



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	8/14/09	Interpretation	09-021
Topic	Class I Standpipes for Smokeproof Enclosures		
Code Section(s)	2007 CBC Section 905.3.8, 905.4		
Requested by	Cheryl L. Domnitch, P.E. Hughes Associates, Inc. 2551 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Suite 209 San Ramon, CA 94583 (925) 314-7910 cdomnitch@haifire.com		

Subject: Class 1 Standpipes for smoke proof enclosures

Code Section: 2007 CBC, Sections 905.3.8 and 905.4
 (Reference to NFPA 14 and 2001 CBC, Sections 904.5.3 and 1005.3.3.7.1.5 is necessary for a complete review of this issue)

Background Information:

The 2001 CBC, Section 904.5.3, required Class 1 standpipe outlets to be located on the floor landing of each required stair enclosure. For smoke proof enclosures, the 2001 CBC clarified that the standpipe outlets should be located within the vestibules. The 2001 CBC was in conflict with NFPA 14 which requires that standpipe outlets be located on the intermediate landings. Generally, this issue was received by requesting the preference of the local responding fire agency.

1. The 2007 California Building Code, Section 905.4.1. Item 1 resolves the conflict with NFPA 14 by requiring the standpipe outlets on the intermediate landings. However, a State amendment in Sections 905.3.8 and 909.20.2.3 for smoke proof enclosures states that standpipe outlets shall be located at floor landings within the

vestibules. Based upon this amendment it can be interpreted that standpipe outlets in smoke proof enclosures are required at both floor landing vestibules and intermediate landings. Please clarify whether standpipe outlets in smoke proof enclosures are intended at both the floor level vestibules and the intermediate landings of stairway enclosures.

The 2007 California Building Code Section 909.20.2.3, requires standpipe outlets to be located within a vestibule pressurized stairway enclosure. The provisions of 909.20.2.3 are more specific and supersede the general provision of 905.4. (See Section 101.7.2) *The intent of 909.20.2.3 was not to require a second standpipe outlet at the intermediate landing.*