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Addition of Sprinklers to an Existing Elevator Machine Room, Machinery Space, Control Room, Control Space or Top of Hoistway

Date: 2-13-2024, revision to previous memos dated 2-10-2015 and 8-23-2022.

Subject of revision:

Updated with latest codes, added important note regarding authority to advise regarding fire sprinklers.

Installation of Sprinklers Related to Existing *Traction* Elevator:

Per SPS 318.17087(1), where sprinklers are added to an existing elevator machine room, machinery space, control room, control space, or top of hoistway, the installation shall comply with the requirements in ASME A17.1 section 8.7.2.28(c) [*firefighters emergency operation system*] and (e) [*sprinkler and shunt trip disconnect systems*], except as follows:

1. Where the elevator already is equipped with Phase I and Phase II firefighters' emergency operation (FEO) and the existing car operating panel will remain, the elevator is not required to have the firefighters' emergency operation functions on the car operating panel behind a locked cover, unless required by another part of ASME A17.1 section 8.7.
2. Where the elevator already is equipped with a Phase I key switch of the bypass-off-on type, the key switch is not required to meet ASME A17.1 section 2.27.3.1 unless required by another part of ASME A17.1 section 8.7.

Installation of Sprinklers Related to Existing *Hydraulic* Elevator:

Per SPS 318.17087(9), where sprinklers are added to an existing elevator machine room, machinery space, control room, control space, or top of hoistway, the installation shall comply with the requirements in ASME A17.1 section 8.7.3.31.8(c) [*firefighters emergency operation system*] and (e) [*sprinkler and shunt trip disconnect systems*], except as follows:

1. Where the elevator already is equipped with Phase I and Phase II firefighters' emergency operation and the existing car operating panel will remain, the elevator is not required to have the firefighters' emergency operation functions on the car operating panel behind a locked cover, unless required by another part of ASME A17.1 section 8.7.
2. Where the elevator already is equipped with a Phase I key switch of the bypass-off-on type, the key switch is not required to meet ASME A17.1 section 2.27.3.1 unless required by another part of ASME A17.1 section 8.7.

Additional Information

NOTE: Under no circumstances may an elevator code official, elevator contractor or other elevator personnel recommend omitting a sprinkler head from a sprinkler plan or removing an existing sprinkler head. Only a building code or fire code official can authorize omitting or removing a sprinkler head.

Where sprinklers are being installed in any of these locations, the elevator must be equipped with a shunt trip disconnect system meeting A17.1, 2.8.3.3.1 and NFPA 72 with plan approval in accordance with SPS 318.1007-1, item 7 and inspection in accordance with SPS 318.1011(6).

Where one elevator of a group operation is to be equipped with FEO, all elevators of the group operation must be equipped with FEO in accordance with A17.1, 2.27.3.2.3(b) and (c).