

REMOVAL OF STANDPIPE HOSES IN SPRINKLERED BUILDINGS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Standata is to provide clarification when the 38mm hose can be removed from a hose cabinet in a sprinklered building.

DISCUSSION

In 1985, the Alberta Building Code (ABC) introduced a provision that gave owners an option to not install a 38 mm hose in a hose cabinet of a standpipe system if the building was sprinklered. This change was attributed to the added benefit of having a sprinkler system in a building. Buildings constructed prior to the ABC 1985 were required to have a 38 mm hose located in hose cabinets regardless if the building was equipped with a sprinkler system.

A 38 mm hose in a standpipe system is not required to be provided where the building is sprinklered in conformance with NFPA 13, "Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems."

Prior to removing the hose, the following should be considered:

- Where 38 mm standpipe hose is to be removed in existing sprinklered buildings, the owner should review the adequacy of fire extinguisher coverage with the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).
- Building owners are encouraged to contact their insurance provider prior to removal to ensure insurance coverage would not be affected by the standpipe hose removal.
- If the standpipe hose is to be removed, it shall be removed throughout the building and reflected in an updated fire safety plan. A building required to be sprinklered in accordance with the National Building Code – 2019 Alberta Edition (NBC(AE)) will have sprinklers provided in all areas of the building except where specific sections of the of the NFC(AE) or referenced standards permit the exclusion of sprinklers.
- If 38 mm standpipe hoses are to be retained they shall be maintained in accordance with the National Fire Code – 2019 Alberta Edition (NFC(AE)).

CODE REFERENCES:

ABC 1985 Sentence 3.2.5.4.(15)

3.2.5.4.(15) Hose cabinets equipped with 38 mm diameter hose are required in **buildings** that are not **sprinklered** in conformance with Sentence 3.2.5.5.(6) but are not required in **buildings** that have automatic sprinkler systems conforming to Sentences 3.2.5.5.(1) and 3.2.5.5.(6) to (9).

Unless stated otherwise, all Code references in this STANDATA are to Division B of the National Fire Code-2019 Alberta Edition

Issue of this STANDATA is authorized by
the Provincial Fire Administrator

[original signed]
Tina Parker

The logo for the province of Alberta, featuring the word "Alberta" in a stylized, cursive font with a blue square at the end.

ABC 1997 Sentence 3.2.5.11.(8) and (9)**3.2.5.11. Hose Stations and Cabinets**

- 8) Hose cabinets equipped with 38 mm diameter hose are required in buildings that are not sprinklered in conformance with Article 3.2.1.6. but are not required in buildings that have automatic sprinkler systems conforming to Article 3.2.1.6. and Sentences 3.2.5.13.(1) and 3.2.4.9.(2) and (3).
- 9) If hose cabinets and 38 mm diameter hose are not installed in sprinklered buildings pursuant to Sentence (10), the standpipe shall be equipped with hose stations having both 65 mm and 38 mm diameter hose connections and valves located so that no part of the building is more than 9 m from a nozzle attached to not more than 30 m of hose attached to the standpipe system.

This Standata replaces the following:
97 FCB 030 Removal of Standpipe Hoses in Sprinklered Buildings.

Disclaimer:

The information in this bulletin is not intended to provide professional design advice. If professional expertise is required with respect to a specific issue or circumstance, the services of a professional should be sought.