

**STATE OF LOUISIANA**  
Department of Public Safety and Corrections  
Office of State Fire Marshal Code Enforcement and Building Safety  
8181 Independence Boulevard  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806  
225-925-4920

183

PAUL SMITH  
FIRE MARSHAL

**AMENDED LETTER**

EDWARD GREMILLION, P.E., C.E.  
DAMMON ENGINEERING, INC.  
1095 FLORIDA AVE.  
SLIDELL, LA 70458-0000

RE: P0324764  
NORTH LAKE MARINE, INC.  
111 WEST HALL AVENUE  
SLIDELL, LA 70458-0000

NFPA 101, 2003  
BUSINESS

Dear Applicant:

This is to advise that the previous review letter dated 04/16/2007 for this project is hereby amended as follows:

- In response to your letter received in this office on July 20, 2007 concerning the Fire Alarm requirements for this 17,000 s.f. Mercantile / Business Occupancy, please be advised that the IBC [Section 907.2.7 and 907.2.2] requires a Fire Alarm System for a Mercantile Occupancy or a Business Occupancy only if the occupant load is calculated to be more than 500 persons.**

**The Mercantile Occupancy load is calculated @ 60s.f.per person (gross) and the Business Occupancy load is calculated @ 100 s.f per person (gross).**

**The Life Safety Code [NFPA 101 36.1.4.1] requires a Fire Alarm System for all Class "A" (over 30,000 s.f.) Mercantile Occupancies and all Business Occupancies with an Occupant load greater than 300 persons.**

**Thus, a Fire Alarm System is not required for this Building.**

This review applies to the work indicated on the drawings or specifications.

This review shall in no way permit or authorize any omissions or deviations from the specific requirements of the adopted codes, rules and regulations in accordance with R.S. 40:1574.1(B).

The above amended review is valid if construction starts within 180 days from the above date of the original review letter.

**Occupancy of the project will not be permitted until we receive the completed certificate and a satisfactory inspection of the completed construction has been made by this office.**

**To arrange for inspection of the project, please contact the District Office at the phone number below, two (2) to three (3) weeks in advance. Approved plans must be available on job site at time of inspection. Certificate of completion must be provided to inspecting Deputy for final inspection.**

REVIEWED BY:KENNETH ROBICHAUX  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

CC: North Lake Marine Inc  
St Tammany Fire Protection District No 1\*  
City Of Slidell\*  
New Orleans District\* 5042194600

# Sensalert Security Services, Inc.

801 Mallard St.  
LaPlace, La. 70068  
"Quality Without Compromise"

Kenneth Robichaux  
Office of the State Fire Marshal  
8181 Independence Blvd.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Dear Mr. Robichaux,  
This letter in regards to:

PO324764  
North Lake Marine Inc.  
111 West Hall Ave  
Slidell, LA 70458

LA. S.F.M. PLAN REVIEW  
PO# \_\_\_\_\_ REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_  
READING FILE DATE MO \_\_\_\_\_ YR \_\_\_\_\_  
ORIG. TO: \_\_\_\_\_  
SENDER \_\_\_\_\_ APPL. \_\_\_\_\_ OWNER \_\_\_\_\_  
CC'S \_\_\_\_\_  
COPY WHAT PGS \_\_\_\_\_  
B.R. \_\_\_\_\_ NO. \_\_\_\_\_ ALEX \_\_\_\_\_ L.P.R. \_\_\_\_\_  
S.M.R.V.E. \_\_\_\_\_ P.P.E. \_\_\_\_\_ P.D.E.P.T. \_\_\_\_\_  
DET. FILE \_\_\_\_\_ HR. FILE \_\_\_\_\_ NON-REQ. SYST. \_\_\_\_\_  
OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

17,000# - NO FIRE ALARM SYSTEM REQUIRED.

I was informed by Mr. Joey Lamartina who is the owner of the above property that he did not want the fire alarm unless required by code. Since the building is less than 30,000 square feet and the occupancy is Mercantile a fire alarm system is not required. I am not sure who submitted plans to you and apologize for any misunderstandings this may have caused.

Yours for greater safety,  
John I. Frederic



President  
Sensalert Security Services, Inc.  
504 214 1492 (Cell phone)  
985 652 3278(LaPlace LA. office & FAX) Sales and Service  
800 547 7233 (LaPlace LA. office & FAX) Sales and Service  
985 652 3315(LaPlace LA office & FAX) Sales and Service  
828 505 1090 (Asheville, NC office & FAX) Accounting & Central Station Data Changes

e-mail addresses

[sss-service@comcast.net](mailto:sss-service@comcast.net) - technical service and sales requests (LaPlace LA.)  
[sensalert801@yahoo.com](mailto:sensalert801@yahoo.com) -accounting (Asheville, NC)  
[sss-admin@comcast.net](mailto:sss-admin@comcast.net) - administrative office (LaPlace LA.)  
[jfrederic@comcast.net](mailto:jfrederic@comcast.net) - personal e-mail

REVIEWED FOR  
STATE FIRE MARSHAL  
AS PER REVIEW LETTER  
BY: KENNETH G. ROBICHAUX, ENGINEER, CBO



30 of 60 ft<sup>2</sup> = 500 Pounds

RECEIVED

JUL 20 2007

COMMERCIAL  
INSURANCE SECTION



KATHLEEN B. BLANCO  
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

Public Safety Services



PAUL E. SMITH  
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

**INTERPRETIVE MEMORANDUM 2007 - 02**

To: Licensed Architects  
 Licensed Engineers  
 Licensed Sprinkler Contractors  
 Licensed Fire Alarm Contractors  
 Licensed Fire Suppression Contractors  
 Felicia Cooper, Deputy State Fire Marshal Administrator  
 Stephen Gogreve, Manager of Inspections  
 Pat Aronstein, Manager of Inspections  
 Gail Lorio, Supervisor of Health Care Inspections  
 Plan Review Staff

From: Don Zeringue, Chief Architect

Date: June 15, 2007

**RE: Processing of Non-Required Fire Suppression Systems**

Compliance with the Life Safety Code - NFPA 101, 2003 edition and the International Building Code (IBC), 2006 edition - are requirements of state law, in particular LA R.S. 40:1574, LAC 55:V 103 and Act 12 of the 2005 First Extraordinary Session. While many different types of building occupancies, sizes, construction types, etc., require fire suppression systems, some buildings are exempt from mandatory requirement for fire suppression protection.

For example, some industrial and storage occupancies are not required to be protected with a fire suppression system. Some office occupancies are not required to be protected. These are only a few examples and they are generic in nature.

NFPA 101 and IBC typically govern when a fire suppression system – typically a building sprinkler system - is required for a given construction work scope. When required, both codes reference the following codes for compliance:

- NFPA 13 Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems
- NFPA 13R Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Residential Occupancies up to and Including Four Stories in Height

Is Yours Working"??

Smoke Detectors Save Lives!!

OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

8181 INDEPENDENCE BOULEVARD, BATON ROUGE, LA 70806

(225) 925-4911 1-800-256-5452

NFPA 13D          Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One-  
and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes

In other words, NFPA 101 and IBC dictate when a fire suppression system is required and NFPA 13, 13R and 13D describe minimum system requirements – how to design, install and maintain a building sprinkler system.

Most buildings are protected by sprinkler systems supplied by a reliable water source, such as a connection to underground municipal water pipe, connection to a private water tank, with or without a fire pump, depending on the sprinkler system's hydraulic demand. However, NFPA 101:9.7.3 and IBC:904 acknowledge the option of substitute fire suppression systems for entire buildings, specialized rooms, etc. Here is a typical example:

A building is required to be fire suppression protected per NFPA 101 and/or IBC. The designer elects a NFPA 13 system for the building but opts to substitute a NFPA 2001 Clean Agent system for computer room and computer floor area. The designer also opts to substitute a NFPA 17 Dry Chemical system for an electrical room. Because the code permits these types of substitution, the building is still considered to be "fully protected".

When a suppression system substitution is allowed by code, those substitutions must comply with applicable codes, such as:

NFPA 11	Standard for Low-, Medium-, and High-Expansion Foam
NFPA 12	Standard on Carbon Dioxide Extinguishing Systems
NFPA 17	Standard for Dry Chemical Extinguishing Systems
NFPA 17A	Standard for Wet Chemical Extinguishing Systems
NFPA 2001	Standard on Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems

As noted above, some building projects are exempted by NFPA 101 and/or IBC from the requirements for a fire suppression system. Although a fire suppression system may be code exempt, a building owner may elect to provide a suppression system, due to mandate by insurance underwriter, insurance reduction incentive by insurance underwriter, etc.

It is an observation of this office that a proposed fire suppression system, which is not required by NFPA 101 and/or IBC, substantially exceeds the minimum requirements of the codes. In essence, these systems are referred by this office as "non-required fire suppression systems".

Although this office fully supports and encourages any type of life safety enhancement above the minimum requirements of the codes, the following policies shall be practiced by this office:

### **Required Fire Suppression Systems**

1. The status of a proposed fire suppression system shall be designated during this office's NFPA 101 or 101/IBC review. The review letter will indicate if a suppression system appears to be required by code(s) and will reference the applicable code section(s). If a suppression system is mandated by code for any reason – occupancy type, size, height, excessive travel distance, construction type, etc., then the suppression system will be denoted in the NFPA 101 or 101/IBC review letter as a required system.
2. If a sprinkler system is accepted by this office as an appeal equivalency determination, or if a sprinkler system is mandated for an existing building as a determination from this office's Inspection Department, then the sprinkler system shall be deemed as a required system, regardless of the minimum requirements of the codes.
3. All required sprinkler systems shall be submitted to this office in a conventional manner, complete with shop drawings or contract documents, hydraulic calculations or pre-engineered/listed performance criteria and applicable manufacturer's literature of system assembly pieces, denoting listing status, performance criteria, etc.

### **Non-required Fire Suppression Systems**

1. If this office's NFPA 101 or 101/IBC review determines that a fire suppression system appears to exceed the minimum requirements of the code(s), then the system shall be deemed a non-required fire suppression system. All non-required systems shall be processed via a sprinkler system or special suppression system exemption request. The exemption request form must indicate the associated NFPA 101 or 101/IBC project number. If an architectural review is not applicable – such as the work scope being limited to suppression an inspection report, etc. The applicant must also demonstrate that the suppression system is non-required, per NFPA 101 or 101/IBC.
2. Fire suppression systems required by a building owner's insurance underwriter may not be a code required system. If a suppression system is deemed non-required by this office, then the system shall be processed via a sprinkler system or special suppression system exemption request.

JCC/jcc