



TECHNICAL POLICY

13 – 06 Sprinkler Protection of Exhibits – Minneapolis Convention Center

Original Issue: March 1996

Revised: April 2006

1. Exhibits that meet one of the following criteria must be protected by sprinklers (the criteria is taken from NFPA 101 Life Safety Code):
 - a. Multilevel exhibit booth: Sprinklers are required throughout all levels of the booth regardless of the size. The upper level of the booth requires sprinklers when it is covered by a ceiling or roof.
 - b. Single level exhibit booths with ceilings:
 - i) Sprinklers are required where the ceiling or roof area exceeds 300 sq. ft. in area.
 - ii) Sprinklers are required where multiple individual ceilings or roofs are less than 300 sq.ft; the aggregate area of exhibit ceilings or roofs exceeds 300 sq. ft. and the ceiling areas are not separated by at least 10 feet.

Explanation: Two or more ceiling areas, each less than 300 sq. ft., with a combined area greater than 300 sq. ft. and are not separated by at least 10 feet require sprinklers under each ceiling.

Exceptions:

- Ceiling areas that are less than four feet in the least dimension.
 - Ceilings that are constructed of open grate design or listed drop-out panels meeting the requirements of NFPA 13.
 - Vehicles, boats, and similar exhibited products having a roofed area greater than 100 sq. ft. shall be provided with smoke detectors acceptable to MFD.
2. The sprinkler system is to be designed, installed and tested to NFPA 13. All areas are to be protected including soffits that exceed 4 feet in the least dimension.
 3. Plans and permits are to be submitted prior to installation and we are to be notified prior the “opening” of the exhibit for inspection and testing purposes.