



Standard Guide for Shipboard Fire Detection Systems¹

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^{ε1} NOTE—Reapproved with editorial changes in October 2012.

1. Scope

1.1 This guide covers the selection, installation, maintenance, and testing of shipboard fire detection systems other than sprinkler systems.

1.2 This guide is intended for use by all persons planning, designing, installing, or using fire alarm systems onboard vessels. As it includes regulatory requirements, this guide addresses those vessels subject to regulations and ship classification rules. However, the principles stated herein are also suitable for unregulated commercial vessels, pleasure craft, military vessels, and similar vessels that are not required to meet regulations for fire detection and alarm systems.

1.3 *Limitations*—This guide does not constitute regulations or ship classification rules, which must be consulted when applicable.

1.4 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

1.5 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *Code of Federal Regulations*:²

Title 46, Part 76.25

Title 46, Part 76.30

Title 46, Part 76.33

Title 46, Part 161.002

2.2 *NFPA Publications*:³

NFPA 72E Standard on Automatic Fire Detectors

2.3 *SOLAS Regulations*:⁴

SOLAS II-2/13-1

SOLAS II-2/12

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*:

3.1.1 *accommodation space*—those spaces used for public spaces, corridors, lavatories, cabins, bunkrooms, staterooms, offices, hospitals, cinemas, game and hobby rooms, barber shops, pantries containing no cooking appliances, and similar spaces.

3.1.2 *alarm signalling device*—an audible or visual device such as a bell, horn, siren, strobe, flashing, or rotating light used to warn of a fire condition.

3.1.3 *annunciator*—an audible and visual signalling panel that indicates and displays the alarm, trouble, and power conditions of the fire detection system.

3.1.4 *approved*—acceptable to the organization, office, or individual responsible for accepting equipment, an installation, or a procedure.

3.1.5 *automated machinery space*—a space containing machinery that is automated to allow: (a) periodic unattended operation by the crew; and (b) continuous manual supervision by the crew from a central room (enclosed) or remote location.

3.1.6 *control panel*—an electrical panel that monitors and controls all of the equipment associated with the fire detection and alarm system.

3.1.7 *control space*—an enclosed space within which is located a ship's radio, main navigating equipment, emergency source of power, or the centralized fire recording or fire control equipment, but not including individual pieces of firefighting equipment or firefighting apparatus that must be located in the cargo area.

3.1.8 *hazardous (classified location)*—locations where fire or explosion hazards may exist due to flammable gases or vapors, flammable or combustible liquids, combustible dust, or ignitable fibers or flyings.

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² Available from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

³ Available from National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471, <http://www.nfpa.org>.

⁴ Available from International Maritime Organization, 4 Albert Embankment, London, England SE1 7SR.