CHAPTER 23.45  LOCAL AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, 2003 EDITION

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The amendments to the 2003 Edition of the International Fire Code are listed hereinafter by section. The last digits of the section number (after the title and chapter digits) refer to the section of the International Fire Code to which the amendment applies, i.e., 23.45.103.3.1.1 refers to section 103.3.1.1 of the International Fire Code (2003 Edition). The 2003 International Fire Code and its Appendices, except for Appendix A, shall be adopted as amended.

23.45.102.1   Construction and Design Provisions.
Add the following to the end of Item 3:

…except in reference to voluntary upgrades, as defined and governed by the adopted Existing Buildings Code.

23.45.105.1.2   Types of Permit.
Delete Item 2, Construction Permit.

23.45.105.6   Required Operational Permits.
Amend 105.6 as follows:

Delete sections 105.6 and subsections 105.6.1 through 105.6.46.

Replace 105.6 with the following:

The code official is authorized to issue operational permits for the operations set forth in 105.6.1 through 105.6.7.

Add seven new subsections as follows:

105.6.1   Amusement Buildings. An operational permit is required to operate a special amusement building as defined in Section 202 of this code.

105.6.2   Carnivals and Fairs. An operational permit is required to operate a carnival or fair.

105.6.3   Battery Systems. A permit is required to install stationary lead-acid battery systems having a liquid capacity of more than 50 gallons (189 L).
105.6.4  **Connection to Municipal Fire Alarm.** An operational permit is required to connect a private fire alarm system to the municipal fire alarm circuit.

105.6.5  **Places of Assembly.** An operational permit is required to operate a place of assembly with an occupant load of 500 or more.

105.6.6  **Pyrotechnics Special Effects Material.** An operational permit is required for use and handling of pyrotechnic special effects material as defined in section 3302.1 of this code.

105.6.7  **Temporary Membrane Structures, Tents and Canopies.** An operational permit is required to operate an air-supported temporary membrane structure or tent having an area in excess of 200 square feet (19 m²), or a canopy in excess of 400 square feet (37 m²).

**Exceptions:**
1. Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.
2. Fabric canopies and awnings open on all sides which comply with all the following:
   2.1 Individual canopies shall have a maximum size of 700 square feet (65 m²).
   2.2 The aggregate area of multiple canopies placed side by side without a fire break clearance of 12 feet (3658 mm) shall not exceed 700 square feet (65 m²) total.
   2.3 A minimum clearance of 12 feet (3658 mm) to structures and other tents shall be provided.

23.45.202  **[B] Educational Group E, Day Care.**
Amend paragraph to read as follows:

The use of a building or structure, or portion thereof, for education, supervision or personal care services for more than five (5) children older than 2-1/2 years of age, including children related to the staff, shall be classified as an E occupancy.

Add Exception to read as follows:

**Exception:** Family child care homes (R-3) operating between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. may accommodate a total of twelve (12) children of any age without conforming to the requirements of an E occupancy except for smoke detectors as specified in subsection 907.2.10, means of egress requirements of section 1003, including emergency escape and rescue openings (as required by section 1009) in napping or sleeping rooms, and fire extinguisher requirements as outlined in section 906.

23.45.202  **[B] Institutional Group I-1.**
Revise by adding new paragraphs between the first and second paragraphs of the definition of “Institutional Group I-1” in “Occupancy Classification” to read:
A facility in this occupancy classification with occupants who need physical assistance to respond in emergency situations shall comply with the International Building Code, section 419.

First sentence of the last paragraph of the definition “Institutional Group I-1” is revised to read:

A facility such as one described above with five or fewer persons, including persons related to the staff, shall be classified as group R-3.

Amend last sentence to read as follows:

A facility such as the above with five or fewer persons, including persons related to the staff, shall be classified as Group R-3.

Amend paragraph to read as follows:

A child care facility providing care on a 24-hour basis to more than five (5) children 2-1/2 years of age or less, including children related to the staff.

Revise second sentence of the definition Group I-4 Day Care Facilities, to read:

A facility within this occupancy classification with five (5) or fewer persons, including persons related to the staff, shall be classified as a Group R-3.

Revise by adding a new paragraph of the definition R-4 in Residential Group Occupancy R of Occupancy Classification between the first and second paragraphs to read:

Facilities within this occupancy classification with occupants needing physical assistance to respond in emergency situations shall comply with the International Building Code, section 419.

23.45.308.3.1
After the words “combustible balconies” add “and decks”.

23.45.311.1.1 Abandoned Premises.
Amend paragraph by deleting reference to “the International Property Maintenance Code”.

23.45.401.3.4 False Alarm Charges.
Amend by deleting 2000 amendment, replacing with:

401.3.4 **False Alarm Charges.**
The owner of a building containing a fire alarm system shall pay a charge in accordance with section 8.40.040 for each and every false alarm to which the fire department responds.

As used in this section, “false alarm” means an alarm signal generated by a fire alarm system reporting an alarm for which no fire or emergency actually exists, and includes system malfunctions, faulty operation of detectors, and false alarms not classified above. It does not include incidents where the detector or system operated as designed, such as but not limited to, a smoke detector sounding from someone smoking under the detector or a manual pull station being pulled.

23.45.405 **Emergency Evacuation Drills.**
Amend by adding a new subsection 405.10 to read as follows:

405.10 **False Alarms.**
False alarms may not be counted as a fire drill for the purposes of this article.

23.45.408 **Use and Occupancy-Related Requirements.**
Amend by adding a new subsection 408.3.5 to read as follows:

408.3.5 **False Alarms.**
False alarms may not be counted as a fire drill for the purposes of this section.

23.45.508.2 **Type Of Water Supply.**
Amend by adding a second paragraph and a new exception to 508.2 to read as follows:

The water system shall be designed to the standards of, and have the approval of the water utility providing service in the area. If the water system for a structure is not in an area served by a water utility, it shall meet the standards of the nearest water utility.

**Exception:** In areas of jurisdiction not served by a water utility, the requirements for water systems as outlined in section 508 need not be met, provided all structures other than R-3 and U occupancies are at least type A construction as defined in the International Building Code, 2003 Edition, or are provided with a fire extinguishing system designed in accordance with section 903.3.1.1.

23.45.508.3 **Fire Flow.**
Amend by deleting the existing paragraph and replace with the following paragraph:
Water supplies for the fire flow requirements for buildings or portions of buildings and facilities shall be calculated using the provisions of Appendix Chapter B and Table B105.1.

23.45.508.5.4 Obstructions.
Amend by adding a third sentence at the end of the paragraph to read as follows:

No vehicle shall be parked within fifteen (15) feet of the front and ten (10) feet of the sides of a fire hydrant, fire department connection, or fire protection control valve on private or public property.

23.45.604.2.15.2.2 Pick Up Time.
Revise by the addition of new subsection to read:

The emergency power system shall pick up its connected loads within ten (10) seconds of failure of the normal power supply.

23.45.901.4 Marking Of Fire Protection Equipment And Fire Hydrants.
Amend by adding a new second paragraph to read as follows:

Fire Department connection devices for building sprinkler systems in new and existing buildings shall be identified by the installation of approved reflective markers or signs installed above the device in an unobstructed location at approximately seven (7) feet above grade.

23.45.901.6.2.1 Reports.
Add a new subsection 901.6.2.1 to read as follows:

901.6.2.1 Reports. A copy of all services reports shall be sent to the Fire Prevention Division. Each system shall be tagged by the inspection agency, indicating the date of service and whether or not the system is in conformance with the associated standards.

23.45.901.9 Certification.
Add a new subsection to read as follows:

901.9 Certification. Companies installing and/or performing maintenance on sprinkler systems shall have at least one individual certified to a minimum of NICET Level II in Sprinkler Systems as required under 13 AAC 50.035.

23.45.901.10 Damage Protection.
Add a new subsection to read as follows:

901.10 Damage Protection. When exposed to probable vehicular damage due to proximity to alleys, driveways or parking areas, standpipes, post indicator
valves and sprinkler system or standpipe system, connections shall be protected in an approved manner.

23.45.903.2.2 **Group E**
Revise as follows:

An automatic sprinkler system must be provided throughout all buildings in Group E occupancies and for every portion of educational buildings below the level of exit discharge. The use of a fire wall does not establish a separate building for purposes of this section.

**Exception:** Buildings with Group E occupancies having an occupant load of 49 or less.

Daycare uses licensed to care for more than five (5) persons between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. shall be equipped with an automatic sprinkler system designed and installed in accordance with subsection 903.3.13 or an approved equivalent system.

23.45.903.2.12.1 **Stories and Basements Without Openings.**
Amend paragraph by deleting the words “where the floor area exceeds 1,500 square feet and”.

23.45.903.3.1.1.1 **Exempt Locations.**
Amend by adding a new item to read as follows:

6. Elevator machine rooms may delete the sprinklers within the machine room where such room is: (a) separated from the remainder of the building in accordance with the International Building Code section 3006.4; (b) smoke detection is provided in accordance with NFPA 72; and (c) notification of alarm activation is received at a constantly monitored location.

23.45.903.4.1 **Signals.**
Amend section by adding a new sentence to read as follows:

Central stations, remote stations or proprietary monitoring stations shall be located within the Municipality of Anchorage or shall have a local representative capable of responding to the location within sixty (60) minutes of notification.

23.45.903.6.2 **Alterations and Additions to E Occupancies.**
Add a new subsection to read as follows:

903.6.2 **Alterations and Additions to E Occupancies.** An approved automatic fire extinguishing system shall be installed in an E Occupancy in accordance with section 903.2.2 whenever alterations or additions are made to an existing structure containing an E Occupancy.
Revise by adding the following construction documents to those require to be submitted for plan review:


Amend by adding a new exception 2 to read as follows:

2. Churches sprinklered throughout.

Amend in two places:

Change current amendment by changing the deleted section from #2 to #3

Amend first paragraph to read as follows:

A manual fire alarm system and an automatic fire detection system with smoke detection in the public areas shall be installed in Group R-2 occupancies where:

Amend by adding a new section to read as follows:

A person having a private fire alarm system for one building may connect the system to a municipal fire alarm circuit, or directly connect the system to the fire department communications center, after obtaining a permit for the connection from the fire chief. The fire chief may issue a permit for the connection if it is determined the connection:

1. Is compatible with the municipal fire alarm circuit or system.
2. Connects an adequate, properly installed and maintained private alarm system.
3. Substantially benefits the municipal fire prevention system.

The permit required by this section shall be issued subject to the Fire Department rules and regulations and shall be conditional upon such reasonable requirements, terms and conditions as the fire chief may require.

A permit may be revoked by the fire chief for noncompliance with the permit standards, rules, regulations, conditions, or restrictions. The permit may be revoked by the fire chief if, in the fire chief’s discretion, it is found the disconnection of the private alarm system is in the best interests of the Municipality. The permit holder may appeal a decision to revoke a permit to the Building Board.
D. The permit holder shall pay the Municipality for the cost of a radio fire alarm box or for covering an existing radio fire alarm box, and for the cost of the initial hookup (one box per building). The permit holder shall pay the cost of providing, installing and maintaining the private system, up to the radio fire alarm box. The maintenance of the private system shall be by a qualified person engaged in the business of installing and maintaining a supervisory fire alarm system, who shall use NFPA 72 as an installation and maintenance standard.

D. It shall be unlawful for a person not authorized by the fire chief to connect or disconnect, temporarily or otherwise, a private fire alarm system, or other wires or conduits leading to a municipal fire alarm circuit or municipal fire system. The fire chief shall authorize specific connection or disconnection by written permit.

E. The permit holder shall pay the following fees for the connection of the private fire alarm system, for one building, to the municipal fire system:
   1. Permit Fee $10.
   2. Initial Connection Fee $150.
   3. Annual Inspection Fee $1,200.

F. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, association, or corporation to do any act prohibited under this section or to fail to do any act required under this section. Any person, firm, association, and/or corporation violating this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to the penalties and remedies set forth in section 23.10.025.

23.45.908.7 Carbon Monoxide Detectors.
Add new section in section 908 Emergency Alarm Systems:

908.7 Carbon monoxide detectors. The provisions of this section shall apply to Group I-1, R-2, R-3 and R-4 occupancies. At least one (1) carbon monoxide detector shall be installed on each floor level. If a floor level contains bedrooms or sleeping rooms, at least one (1) detector shall be located in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping area, outside of the bedrooms/sleeping rooms. Carbon monoxide detectors shall be listed and installed in accordance with their listing. The alarm shall be clearly audible in all sleeping rooms with intervening doors closed.

Exceptions:
1. Carbon monoxide detectors are not required in dwelling units and structures with no combustion appliances and with no attached garage.
2. Carbon monoxide detectors are not required in dwelling units and structures with only direct vent combustion appliances and with no attached garage.
3. Carbon monoxide detectors are not required in Group I-1 and R-2 occupancies where all combustion equipment is located within a mechanical room separated from the rest of the building by construction capable of resisting the passage of smoke. If the
structure has an attached parking garage, the garage shall be ventilated by an approved automatic carbon monoxide exhaust system designed in accordance with the mechanical code.

908.7.1 **Interconnection.** In new construction, all carbon monoxide detectors located within a single dwelling unit shall be interconnected in such a manner that actuation of one alarm shall activate all of the alarms within the individual dwelling units.

908.7.2 **Power source.** In new construction, carbon monoxide detectors shall receive their primary power from the building wiring where such wiring is served from a commercial source and shall be equipped with a battery backup. Wiring shall be permanent and without disconnecting switch other than those required for overcurrent protection. Carbon monoxide detectors shall be permitted to be cord-and-plug type with battery backup, or battery powered in existing construction.

23.45.1008.19 **Panic and Fire Exit Hardware.**
Revise by changing “an occupant load of 100 or more” in the second full paragraph to “an occupant load of 50 or more”.

23.45.1009.1 **Stairway Width.**
Revise by adding the following exception:

**Exception:** 5. Stairs or ladders used only to attend equipment are exempt from the requirements of this section.

23.45.1011.1 **Means Of Egress Obstructions.**
Amend by adding a new paragraph after the first paragraph to read as follows:

No kiosks, merchandise or similar obstructions shall be placed in such a way to restrict the minimum clear width required by the International Building Code.

23.45.1018.1 **Minimum Number of Exits.**
Revise by adding the following exception:

**Exception:** Basements or the first level below the first story in all occupancies building, may have access to only one exit. Any other use of the basement or first level below the first story shall have at least two (2) exits arranged as described in section 1014.2. For purposes of this exception, storage rooms, laundry rooms, maintenance offices, and similar uses are not considered as providing service to the building.

23.45.1025 [B] **Emergency Escape and Rescue.**
Revise by deleting Exceptions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7.
23.45.1102.1
The first sentence of the definition of “Airport” is revised to delete the words “with an overall length greater than 39 feet (11887mm) and an overall exterior fuselage width greater than 6.6 feet (2012mm).”

23.45.2211.2.3
Subsection 2211.2.3, first paragraph of the International Fire Code is revised by adding a sentence to read: “Where oil separators or traps are provided, neither the oil nor water phase may drain to septic systems, dry wells, or other means of underground discharge.”

23.45.3404.2.13.1.3 Underground Tanks Out Of Service One Year.
Amend by adding a new sentence at the end of the paragraph to read as follows:

This shall not apply to residential R-3 occupancies (single family and duplex) properties.

23.45.3404.2.14.1 General.
Amend by adding new item 6 to read as follows:

6. The internal tank environment shall be monitored by a combination gas detector during the removal of the tank.

23.45.35 Reference Standards.
Chapter 35 of the I.F.C. is revised by changing the referenced standards from the publication date listed to the following edition, and the standards are adopted by reference:

N.F.P.A. 10-2002 Portable Fire Extinguishers;
N.F.P.A. 13-2002 Installation of Sprinkler Systems;
N.F.P.A. 13D-2002 Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes;
N.F.P.A. 13R-2002 Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Residential Occupancies Up To and Including Four Stories in Height;
N.F.P.A. 14-2003 Standpipe and Hose System;
N.F.P.A. 750-2003 Standard on Water Mist Fire Protection System

23.45. Appendix B, Section B103.3
Amend by deleting the reference to “NFPA 1231” and replace with “NFPA 1142 (2001 Edition) and adopted by reference.”

23.45.Appendix D, Section D104.1
Delete entire section.