City of Bothell™

PUBLIC INFORMATION HANDOUT FP-4

Fire System Confidence Testing and Maintenance

International Fire Code, Chapter 9

The International Fire Code (IFC) requires inspection, testing and maintenance, including fire detection, alarm and extinguishing systems, mechanical smoke exhaust systems, and smoke, firefighter communication systems and heat vents to be maintained in an operative condition at all times, and shall be replaced or repaired where defective. Non-required *fire protection systems* and equipment shall be inspected, test and maintained or removed.

Inspection, testing and maintenance help ensure the systems function as they were initially designed and installed. This testing is separate from the fire and life safety inspections conducted by the fire department.

Responsibility

It is the system owner's responsibility to have the fire protection and life safety systems tested at the required intervals.

When a fire protection and life safety system is found to have a defect or is need of repair, the system owner is required to have the repairs made to ensure the systems are maintained in an operable conditional at all times.

Qualifications

Inspection, testing and maintenance of fire protection and life safety systems is performed by personnel who are registered, licensed, or certified to install, service, or test the systems. Evidence of such qualifica-

Should you have any questions or need for clarification of the fire system confidence testing and reporting guidelines, please feel free to contact the City of Bothell Fire Prevention at **(425) 806-6250**.

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Testing Requirements

Inspection, testing and maintenance of fire protection and life safety systems must be in accordance with the International Fire Code (IFC), or their referenced standard.

The personnel testing or servicing the fire protection and life safety systems should be familiar with the applicable code or referenced standards for each type of system.

Testing Intervals

Fire protection and life safety systems have many components and the testing intervals vary for each system type. The "Systems Table" identifies the system type, minimum test intervals and referenced standards. The applicable NFPA standards should be reviewed for additional testing requirements and schedules.

System Type	Referenced Standard	Test Intervals
Fire Alarm	NFPA 72	Annual
Fire Pumps	NFPA 25	Annual
Standpipe and/or Hose Cabinets	NFPA 25	5 Years
Automatic Sprinklers	NFPA 25	Annual
Shaft Pressurization	NFPA 92A	Annual
Emergency Generator	NFPA 110	Annual
Smoke Removal	NFPA 204	Annual
Foam Systems	NFPA 16	Annual
Portable Fire Extinguishers	NFPA 10	Annual
Halon 1301	NFPA 12A	Annual
Rangehood (Wet Chemical)	NFPA 17A	Semi-annual
800 MHz Building Radio	NFPA 1221	Annual & 5 years
Carbon Dioxide	NFPA 12	Annual
Clean Agent (FM 200, Inergen, Sapphire)	NFPA 2001	Annual
Dry Chemical	NFPA 17	Semi-annual
Water-Mist	NFPA 750	Annual
Private Hydrants	NFPA 25	Annual
Construction Ratings/Fire Doors	NFPA 80	Annual

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RECORDS

Records of all system inspections, tests and maintenance required by the referenced standards shall be submitted and maintained using The Compliance Engine online by visiting *www.thecomplianceengine.com*.

THE COMPLIANCE ENGINE

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