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ELEVATOR AND AMUSEMENT DEVICE BUREAU

MEMO

DATE: January 1, 2008

TO: All Elevator Companies

FROM: Jonathan Brooks, Bureau Chief

RE: Clarification of Code Issues

The purpose of this memo is to try to clarify several code issues with the A17.1/B44.1 Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators.

- Sprinklers located inside of elevator hoistways or pits shall have an initiating device to initiate Phase I fire service of the affected elevators.
- There shall also be a heat detector located within 2 feet of the sprinkler head that is used to remove the power from the affected elevators. This is the interpretation of the N.C. Department of Labor, Elevator and Amusement Device Bureau of A17.1/B44. 1 2.8.3.3.2. All installation shall be in conformance with the NFPA72 and the 2008 National Electrical Code.
- If the sprinkler head is installed from 0 inches to 24 inches above the pit floor, then all equipment installed from 0 inches to 48 inches shall be rated NEMA 250 type 4. This is in accordance with A17.1/B44. 1 2.8.3.3.4. All installation shall be in conformance with NFPA 72 and the 2008 National Electrical Code.
- If the sprinkler head is located above 24 inches, then the wiring and equipment does not have to meet any specified criteria.
- All risers and returns shall be located outside of the elevator hoistway and the control rooms, control spaces, machine room and machine spaces as specified in A17.1/B44.1 2.8.3.3.1.

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- The installation of sump pump alarms and their control wiring shall be allowed in the pit area as specified in A17.1/B44. 1 2.8.2.2. This requirement changed in the A17.1/B44.1 2007 edition of the code. **This requirement will supersede the memo dated March 24, 2007.**
- You are allowed to run a sprinkler line through the elevator machine room into the pit of the elevator. The sprinkler dead ends in the pit area and cannot feed any other part of the structure.
- No drain plug or relief plug for the sprinkler system is allowed to be located in the pit area of the elevator.
- A building changing the fire alarm control panel does not require a permit from the NCDOL Elevator and Amusement Device Bureau. The only time a permit would be required in this type of situation is when there is a change in the operation of the elevator.

All of these requirements will be enforced on all applications that are submitted after January 1, 2008.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,



Jonathan Brooks

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