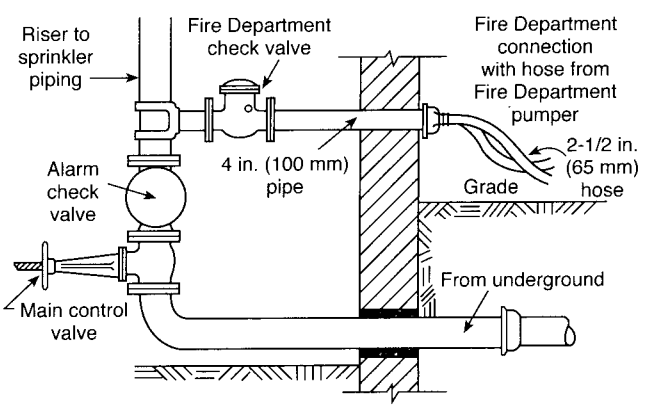

Figure 2-3.4(b) Supplying the fire department connection.

2-3.5 Once all water supply connections have been completed and the fire department connection has been charged, the company officer should verify immediately that water is flowing into the sprinkler system. If water is

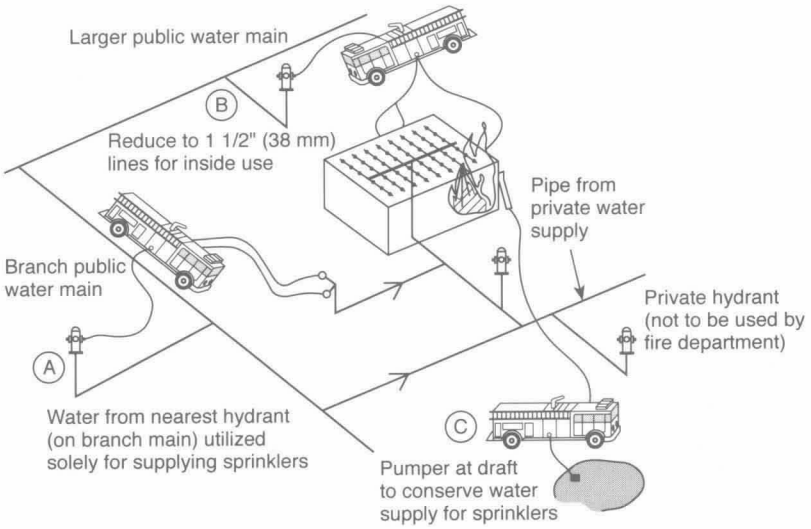

Figure 2-3.4(c) Where hose streams will be used, water should be taken from sources that do not reduce the sprinklered protection. Pumpers should be supplied by either:
(1) connecting to large mains that flow tests have indicated should be adequate to supply both sprinklers and the required hose streams;
(2) connecting to water mains not needed for sprinkler supply; or (3) drafting from static sources.

not flowing, the officer in charge should take action to verify that all accessible control valves are open. If a valve is found to be closed, the officer in charge should be notified promptly and the valve should be opened fully at the direction of the officer in charge unless the valve is tagged "Closed for Repairs." Valves found closed should be reported to the fire investigator after the incident.

If the system is supplied or augmented by a fire pump, a fire fighter should also be assigned to verify that the pump is in operation.

2-3.6 Fire departments should avoid pumping out of open water sources and into outside sprinkler systems where such systems are connected to potable water supplies unless appropriate backflow protection equipment is installed on the supply line from the public water system to the outside sprinkler system. In one incident, river water pumped into a fire department sprinkler connection resulted in the city water system being shut off for two days until proper water quality could be restored.

2-3.7 The unit performing ladder company functions should provide ventilation and salvage as needed in order to avoid delay in advancing hose lines to complete extinguishment. Refer to Section 2-6 for other considerations regarding ventilation procedures.

Salvage covers should be spread over those items or areas likely to be affected by operating sprinklers or hose lines, or both. Special attention should be given to those areas on levels below the area of sprinkler operation.

2-4 Post-Fire Operations.

2-4.1 AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS SHOULD NOT BE SHUT OFF UNTIL AFTER THE FIRE HAS BEEN EXTINGUISHED. If there is a sectional or floor valve, this should be closed in lieu of the main valve. A fire fighter, preferably with a portable radio, should be assigned to remain at the valve until overhaul is completed. Orders should also be given to the pump operator to shut down the lines connected to the fire department connection as these by-pass the main sprinkler valve and, in the absence of a floor valve, water will flow until the pump discharge gates are closed.

Where a combined sprinkler-standpipe system is installed, it might be necessary to maintain the hose lines charged until overhaul is completed.

Where only a few sprinkler heads are operating, sprinkler tongs, tapered wooden wedges, or dowels can be used to immediately stop the flow from the opened heads without shutting off the entire system. (*See Figure 2-4.1.*)

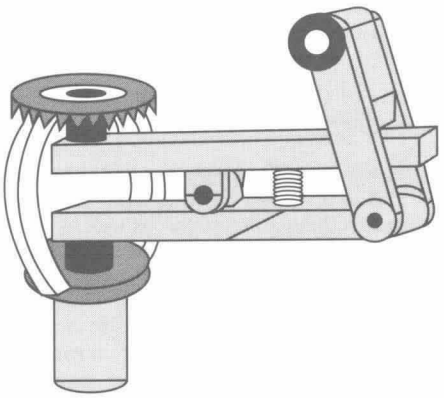

Figure 2-4.1 Sprinkler head with sprinkler wedge installed.

2-4.2 Routine overhaul should be provided and a cause and origin investigation should be initiated.

2-4.3 When overhauling is completed, the lines from the pumper to the sprinkler system fire department connection should be ordered disconnected.

2-4.4 Where appropriate, the fire department might assist in restoring the sprinkler system. Work on restoring a sprinkler system can present potential consequences for improper or negligent actions. Each fire department should review its policy on this matter. Sprinkler heads that were exposed to high heat conditions during a fire should be examined by a qualified sprinkler installer.

2-4.5 Code enforcement authorities should be notified where the automatic sprinklers are part of a "code" required system. If the sprinkler system cannot be restored to operating condition by the time the fire department leaves the premises, the code enforcement agency should be promptly notified of the noncompliance status of the structure. The building owner or representative should also be notified.

2-4.6 The fire prevention bureau should be notified of any fire involving a building with automatic sprinklers.

2-5 Reports.

2-5.1 It is important that the officer in charge include data regarding the operation of the sprinkler system with the fire report.

2-5.2 A thorough critique of the fire department operations and the performance of the automatic sprinkler system should be completed to improve future operations at sprinklered properties. The following information should be gathered to use in the critique process:

Location of sprinkler heads operating.

Number of sprinkler heads operating.

Result of sprinkler operation.

Reason for any unsatisfactory operation.

What member of department was assigned to check control valve?

Did fire department connect to sprinkler system?

If not, why not?

Company connected to sprinkler system: Engine number.

Number of hose lines used.

Was water pumped into system?

Was valve closed after fire? Who ordered valve closed?

Number of sprinkler heads replaced by fire department.

Type of heads installed.

Was sprinkler protection fully restored? By whom?

Actions taken to restore service.

Did the private water supply to sprinklers operate satisfactorily?

Was representative of management notified? Who? By whom?

2-6 Storage Occupancies.

2-6.1 Occupancies with a wide variety of configurations and a wide range of storage commodities might need special procedures, particularly where storage heights are in excess of 15 ft (4.57 m). In some cases, routine ventilation procedures in the early stages of a fire can hinder effective sprinkler operation. It is desirable for the fire department to discuss its pre-fire plan for warehouse occupancies with the occupant, sprinkler designer, and insurance carrier to determine if a modification in procedures is appropriate.

2-6.2 For those cases where search and rescue operations have been completed prior to ventilation work being performed by the fire department, it might be appropriate to allow the automatic sprinklers to continue to operate without further ventilation to enable them to achieve full control of the fire. This might take 20 to 30 min or more.

Chapter 3 Properties Protected by Outside Sprinklers for Protection Against Exposure Fires

3-1 General.

3-1.1 Many buildings or properties having a severe exposure problem are equipped with outside or external sprinkler systems designed to provide a water curtain capable of shielding the property from fires in other buildings or in storage areas. Most of these systems are designed for manual operation. Some are thermostatically operated, open-head systems. Some are specially designed sprinkler heads on pipes extending from a wet- or dry-pipe sprinkler system inside the building and so placed as to protect window openings.

3-1.2 Sprinkler heads for outside protection are specially designed for water curtain effect and when used properly should prevent an exposure fire from entering the building.

3-2 Pre-Fire Planning.

3-2.1 In properties having outside sprinkler protection, fire officers, including the chief of the battalion or district and officers assigned to first-due companies, should know:

(a) The construction and layout of the building and the nature of the occupancy protected by the outside sprinkler, the extent of the protection, and the type and operation (automatic or manual) of the system.

(b) The water supply to the sprinklers, including the source and type of supply, the flow and pressure normally available, and the anticipated duration of the supply available.

(c) The location of all sprinkler control valves, what each valve controls, and the consequence of shutting off any valve.

(d) The location of fire department connections to the system, the specific area each connection serves, and the water supply, hose, and pumper layout that will be used to feed the sprinkler connections.

(e) The specific company assignment having the primary responsibility for charging the sprinkler connection.

(f) The location of water supplies for hand lines, without jeopardizing the water supply to operating sprinklers.

(g) An alternate means for supplying water to the system in case of damage to the fire department connection.

(h) The location of spare or replacement sprinkler heads.

(i) The name of the building owner or a tenant for contact in case of emergency.

3-3 Water Supply for Fire Fighting.

3-3.1 A sketch should be prepared showing the location of the control valves, the fire department supply connections, and the hydrants to be used for pumping into the system. Where there is an exposure fire problem, it should be assumed that there could be a major fire that will also require a number of hose streams for manual fire fighting. There might be standard automatic sprinkler systems in the fire area that should be supplied with lines from pumpers.

3-3.2 Fire departments should avoid pumping out of open water sources and into outside sprinkler systems where such systems are connected to potable water supplies unless appropriate backflow protection equipment is installed on the supply line from the public water system to the outside sprinkler system.

3-4 Fire Ground Operations Involving Outside Sprinklers.

3-4.1 The purpose of outside sprinkler systems is to prevent the extension of fires to exposed properties. It is the duty of the officer in charge to see that these systems are used to fulfill their intended purpose. To do this it is necessary that the officer in charge know of the existence of the system and the means of water supply.

3-4.2 The officer in charge should ascertain as quickly as possible whether outside sprinklers are operating. If the system is manually operated, a fire fighter, preferably with a portable radio, should be sent to the valve to open the valve immediately in the event the outside sprinklers are needed. In some cases there will be several valves controlling different exposed parts of the protected building and it is important to open the correct valve. Care should be taken to conserve water supply and minimize potential water damage by shutting off the outside sprinklers when they are no longer needed.

3-4.3 Where a fire department connection is provided, an engine company should pump into the fire department connection supplying the outside sprinklers.

3-4.4 The officer in charge should:

(a) Order fire fighters into the exposed buildings on each side to see that all windows are closed and that fire has not extended into the buildings concerned.

(b) If the exposure is severe, set up fire department lines in the exposed buildings using standpipe facilities, if available.

(c) Send fire fighters to the roof to make certain that no part of the roof structure has ignited.

(d) Order the start of salvage operations in exposed buildings.

(e) Order outside sprinklers to be shut off and drained when no longer needed.

(f) Order the system restored. (*See 2-4.4.*)

Chapter 4 Properties Protected by Standpipe Systems

4-1 Inspection and Pre-Fire Planning.

4-1.1 Many properties have standpipe systems serving fire hose outlets in various parts of one or more buildings. Standpipe systems of various types may be used by the fire department to place streams in service quickly in areas that cannot be reached conveniently with hose lines directly connected to pumpers or hydrants outside of buildings.

4-1.2 The procedure for fire department pre-fire planning for properties protected by standpipe systems is in many ways similar to that for automatic sprinkler systems. The inspector should determine the source and reliability of the water supply and follow the piping, noting the control valves.

4-1.3 Where the fire department is required to supply hose outlets several hundred feet from the fire department connection, plans should be made in advance to provide the required pressure and fire flow based upon the size, length of pipe, the maximum height of standpipe outlets, and the number of streams that are to be supplied.

4-1.4 Pre-fire planning should include identification of pressure-regulating devices installed within the system. Some standpipe systems include devices that regulate the pressure available to the hose lines attached to the system. The fire department should be aware of these devices and where they are installed on standpipe systems, and should know how to adjust them so that they work properly with the hose lines and nozzles that can be attached to such devices. Pressure-regulating device settings should be consistent with hose and nozzles used by the local fire department.

4-2 Water Supply for Fire Fighting.

4-2.1 Standpipe systems will likely have water supplied by city water mains. They also can be connected to fire pumps, gravity tanks, pressure tanks, fire department connections, or combinations of these to provide water at adequate pressure and quantity at the outlets.

4-2.2 The fire department should determine the available pressure and quantity of water at the highest outlets, and develop procedures to provide appropriate amounts of water for fire fighting when using the system.

4-2.3 Alternate means of supplying water to the fire area should be identified in case the system is unusable at the time of a fire.

4-2.4 Fire departments should avoid pumping out of open water sources and into standpipe systems where such systems are connected to potable water supplies unless appropriate backflow protection equipment is installed on the supply line from the public water system to the standpipe system.

4-3 Fire Ground Operations Involving Properties Protected by Standpipe Systems.

4-3.1 Fire department operations in properties protected by standpipe systems designed to supply fire department hose streams require carefully planned operating procedures as do operations in buildings protected by automatic sprinklers. Many buildings will have sprinkler systems, standpipe systems, or a combination of these systems.

4-3.2 Where fires occur on floors above the reach of ground or aerial ladders and where valuable time will be lost in stretching lines up stairways, standpipes should be utilized, and careful planning is necessary for successful operations.

4-3.3 Where standpipe systems having fire department connections are provided, it is important that lines from a pumper supplied by a public main be connected and charged to the pressure required to give the desired working pressure on the standpipe outlets to be used. Where there are several independent standpipes for fire department use in the fire area, each standpipe should be charged. (*See Figure 4-3.3.*)

Figure 4-3.3 Standpipe connection.

4-3.4 When pumping to a fire department standpipe connection, the pump operator should consider the following factors when calculating pump discharge pressure:

(a) Friction loss in the hose line between the pump and the standpipe connection.

(b) Friction loss in the standpipe system.

(c) Elevation of the nozzle(s).

(d) Number and size of attack lines operating from the standpipe.

(e) Pressure desired at the nozzle(s).

Pump discharge pressure in excess of 200 psi (14 bars) should not be used unless the standpipe system has been designed to withstand higher pressures.

Fire department standpipe outlets are usually located in stair towers so that fire fighters can work from the stairway into the fire area. However, in some cases the standpipe might be located on the exterior of the building, frequently adjacent to outside stairs or fire escapes. Accepted practice in standpipe operations is to connect the fire department hose to an outlet a floor below the fire and advance the line up one flight of stairs. This is done so that an intense fire on the fire floor will not drive fire fighters away from the standpipe connection. Where additional lines are needed, connections can be made to other outlets.

4-3.5 Private hose or "house lines" attached to standpipe outlets should not be used except in the case of extreme emergency. The fire department should provide its own hose and nozzle of appropriate size and length for the fire condition involved.

4-3.6 The ability to maintain communications between the incident command post and officers on the upper floors is essential. In many cases, portable radios can be used effectively. However, their limitations should be identified during pre-fire planning.

4-3.7 Where private water supplies serve the standpipe system, fire fighters should make certain that supply valves are open and private fire pumps, if any, are operating properly.

4-3.8 Fire fighters proceeding up stairs should observe all hose outlet valves on lower floors to see that these are closed so that pressure will not be diverted from the fire area.

Index

The NFPA Codes and Standards Development Process

Since 1896, one of the primary purposes of the NFPA has been to develop and update the standards covering all areas of fire safety.

Calls for Proposals
The code adoption process takes place twice each year and begins with a call for proposals from the public to amend existing codes and standards or to develop the content of new fire safety documents.

Report on Proposals
Upon receipt of public proposals, the technical committee members meet to review, consider, and act on the proposals. The public proposals – together with the committee action on each proposal and committee-generated proposals – are published in the NFPA's Report on Proposals (ROP). The ROP is then subject to public review and comment.

Report on Comments
These public comments are considered and acted upon by the appropriate technical committees. All public comments – together with the committee action on each comment – are published as the Committee's supplementary report in the NFPA's Report on Comments (ROC).

The committee's report and supplementary report are then presented for adoption and open debate at either of NFPA's semi-annual meetings held throughout the United States and Canada.

Association Action
The Association meeting may, subject to review and issuance by the NFPA Standards Council, (a) adopt a report as published, (b) adopt a report as amended, contingent upon subsequent approval by the committee, (c) return a report to committee for further study, and (d) return a portion of a report to committee.

Standards Council Action
The Standards Council will make a judgement on whether or not to issue an NFPA document based upon the entire record before the Council, including the vote taken at the Association meeting on the technical committee's report.

Voting Procedures
Voting at an NFPA Annual or Fall Meeting is restricted to members of record for 180 days prior to the opening of the first general session of the meeting, except that individuals who join the Association at an Annual or Fall Meeting are entitled to vote at the next Fall or Annual Meeting.

"Members" are defined by Article 3.2 of the Bylaws as individuals, firms, corporations, trade or professional associations, institutes, fire departments, fire brigades, and other public or private agencies desiring to advance the purposes of the Association. Each member shall have one vote in the affairs of the Association. Under Article 4.5 of the Bylaws, the vote of such a member shall be cast by that member individually or by an employee designated in writing by the member of record who has registered for the meeting. Such a designated person shall not be eligible to represent more than one voting privilege on each issue, nor cast more than one vote on each issue.

Any member who wishes to designate an employee to cast that member's vote at an Association meeting in place of that member must provide that employee with written authorization to represent the member at the meeting. The authorization must be on company letterhead signed by the member of record, with the membership number indicated, and the authorization must be recorded with the President of NFPA or his designee before the start of the opening general session of the Meeting. That employee, irrespective of his or her own personal membership status, shall be privileged to cast only one vote on each issue before the Association.

Sequence of Events Leading to Publication of an NFPA Committee Document

Call for proposals to amend existing document or for recommendations on new document.

▼

Committee meets to act on proposals, to develop its own proposals, and to prepare its report.

▼

Committee votes on proposals by letter ballot. If two-thirds approve, report goes forward. Lacking two-thirds approval, report returns to committee.

▼

Report is published for public review and comment. (Report on Proposals - ROP)

▼

Committee meets to act on each public comment received.

▼

Committee votes on comments by letter ballot. If two-thirds approve, supplementary report goes forward. Lacking two-thirds approval, supplementary report returns to committee.

▼

Supplementary report is published for public review. (Report on Comments - ROC).

▼

NFPA membership meets (Annual or Fall Meeting) and acts on committee report (ROP and ROC).

▼

Committee votes on any amendments to report approved at NFPA Annual or Fall Meeting.

▼

Complaints to Standards Council on Association action must be filed within 20 days of the NFPA Annual or Fall Meeting.

▼

Standards Council decides, based on all evidence, whether or not to issue standard or to take other action, including hearing any complaints.

▼

Appeals to Board of Directors on Standards Council action must be filed within 20 days of Council action.

FORM FOR PROPOSALS ON NFPA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE DOCUMENTS

Mail to: Secretary, Standards Council
National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269-9101
Fax No. 617-770-3500

Note: All proposals must be received by 5:00 p.m. EST/EDST on the published proposal-closing date.

If you need further information on the standards-making process, please contact the Standards Administration Department at 617-984-7249.

Date 9/18/93 **Name** John B. Smith **Tel. No.** 617-555-1212

Company _____

Street Address 9 Seattle St., Seattle, WA 02255

Please Indicate Organization Represented (if any) Fire Marshals Assn. of North America

1. a) NFPA Document Title National Fire Alarm Code **NFPA No. & Year** NFPA 72, 1993 ed.

b) Section/Paragraph 1-5.8.1 (Exception No.1)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Log # _____
Date Rec'd _____

2. Proposal recommends: (Check one)
- ☐ **new text**
- ☐ **revised text**
- ☒ **deleted text**

3. Proposal (include proposed new or revised wording, or identification of wording to be deleted):

Delete exception.

4. Statement of Problem and Substantiation for Proposal: (Note: State the problem that will be resolved by your recommendation; give the specific reason for your proposal including copies of tests, research papers, fire experience, etc. If more than 200 words, it may be abstracted for publication.)

A properly installed and maintained system should be free of ground faults. The occurrence of one or more ground faults should be required to cause a "trouble" signal because it indicates a condition that could contribute to future malfunction of the system. Ground fault protection has been widely available on these systems for years and its cost is negligible. Requiring it on all systems will promote better installations, maintenance and reliability.

5. ☒ This Proposal is original material. (Note: Original material is considered to be the submitter's own idea based on or as a result of his/her own experience, thought, or research and, to the best of his/her knowledge, is not copied from another source.)

☐ **This Proposal is not original material; its source (if known) is as follows:** _____

Note 1: Type or print legibly in black ink.
Note 2: If supplementary material (photographs. diagrams, reports, etc.) is included, you may be required to submit sufficient copies for all members and alternates of the technical committee.

I hereby grant NFPA the non-exclusive, royalty-free rights, including non-exclusive, royalty-free rights in copyright, in this proposal and I understand that I acquire no rights in any publication of NFPA in which this proposal in this or another similar or analogous form is used.

John B. Smith
Signature (Required)

PLEASE USE SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH PROPOSAL

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Date _____ **Name** _____ **Tel. No.** _____

Company _____

Street Address _____

Please Indicate Organization Represented (if any) _____

1. a) NFPA Document Title _____ **NFPA No. & Year** _____

b) Section/Paragraph _____

2. Proposal Recommends: (Check one)
- ❑ **new text**
- ❑ **revised text**
- ❑ **deleted text**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Log # _____

Date Rec'd _____

3. Proposal (include proposed new or revised wording, or identification of wording to be deleted):

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_____
Signature (Required)

PLEASE USE SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH PROPOSAL

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