NFPA GUIDELINES STAIRWELL SIGNAGE

People Signs

These guidelines are derived from NFPA 101, 2009, pg. 101 - 58. 7.2.2.5.4

Stair Identication 7.2.2.5.4.1

New enclosed stairs serving three or more stories and existing enclosed stairs serving ve or more stories shall comply with 7.2.2.5.4.1 (A) through (M):

- (A) The stairs shall be provided with special signage within the enclosure at each floor landing.
- (B) The signage shall indicate the floor level.
- (C) The signage shall indicate the terminus of the top and bottom of the stair enclosure.
- (D) The signage shall indicate the identication of the stair enclosure.
- (E) The signage shall indicate the floor level of, and the direction to, exit discharge.
- (F) The signage shall be located inside the enclosure approximately 60 in. (1525 mm) above the floor landing in a position that is visible when the door is in the open or closed position.
- (G) The signage shall comply with 7.10.8.1 and 7.10.8.2 of this Code.
- (H) The floor level designation shall also be tactile in accordance with ICC/ANSI A117.1, American National Standard for Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities.
- (I) The signage shall be painted or stenciled on the wall or on a separate sign securely attached to the wall.
- (J) The stairway identication letter shall be located at the top of the sign in minimum 1 in. (25mm) high lettering and shall be in accordance with 7.10.8.2.
- (K) Signage that reads NO ROOF ACCESS and is located under the stairway identication letter shall designate stairways that do not provide roof access. Lettering shall be a minimum of 1" (25mm) high and shall be in accordance with 7.10.8.2
- (L) The floor level number shall be located in the middle of the sign in minimum 5 in. (125 mm) high numbers and shall be in accordance with 7.10.8.2. Mezzanine levels shall have the letter "M" or other appropriate identication letter preceding the floor number, while basement levels shall have the letter "B" or the appropriate identication letter preceding the oor level number.
- (M) Identication of the lower and upper terminus of the stairway shall be located at the bottom of the sign in minimum 1 in. (25 mm) high letters or numbers and shall be in accordance with 7.10.8.2.

7.2.2.5.4.2

Wherever an enclosed stair requires travel in an upward direction to reach the level of exit discharge, special signs with directional indicators showing the direction to the level of exit discharge shall be provided at each floor level landing from which upward direction of travel is required, unless otherwise provided in 7.2.2.5.4.2 (A) and 7.2.2.5.4.2 (B), and the following also shall apply:

- (1) Such signage shall comply with 7.10.8.1 and 7.10.8.2.
- (2) Such signage shall be visible when the door leaf is in the open or closed position.
- (A) The requirement of 7.2.2.5.4.2 shall not apply where signs required by 7.2.2.5.4.1 are provided.
- (B) The requirement of 7.2.2.5.4.2 shall not apply to stairs extending not more than one story below the level of exit discharge where the exit discharge is clearly obvious.

NOTE: This is an interpretation of a published code. This may or may not be what is required by your local Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ); therefore, it is important to check with your AHJ prior to the start of any new project.

