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Fire Service Annunciator and Interface

National Electrical Manufacturers Association

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Section 1
GENERAL

This standard was developed jointly by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Building and Fire Research Laboratory, NEMA, and the U.S. Fire Alarm industry to guide the development of uniform equipment for use by the fire service to display information of use during fires or other emergencies.

1.1 SCOPE

This standard covers the design, operation, and arrangement of equipment intended to display data and status of building systems, and to provide certain control functions. This standard addresses displays installed in buildings or other locations specified by the fire service for their use in responding to fires and other emergencies.

The document scope presents information for fire fighters in the roles of "First Responder" (the first fire command at the scene) and "Incident Commander" (the ongoing fire command at the scene.)

1.2 INTENT

The intent of this standard is to provide a uniform set of requirements that result in equipment sufficiently similar across different manufacturers' systems that fire service personnel trained in the general arrangement and use of these systems be able to operate and extract information from the equipment in various buildings with a fair degree of familiarity and confidence without the need for specialized training on each individual system.

It is anticipated that firefighter interface training will become a part of all new firefighter training programs. It is also the intent that the training required be minimal and the interactions of the fire service with the systems be as intuitive as possible. Finally, it is the intent that the equipment, displays and interactions be based, as much as is sensible for quick understanding, on common fire fighter knowledge.

1.3 PURPOSE

The purpose of this equipment is to provide real time information of value in making tactical decisions and monitoring the safety of firefighters. These goals are met through interaction with the equipment by both First Responders and Incident Commanders.

The information of value to the First Responder arriving on the scene must be readily available for quick processing, planning and response.

The Incident Commander, also must have information readily available for quick processing, planning and response. The Incident Commander may continue to process information, plan and direct the incident through out the emergency. They may spend more time with the system using it as an ongoing tactical tool after the initial response has commenced.

Both the user interactions required for the First Responder's quick assessment and the Incident Commander's ongoing analysis should be supported in uniform, consistent and intuitive ways. The design of the system interactions shall not change based on the user role.