



Florida Fire Marshals And Inspectors Association

Informal Interpretation

Date: 11/12/2010

NFPA Document Number: NFPA 101

Edition: 2006

Paragraph Reference: Section 43.1.4

If this involves an actual situation, explain briefly:

Following is the situation for Question No. 1 of 2 questions regarding this request.

The Horizon House of Naples was required to install an Fire Alarm Elevator Recall feature for the two elevators at the Horizon House high rise building (the existing building) in Naples, Florida. The Fire Alarm Recall feature is required by the current ASME A17.1 code. This code has been adopted by the State of Florida and per a State mandate the code is applicable to existing buildings.

NFPA 101 2006 and 2009, under Chapter 43 Building Rehabilitation, Sub-Section 43.1.4 Compliance, states the following:

43.1.4.5 Work mandated by any accessibility, property, housing, or fire code; mandated by the existing building requirements of this *Code*; or mandated by any licensing rule or ordinance, adopted pursuant to law, shall conform only to the requirements of that code, rule, or ordinance and shall not be required to conform to this chapter, unless the code requiring such work so provides.

The above relates to a current installation of the Fire Alarm Elevator Recall feature for the Horizon House of Naples high rise building, the existing building.

Please note that I am the representative engineer for the Horizon House of Naples,. My Florida License No. is 55010.

Following is the situation for Question No. 2 of 2 questions regarding my request.

The Horizon House of Naples had to replace the Horizon House of Naples high rise building, the existing building, fire alarm panel which was damaged by a lighting strike electric surge. The fire alarm panel was damaged behind repair and had to be replaced in conjunction with other fire alarm devices which did not communicate with the new fire alarm panel.

NFPA 101 2006 or 2009, under Chapter 43, Building Rehabilitation, Sub-Section 43.3 Repairs, states the following:

43.3.1.1 A repair, as defined in 43.2.2.1.1, in other than historic buildings shall comply with the requirements of Section



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43.3. 43.3.1.3 The work shall be done using like materials or materials permitted by other sections of this Code.
43.3.1.4 The work shall not make the building less conforming with the other sections of this Code, or with any previously approved alternative arrangements, than it was before the repair was undertaken.

The above relates to a current repair at the Horizon House of Naples which is a high rise building.

Please note that I am the representative engineer for the Horizon House of Naples, Collier County Florida. My Florida License No. is 55010.

Question (*should be worded so that it can be answered with either "Yes" or "No"*):

1. Does NFPA 101 2006 code, Section 43.1.4 require the existing building fire alarm to be upgraded or modified above and behind that which is required for the elevator Fire Alarm Recall feature to comply with the requirements of the current ASME A17.1 code?
2. Does NFPA 101 2006, Section 43.3 require the existing building fire alarm to be upgraded or modified above and behind that which is required to repair the damaged building fire alarm without making the building less conforming than it was before the repair was undertaken?

Please note that the building fire alarm was repaired and tested to be in compliance with the requirements of Section 43.3.1.3 and 43.3.1.4, NFPA 101 2006 or 2009.

Answer:

1. No.
2. No.

Committee Answer Submitted by,

Bart Wright, Chair
Informal Fire Code Interpretation Committee