

City of Bryan
Fire Marshal Code Review for 2015 IFC
Significant Changes since 2009 IFC
2015 International Fire Code (IFC)

- 105 New construction permits
 - New permits allowed for radio coverage and solar systems
- 307 Open Burning
 - New revisions to prohibit open burning and allow prescribed burning
- 312 Vehicle Impact Protection
 - Allows other barriers besides just posts
- 315 Storage in buildings
 - Recognizes that storage is not just a combustible hazard but also could be considered unstable due to storage heights and eliminates storage in plenums.
- 316 Roof Obstructions
 - Roofs with <30 degree pitch are required to protect head or trip hazards on the roof such as guy wires or cables
- 317 Roof Gardens
 - Limits the allowable area based on protection and the construction of a roof garden
- 403 Emergency Planning
 - Extensively revised for consistency and to make it easier to follow
- 503 Traffic Calming
 - Allows the fire code official to work with designers on these systems to achieve the least impact on emergency response.
- 506 Key Boxes for elevator keys
 - Allows key boxes to be installed near elevators for ease of access to them
- 507 Hydrant for Standpipe systems
 - Requires a hydrant within 100ft of the standpipe FDC, this is new to the IFC but not NFPA 14 the standpipe code.
- 508 Information Card required for High Rise buildings
 - This a short description of the occupancies that are in the building and an estimation of occupancy load during the day, night, and weekend

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510 Emergency Responder Radio Coverage

This requires the building to have 95% radio coverage for the existing responder radio system. Could require the addition of amplifiers or boosters

604 Emergency Power and Standby Systems

Provides for consistency between the building code and fire code requirements and quantifies transfer timing and duration, I-2 occupancy rules, and inspection and testing of emergency lighting

605 Solar Photovoltaic Power Systems

Addresses the hazards that these systems present to firefighters and coordinates with the IBC and NFPA 70

607 Elevator Operations

Requirements for fire service and evacuation elevators to prevent water infiltration, allows a key box to be required near elevators and standardized keys

609 Commercial Kitchens

New standard for cleaning of hood systems and flexible connectors for gas lines on movable appliances

610 Cooking Oil Storage

Requirements for recycling used oil in containers greater than 60 gallons

611 Hyperbaric Facilities

These premises will be inspected, tested, and maintained to NFPA 99 standard

703 Opening Protectives

Maintenance of fire door labels added

803 Site Fabricated Stretch Systems

Materials and Construction requirements defined for these membrane systems

805 Upholstered Furniture and Mattresses

Added decks, porches, and balconies to the requirements of dormitories

806,807,808 Interior Finishes, Decorative Materials and Furnishings

Recognizes NFPA 289 as an alternative test method for materials and reorganized 807, requires lockers to also comply as a finish due to use of plastic and other materials

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901 General Fire Protection Systems

Defines required fire protection system, fire pump rooms required to be large enough for maintenance purposes. Occupant-use hoses are allowed to be removed under certain circumstances

903 Automatic Sprinkler Systems

Sprinklers required throughout building if there is a roof A2 assembly greater than 100 occupants or other assembly with 300, Ambulatory Care Facility has additional sprinkler rules, Upholstered furniture and mattresses now have more strict requirements based on square footage. F-2500sqft, M-5000sqft, S-2500sqft. Provides a definition for commercial motor vehicle. When obstruction exist in basements sprinklers are now required if the basement is greater than 1500 sqft. Additional allowances for sprinklers not required spaces, Bathrooms in R less than 55sqft do not require sprinklers, open ended corridors may now require sprinklers based on fire separation, changes limited area sprinklers from 20 to 6 heads

904 Alternative Fire Extinguishing Systems

Fire extinguishers now require a certified individual to perform maintenance, Multiple Hood systems that are adjacent to each other must now operate simultaneously

907 Fire Alarm

Clarifies Assembly alarm requirements based on occupant load, Alarm designer now must provide an audibility level, college dorms required to have an automatic smoke detection system, cooking appliances and bathrooms are addressed in relation to smoke alarm placement, air traffic control tower smoke detection requirements added carbon monoxide alarm requirements for R and I occupancies with fuel burning appliances or attached garages

909 Smoke Control Systems

Requires multiple systems to be evaluated based on their interactions not just individually

910 Smoke and Heat Removal

These systems have new criteria for installation

914 Aircraft Hangers

Allows areas separated from the servicing area by a 1hr rating to not be included in the building area for suppression requirements

1004 Occupant Load

Clarifies that the load will based on the use of the space and not use of the building, introduces wheel chair spaces, and museums and exhibit halls are based on 30sqft per occupant

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1006 Number of Exits and Access Doorways

Added Table 1006.2.1 spaces with one exit to clarify occupant load and travel distance requirements into one.

1007 Exit and Exit Access Configuration

Clarifies many accessibility requirements

1008 Aisles in Group B and M

New provisions makes the minimum required width determined for aisles consistent with that required for corridors for Groups B and M.

1010 Doors, Gates and Turnstiles

Door swing clarification, clarifies some items involving access controlled egress doors,

1011 Ladders

Locations (five locations) where ladders can be used for access have been identified and permanent ladders must follow the construction requirements from the IMC.

1016 Egress through Intervening Spaces

A means of egress is now allowed through an elevator lobby provided access to at least one exit is available without passing through the lobby.

1017 Travel Distance Increase for Group F-1 and S-1

Travel distance limitations for Group F-1 and S-1 occupancies have been extended to a maximum of 400 feet where compliance with three criteria; building is limited to one story, the space must have a minimum height of 24 feet and installation of an automatic sprinkler system.

1023 Stairway Extension

The new exception will allow the separation between the horizontal and vertical exit elements to be eliminated (fire door assembly to separate the two elements) where there are no openings into the exit passageway.

1103 Fire Safety Requirements for Existing Buildings

Establishes an inspection frequency for fire escape stairs, requires sprinklers to be installed in existing A2 buildings that have an occupant load greater than 300. Fire alarm requirements for existing R2 occupancies if no sprinklers and they have interior corridors.

1105 Construction Requirements for Existing I2 Occupancies

These requirements are based on federal requirements and align the fire code with these standards

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2108 Fire Protection of Dry Cleaning Operations

Allows 5 exceptions to the sprinkler requirements

2306,2307,2311 Motor Fuel-dispensing Facilities and Repair Garages

Addresses many of the new fuels and systems that are used to provide them along with the repair of the vehicles that use them

2703 Semiconductor Fabrication Facilities

Allow for use of sub-atmospheric gas systems for hazardous production materials

2705 Use and Handling of HPM

Allow transportation through corridors with certain safeguards applied

3103 Tents and Membrane Structures

This chapter has been revised to line up the IFC and IBC more closely and allows for multistory structures meeting structural requirements for the IBC.

3105 Temporary Stages

Stages are now part of this chapter and must meet additional design criteria

3206 High Piled Combustible Storage

NFPA 13 provisions are now referenced to address plastic pallets

3208 Flue Space Protection

Flue spaces have a new provision to prevent them from becoming blocked

3306 Fire Safety During Construction and Demolition

New standards for flammable gases as cleaning materials for open piping systems

3504 Welding and Other Hot Work

Welding of flammable or combustible storage tanks need to be purged unless they follow new provisions in 3510 for Hot-Tapping

5001 Hazardous Materials

General revisions to the Hazardous Material Management Plan and Hazardous Material Inventory Statement

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5003 General Requirements

IFC and IBC tables identical with additions for consumer fireworks, combustibile fibers, and reactive materials, safety cans can be used to increase the amount of allowable storage, new requirements on pressure vessels and outdoor control areas,

5004 Storage Standby Power Systems

Revised to increase allowances for less hazardous occupancies

5104 Aerosols Storage

Allows for use of plastic containers limited to under 33.8 ounces

5704 Flammable and Combustible Liquids – Tanks

New allowances for emergency venting of UL2085 tanks

6109 Liquefied Petroleum Gas

Addresses LPG exchange stations safety requirements and allows for self-service at automated stations

Appendix B Fire Flow Requirements of Buildings

More specific requirements for fire flow reduction based on fire protection provided, but these requirements are still similar to the our current code.

Appendix C Fire Hydrant Locations and Distributions

Allow for increased spacing based on fire protection provided and allow adjacent hydrants to be used when access is provided and maintained.