**SECTION 1 — INTRODUCTION**

This fire safety information sheet is based on the 2007 Minnesota State Fire Code (MSFC) Section 907.

A facility will be required to meet other code provisions that are not listed in this publication. This information sheet provides an overview of the major fire alarm code requirements by occupancy type and does not attempt to cover every situation.

More information is available from the Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division by sending an e-mail to firecode@state.mn.us or check out our web page at www.fire.state.mn.us for the latest information on fire in Minnesota.

**SECTION 2 – FIRE ALARM REQUIREMENTS BY OCCUPANCY TYPE**

Where Required:

**Assembly Occupancies** (Restaurants, bars, nightclubs, health clubs):

I. Where Required:
   A. New – 300 or more occupants (MSFC 907.2.1)
   B. Existing – 300 or more occupants (MSFC 907.3.1)
   C. Exceptions for:
      1. Churches (worship purposes)
      2. Sprinkled buildings
      3. Outdoor structures

II. Initiation: automatic detection in:
   A. Laundry rooms,
   B. Boiler & furnace rooms,
   C. Mechanical & electrical rooms,
   D. Shops,
   E. Kitchens,
   F. Trash-collection rooms,
   G. Storage rooms,
   H. Similar areas.

III. Notification:
   A. Audible & visual notification at constantly attended location,
   B. If no constantly attended location, sounds general evacuation signal,
C. If over 1,000 occupants, must initiate voice evacuation message (new only).

**Business Occupancies** (Offices, outpatient clinics, college/university buildings):

I. Where required (MSFC 907.2.2):
   A. New Group B Occupancies with 500 or more occupants,
   B. New Group B Occupancies with more than 100 persons above or below the level of exit discharge,
   C. New Group B Occupancies containing an outpatient clinic,
   D. Not required if building is sprinklered (except for outpatient clinics).

II. Initiation: automatic detection in:
   A. Boiler & furnace rooms,
   B. Mechanical & electrical rooms,
   C. Shops,
   D. Kitchens,
   E. Trash-collection rooms,
   F. Storage rooms,
   G. Similar areas,
   H. Outpatient clinics:
      1. Manual pull stations required,
      2. Corridor smoke detection required.

III. Notification:
   A. General evacuation signal,
   B. In patient care areas, can use visual notification appliances.

**Educational Occupancies** (Schools, day care centers – clients over 2 ½ yrs old):

I. Where required:
   A. New Group E Occupancies with 50 or more occupants (MSFC 907.2.3),
   B. Existing Group E Occupancies with 50 or more occupants (MSFC 907.3.2)

II. Initiation:
   A. Manual:
      1. Can omit corridor pull stations if sprinklered. Only required in the main office and custodian’s office.
      2. Can omit corridor pull stations if corridor has smoke detection. Only required at the exits to chemistry and physics laboratories, industrial arts, industrial technology, kitchen, shops, boiler rooms, custodian’s office and main office.
   B. Automatic detection in (not required if sprinkled):
      1. Laundry rooms,
      2. Boiler & furnace rooms,
      3. Mechanical & electrical rooms,
      4. Shops,
      5. Laboratories,
      6. Kitchens,
      7. Locker rooms,
      8. Trash-collection rooms,
      9. Storage rooms,
10. Janitor’s closets
11. Lounges,
12. Similar areas,
13. Smoke detection is required where single means of egress is through an intervening room.

III. Notification: general evacuation signal.

Factory Occupancies (Industrial & manufacturing – not hazardous):
I. Where required (MSFC 907.2.4):
   A. New Group F Occupancies 2 or more stories in height, and
   B. 500 or more occupants above or below level of exit discharge,
   C. Not required if building is sprinklered.

II. Initiation:
   A. Manual,
   B. Automatic detection in:
      1. Boiler & furnace rooms,
      2. Mechanical & electrical rooms,
      3. Kitchens,
      4. Trash-collection rooms,
      5. Similar areas.

III. Notification: general evacuation signal.

Hazardous Occupancies:
I. Where required (MSFC 907.2.5):
   A. New Group H-5 Occupancies used for manufacture of organic coatings (alkyd, acrylic, oil-based paints/coatings),
   B. Rooms or areas with highly toxic compressed gases,
   C. Rooms or areas with Class I, II, or III organic peroxides,
   D. Liquid and solid oxidizer storage.

II. Initiation:
   A. H-5 Occupancies: manual,
   B. Others: see appropriate chapters.

III. Notification:
   A. H-5 Occupancies: general evacuation signal,
   b. Others: local alarm.

Institutional Occupancies (Hospitals, nursing homes, jails, prisons):
I. Where required:
   A. New Group I Occupancies (MSFC 907.2.6),
   B. Existing Group I Occupancies (MSFC 907.3.3).

II. Initiation:
   A. Manual (can be at constantly attended locations, such as nursing stations),
   B. Automatic detection in:
1. Laundry and soiled linen rooms,
2. Boiler & furnace rooms,
3. Mechanical & electrical rooms,
4. Shops,
5. Laboratories,
6. Kitchens,
7. Locker rooms,
8. Trash-collection rooms,
9. Storage rooms,
10. Gift shops and commissaries,
11. Lounges,
12. Similar areas,
13. Smoke detection in waiting areas that are open to corridors,
14. Smoke detection in corridors of hospitals and nursing homes.

III. Notification:
   A. General evacuation signal:
      1. Can use visual in lieu of audible,
      2. Can be for staff notification only.
   B. Must transmit to central station or remote station for FD notification.

Hotel Occupancies:
I. Where required:
   A. New hotels/motels: required for all (MSFC 907.2.8),
   B. Existing hotels/motels (MSFC 907.3.4):
      1. Three or more stories in height, or
      2. 20 or more guest rooms.
   C. Some exceptions for hotels without interior corridors or where each guest room
      has exit direct to the exterior.

II. Initiation: automatic detection in:
   A. Laundry rooms,
   B. Boiler & furnace rooms,
   C. Mechanical & electrical rooms,
   D. Shops,
   E. Locker rooms,
   F. Trash-collection rooms,
   G. Storage rooms,
   H. Gift shops,
   I. Similar areas,
   J. Automatic smoke detection in common areas and interior corridors.

III. Notification: general evacuation signal.

Apartment Occupancies:
I. Where required:
   A. New apartments (MSFC 907.2.9):
      1. Apartment 2 or more stories above level of exit discharge,
      2. Apartment below level of exit discharge (i.e. basement),
3. More than 16 apartments,
4. Building has an occupant load of 20 or more (4,000 sq. ft.).

B. Existing apartments (MSFC 907.3.5):
1. Apartment 2 or more stories above level of exit discharge,
2. Apartment below level of exit discharge (i.e. basement),
3. More than 16 apartments,
4. The building is used as a dormitory, convent, monastery, fraternity or sorority and has an occupant load of 20 or more

C. Some exceptions for apartments without interior corridors or where each unit has exit direct to the exterior.

II. Initiation: automatic detection in:
A. Laundry rooms,
B. Boiler & furnace rooms,
C. Mechanical & electrical rooms,
D. Shops,
E. Locker rooms,
F. Trash-collection rooms,
G. Storage rooms,
H. Gift shops,
I. Similar areas,
J. Automatic smoke detection in common areas and interior corridors.

III. Notification: general evacuation signal.

IV. Dwelling unit smoke detectors: Dwelling unit smoke detectors required by Section 907.3.6 shall not be connected to the building fire alarm system.
   Exception: Connection of such detectors for annunciation only

Residential Hospices:
I. Where required: new residential hospices (MSFC 907.2.24)

II. Initiation:
A. Manual (can be at constantly attended locations, such as nursing stations),
B. Automatic detection in:
   1. Laundry and soiled linen rooms,
   2. Boiler & furnace rooms,
   3. Mechanical & electrical rooms,
   4. Shops,
   5. Laboratories,
   6. Kitchens,
   7. Locker rooms,
   8. Janitors closets,
   9. Trash-collection rooms,
   10. Storage rooms,
   11. Gift shops and commissaries,
   12. Lounges,
   13. Similar areas,
   14. Smoke detection in sleeping rooms,
   15. Smoke detection in corridors and areas open to corridors.
III. Notification:
   A. General evacuation signal (can use visual in lieu of audible),
   B. Must transmit to central station or remote station for FD notification.

Other Alarm Requirements:
- Single station smoke detectors are required wherever occupants are asleep (homes, apartments, hotels, hospitals, nursing homes).
- Single station smoke detectors should not be connected to the building’s fire alarm system (except for annunciation).
- Fire alarm systems are required to be inspected at least annually in accordance with NFPA 72 (MSFC 901.6.1).
- Automatic detection is not required when protected with sprinkler system (monitored) – MSFC 907.2.
- Automatic sprinkler systems are required to have monitoring for flow and tamper functions (MSFC 903.4):
  - New: 20 or more sprinklers,
  - Existing: 100 or more sprinklers.
- Fire alarm systems are also required in the following special occupancies/structures:
  - Special amusement buildings,
  - High-rise buildings: automatic with voice evacuation,
  - Buildings with an atrium,
  - High-piled combustible storage,
  - Special egress control devices,
  - Aerosol storage,
  - Lumber, plywood, and veneer mills,
  - Underground buildings,
  - Covered mall buildings,
  - Airport traffic control towers,
  - Battery rooms (over 100 gallons of electrolyte).