



**BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION
FIRE ALARM INSPECTION UNIT**



INFORMATION BULLETIN

No. 09-03-11

Supersedes: None

Issuer: Alex Spektor, Director, Fire Alarm Inspection Unit

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Purpose: Clarification of Installation Requirements for Notification Appliance Circuit Power Extenders

Related Code: NFPA 72 as modified by Appendix BC Q106,

Sections: Article 760 of the 2011 New York City Electrical Code

The purpose of this bulletin is to clarify several code requirements that are often disregarded by the contractors upon installation of the notification appliance circuit (NAC) power extenders (booster power supplies) and associated notification appliances circuits.

The Fire Alarm Inspection Unit will promulgate the following general guidelines upon conducting inspections of the self-contained NAC power supplies used to augment fire alarm audible and visual power requirements:

1. General:
 - 1.1. The NAC power extender shall be UL listed and/or MEA approved;
 - 1.2. The NAC power extender shall be compatible with the main fire alarm control panel.
2. Installation of the NAC power extender shall meet the requirements of NFPA 72 as Modified by Appendix BC Q106 including the following:
 - 2.1. Each NAC power extender shall be connected to and controlled by an assigned individual addressable signal module;
 - 2.2. The assignment of Class and/or Style designation for the notification appliance circuits associated with the power extender shall be consistent with the existing approved configuration;
 - 2.3. Arrangement of the NAC power extender shall meet the requirements of Sections 6.8.6.4.3 and 7.5.4.1.1 of NFPA 72 as Modified by Appendix BC Q106, respectively, for synchronization of the visual appliances and coordination of the audible pattern within a notification zone;
 - 2.4. An automatic smoke detection device shall be provided at the location of the NAC power extender where installed in an area that is not continuously occupied in accordance with Section 4.4.5 of NFPA 72 (as modified by Appendix Q106).

3. The primary and secondary power supply to a NAC power extender shall conform to the respective provisions of Article 760 of the 2011 New York City Electrical Code including the following:
 - 3.1. A series connection of the NAC power extenders (“daisy-chaining” of 120VAC supply) shall be prohibited. An individual branch circuit protected by an overcurrent protection device rated not greater than 20A shall be provided for the primary power supply in accordance with Section 760.121 of the 2011 New York City Electrical Code.
 - 3.2. The primary/secondary power supply for the remote NAC power extender(s) shall meet the same provisions as those required for the main fire alarm control panel;
 - 3.3. The power supply to a NAC power extender(s) shall be monitored for integrity in accordance with Section 4.4.7 of NFPA 72 (as modified by Appendix Q106). AC fail, battery and charger troubles shall initiate a trouble condition at the main fire alarm control panel.
4. Should you have any questions or if further clarification is necessary, please feel free to contact The Fire Alarm Inspection Unit Technical Support at (718) 999-2469.



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