

**CHAPTER 74**

**STANDARD FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF FIRE PROTECTION EQUIPMENT CONTRACTORS**

**Authority**

N.J.S.A. 52:27B-139.12, 52:27D-24hh, 25d, 25k, 25gg, 198 and 219.

**Source and Effective Date**

R.2005 d.225, effective June 14, 2005.  
See: 36 N.J.R. 3652(a), 37 N.J.R. 2674(a).

**Chapter Expiration Date**

Chapter 74, Standard for the Certification of Fire Protection Equipment Contractors, expires on June 14, 2010.

**Chapter Historical Note**

Chapter 74, Standard for the Certification of Fire Protection Equipment Contractors, was adopted as new rules by R.2003 d.228, effective June 2, 2003. See: 35 N.J.R. 56(a), 35 N.J.R. 2495(a).

Chapter 74, Standard for the Certification of Fire Protection Equipment Contractors, was readopted as R.2005 d.225, effective June 14, 2005. See: Source and Effective Date.

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**SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**5:74-1.1 Heading; division into subchapters**

(a) The rules contained in this chapter shall be known as the "Standard for the Certification of Fire Protection Equipment Contractors" and are referred to herein as the Standard.

(b) The Standard is divided into two subchapters:

1. Subchapter 1 is headed "General Provisions" and may be cited throughout the Standard as N.J.A.C. 5:74-1, and when referred to in subchapter 1 of this chapter, may be referred to as this subchapter.

2. Subchapter 2 is headed "Administration of Permit and Certification Program" and may be cited throughout the Standard as N.J.A.C. 5:74-2, and when referred to in subchapter 2 of this chapter, may be referred to as this subchapter.

**5:74-1.2 Authority**

The Commissioner of Community Affairs promulgates this Standard pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-25gg.

**5:74-1.3 Scope and purpose**

(a) This Standard controls all matters relating to the training and certification of businesses and contractors who engage in, or are to be engaged in, the installation, service, repair, inspection or maintenance of fire protection equipment.

(b) This Standard has been adopted to ensure public safety and welfare. In order for fire protection equipment installations and inspections to be conducted adequately and effectively, members of the technical trades must have sufficient knowledge and competence. This can be achieved through the creation of training and certification requirements.

**5:74-1.4 Definitions**

The following terms shall have the meanings indicated except where the context clearly requires otherwise.

"Business entity" means a proprietor, corporation, partnership or company operating as a fire protection contractor.

"Carbon dioxide fire protection system" means a special hazard fire suppression system that uses carbon dioxide as its extinguishing agent.

"Certificate of certification" means a certificate issued by the Commissioner that authorizes a person to engage in the fire protection equipment business to the degree indicated on the certificate.

"Certificate holder" means a person who is certified to engage in the fire protection equipment business.

"Clean agent fire suppression system" means a special hazard fire suppression system that uses an extinguishing agent that will not damage the contents of the hazard.

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Community Affairs.

"Director" means the Director of the Division of Fire Safety in the Department of Community Affairs.

"Division" means the Division of Fire Safety in the Department of Community Affairs.

"Emergency work" means immediate, Uniform Construction Code-compliant actions taken solely to stabilize an unexpected situation thereby reducing property damage or protecting life safety including, but not limited to, actions taken as a result of frozen sprinkler piping or interrupted water or power supplies.

"Engineered fire suppression system" means a fire suppression system which is designed individually to suit a particular purpose or hazard. Such a system requires individual calculation and design to determine the flow rates, nozzle pressures, pipe size, area or volume to be protected by each nozzle, quantities of extinguishing agent and the number and types of nozzles and their placement in a specific system.

"Fire alarm system" means a system which provides a warning alarm signaling the presence of fire conditions and may be capable of initiating an action to suppress a fire condition.

"Fire protection contractor" or "contractor" means a person, including an in-house employee who performs other than routine maintenance, inspection or testing, or business entity that offers to undertake or represents itself as being able to undertake, or does undertake the installation, service, sale, repair, inspection or maintenance of fire protection equipment.

"Fire protection contractor business permit" means a permit issued by the Commissioner to a business entity to operate as a fire protection contractor.

"Fire protection equipment" includes fire pumps, control valves, water storage tanks, fire alarm systems, fire sprinkler systems, standpipe systems, clean agent fire suppression systems, special hazard fire suppression systems, carbon dioxide fire protection systems, foam fire protection systems, kitchen fire protection systems, portable fire extinguishers, or any other equipment designed to detect, suppress or extinguish a fire.

"Fire protection subcode official" means a qualified person appointed by the appropriate appointing authority or the Commissioner pursuant to the authority of the "State Uniform Construction Code Act," P.L. 1975, c.217 (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-119 et seq.).

"Fire sprinkler system" means an automatic fire suppression system that includes an automatic water sprinkler system or a standpipe system and related system components, including detection.

"Fire suppression system" means an engineered or pre-engineered system that suppresses a fire using an

extinguishing agent distributed through fixed piping and nozzles that are activated either manually or automatically. The system may include containers, nozzles, controls, automatic detection, manual releases, equipment shut downs and alarms. In such systems, an extinguishing agent is discharged through fixed pipes and nozzles into or over a potential fire hazard.

"Foam fire protection system" means a special hazard fire suppression system that uses foam as its extinguishing agent.

"Kitchen fire suppression system" means a pre-engineered system which is designed specifically to protect the hood, duct, and cooking appliances of a kitchen. The system, which may include containers, nozzles, controls, automatic detection, manual release, cooking appliance shutdown equipment, and alarms will have an extinguishing agent discharged through fixed pipes and nozzles over and into the fire hazard area.

"Maintenance" means the function of keeping equipment in such a condition that it will perform as it originally was designed to do.

"NAFED" means the National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors, Inc., 104 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

"NFPA" means the National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, Massachusetts 02269.

"NICET" means the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies, 1420 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

"Portable fire extinguisher" means a portable device, carried or on wheels and operated by hand, containing an extinguishing agent that can be expelled under pressure for the purpose of suppressing or extinguishing fire.

"Plan" means to lay out, detail, draw, calculate, devise, or arrange an assembly of fire alarm or detection devices, equipment, and appurtenances, including monitoring equipment, in accordance with the provisions adopted by the Uniform Construction Code, N.J.A.C. 5:23.

"Pre-engineered system" means a fire suppression system having predetermined flow rates, nozzle pressures, detection and quantities of extinguishing agent. Such a system has the specific pipe size, maximum and minimum pipe lengths, flexible hose specifications, number of fittings and types of nozzles prescribed by a testing laboratory. The hazards protected by such a system are specifically limited as to type and size by a testing laboratory based upon actual fire tests. Limitations on hazards which can be protected by such a system are contained in the manufacturer's installation manual which is referenced as part of the listing.