

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
San Antonio Fire Department
MEMORANDUM

TO: SAFD and DSD Associates
FROM: Asst. Chief Earl Crayton II, Fire Marshal
DATE: March 10, 2008
FILE: Code Interpretation Manual

INTERPRETATION NUMBER: CI2008-002

TITLE: Fire Department Connection (FDC) Requirements

CODE EDITION: 2006 International Fire Code (IFC) San Antonio Fire Prevention Code Amendments

SECTION: 912.7 Item 1

PURPOSE: To clarify the COSA Fire Code and San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD) requirements regarding the type, size and number of Fire Department Connections (FDC's) required for automatic fire sprinkler and standpipe systems for all commercial buildings.

QUESTION 1: What type of FDC is required for automatic fire sprinkler systems?

ANSWER 1: SAFD requires either two (2) 2 ½-inch inlets or one (1) 5-inch storz inlet for wet or dry automatic fire sprinkler systems.

QUESTION 2: What is the FDC requirement for standpipe systems?

ANSWER 2: This depends on the type of standpipe system provided as listed below:

1. For automatic wet, automatic dry and semiautomatic dry systems, either two (2) 2 ½-inch inlets or one (1) 5-inch storz inlet is required.
2. For manual dry and manual wet systems, SAFD requires one (1) 5-inch storz connection for the first 1,000 gallon system demand and an additional 2 ½-inch inlet for each additional 250 gallon demand or portion thereof above that.

The scenarios below are given as examples of how to determine your FDC requirements for fire sprinkler and standpipe systems.

SCENARIO 1: A 1250 gallon demand automatic sprinkler system (wet or dry) would require either one (1) 5-inch storz connection or two (2) 2 ½-inch inlets. SAFD would prefer the storz connection but either is acceptable.

SCENARIO 2: A 1400 gallon demand automatic wet, automatic dry or semiautomatic dry standpipe system would require either two (2) 2 ½-inch inlets or one (1) 5-inch storz inlet.

SCENARIO 3: A 1400 gallon demand manual dry or manual wet standpipe system would require one (1) 5-inch storz connection and two (2) 2 ½-inch inlets.

SCENARIO 3: A 950 gallon demand automatic wet, automatic dry or semiautomatic dry standpipe system would require one (1) 5-inch storz connection.

SCENARIO 4: A 950 gallon demand manual dry or manual wet standpipe system would require one (1) 5-inch storz connection.

SCENARIO 5: A 2100 gallon demand manual dry or manual wet standpipe system would require one (1) 5-inch storz connection and five (5) 2 ½-inch inlets to meet the demand.



Asst. Chief Earl Crayton II
Fire Marshal
San Antonio Fire Department