



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	11/02/2006	Interpretation #	06-026
Topic	School Remodel Projects - Audible Fire Alarm Signal Temporal Synchronization		
Code Section(s)	California Fire Code Section 1006.3.3.3.2 (2001) NFPA 72, (1999) 3-8.4.1.2.3		
Requested by	Silvino A. Cruz, P.E. ATI Architects & Engineers 3860 Blackhawk Road Danville, CA 94506		

Are we required to bring an entire campus to comply with the "three pulse temporal pattern" (2001 California Fire Code Section 1006.3.3.3.2) when we are adding a new classroom building on an existing site?

For example, on a recent project, we have an existing elementary campus that was compliant with the prevailing code at the time of its modernization. A year after the modernization was completed, the fire alarm equipment manufacturer discontinued the horn/strobe device product line. A new product was released to replace the old horn/strobe.

However, the new model did not synchronize with the old model to produce the required "three pulse temporal sound pattern".

If we are to add a new classroom building to this site, does this trigger an upgrade of all the existing fire alarm horn devices in the entire school campus so that they all have the same audible alarm signal throughout the entire campus?

No. Synchronization is not an issue where the non-synchronized audible notification appliance is installed in the interior of the new modular classroom.