



California State Fire Marshal Information Bulletin

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Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water Based Fire Protection Systems Designed Under Earlier Editions of NFPA 13

California Code of Regulations Title 19/NFPA 25, 2006 California Edition

Question 1. What criteria should be used to conduct inspection, testing, and maintenance of a fire protection system that was installed under an older edition of an NFPA Standard?

Answer: CCR Title 19 Section 904.2 (b) Any testing and maintenance of automatic fire extinguishing systems shall be performed in accordance with these regulations.

EXCEPTIONS:

- 1) The State Fire Marshal may waive in writing the requirement that testing and maintenance be performed in accordance with these regulations when a licensee can demonstrate that a system cannot functionally be tested and maintained in accordance with the requirements in these regulations.
- 2) If at any time a licensee encounters a specialized or modified system which cannot be tested and maintained according to these regulations, the licensee shall contact the State Fire Marshal and test and maintain the system as directed.
 - (A) The intent of this section is to cover automatic fire extinguishing systems as originally designed, installed and approved by the Authority Having Jurisdiction. It is not, however, intended to require that such systems be upgraded to current adopted standards.

Systems are required to be inspected, tested, and maintained based on the standard in effect at the time of installation. Systems are not required to be modified to be compliant with the current edition of an NFPA standard. Older editions of NFPA standards may be purchased from NFPA.

If you have further questions, please contact Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal James Parsegian at james.parsegian@fire.ca.gov or (916) 445-8415.

For more information please visit our website <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov>