



Division of Fire Safety
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
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Informational Bulletin 2009-07- Addendum
Carbon Monoxide Detection Devices in Dwellings

Purpose

The purpose of this addendum is to address the possible installation and administrative requirements that will be associated with RSA 153:10-a.

Explanation

Guidance for the installation of carbon monoxide detectors is being taken from NFPA 720, 2009 edition and the International Residential Code, 2009 edition. The following guidelines are for reference only and have not been adopted as yet.

Are any dwelling /residential units exempt from the requirement?

Units that have attached garages, loading docks or contain any fuel fired appliances, including solid fuel, must have CMD's installed. Units without any of these items may be exempted from the requirement.

Where should the carbon monoxide detection devices be located?

The location of CMD's shall be on every occupiable level, including basements. CMD's shall be located outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate area of the bedrooms.

In residential occupancies such as dormitories and like type occupancies this may mean that the detection devices will be in the common hallways. In some cases a performance based design approach may be appropriate. If a fuel fired appliance, such as a fireplace or heater, is installed in a bedroom then a CMD shall be located in the bedroom as well.

How should the CMD's be powered?

In new construction or substantially rehabilitated buildings, the CMD's shall be hard wired to a branch circuit and shall have a battery as a secondary power source.

In existing buildings CMD's shall be plug in type devices, powered by the building ac current, and shall have a battery as a secondary power source.



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CMD's may be connected to, and powered by, a commercial fire alarm system within a building. CMD's connected to commercial fire alarm systems shall be installed in accordance with the requirements of NFPA 72 and NFPA 720.

*Do the CMD's have to be interconnected?

In new construction or substantially rehabilitated buildings when two or more CMD's are installed within a dwelling unit, suite of rooms or similar area, they shall be interconnected.

CMD's installed in existing construction shall not be required to be interconnected. Interconnected hard wired devices are recommended.

*Can combination smoke/carbon monoxide devices be used?

Combination devices are permitted provided that they meet the requirements of UL 217 and UL2034.

Interconnected and combination devices must be compatible with all of the other devices connected to that system/circuit.

*Please note: Some combination devices utilize ionization type smoke detection. If photo- electric type detection is required then an ionization combination detector may not be code compliant.