



West Metro Fire Protection District

Life Safety Division

Technical Bulletin

Subject:	<i>Rating requirement for rooms containing Emergency Radio Amplification Systems</i>		
Code/Standard:	<i>2009 and 2015 IFC as amended</i>	Bulletin No:	2022-006
Bulletin Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Fire Code Interpretation</i>	Effective Date:	<i>9/1/2022</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>West Metro Fire Protection District Policy</i>	Approved By:	<i>K Brooks</i>

Scope/Purpose:

To clarify the intended application of the 2009 IFC and 2015 IFC amendment to section 510.5.5 regarding the protection of Emergency Radio Amplification equipment.

Requirement(s):

Rooms or enclosures containing Emergency Radio Amplification System (RAS) equipment, such as BDA or DAS systems, shall be designed and constructed to provide the following level of protection:

1. When a system is installed in a new building or structure prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy, the RAS system shall be installed in a 2-hr fire rated enclosure in accordance with the requirements of the 2009 or 2015 IFC as amended.
2. Where required in an existing building, the RAS equipment shall be installed in conformance with the requirements of the unamended 2009 or 2015 IFC, whichever is applicable. For the purposes of this interpretation only, an existing building is defined as any building that has been issued a certificate of occupancy (C of O) by the requisite building department AHJ, which includes newly completed buildings installing a system in order to comply with the requirements for new construction.
3. Signal booster components shall be contained in a National Electrical Manufacturer's Association (NEMA) 4-type waterproof cabinet.
4. Battery systems used for the emergency power source shall be contained in a NEMA 3R or higher-rated cabinet.

Reference(s):

2009/2015 IFC amendment:

A new subsection 510.5.5 is added to read as follows:

510.5.5 Rating. All essential components shall be installed in a room accessible for repair and testing within the structure that is rated at 2-hours.

Attachments:

None