

# INSTALLATION OF SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

NFPA  
**13**

1991 Edition



**National Fire Protection Association**

1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02269

*ANSI/NFPA 13 An American National Standard August 16, 1991*

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The Board of Directors reaffirms that the National Fire Protection Association recognizes that the toxicity of the products of combustion is an important factor in the loss of life from fire. NFPA has dealt with that subject in its technical committee documents for many years.

There is a concern that the growing use of synthetic materials may produce more or additional toxic products of combustion in a fire environment. The Board has, therefore, asked all NFPA technical committees to review the documents for which they are responsible to be sure that the documents respond to this current concern. To assist the committees in meeting this request, the Board has appointed an advisory committee to provide specific guidance to the technical committees on questions relating to assessing the hazards of the products of combustion.

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Errata

# NFPA 13

## Installation of Sprinkler Systems

1991 Edition

**Reference: 6-4.2.2, Tables A-5-3.4 and A-5-3.5**

The Committee on Automatic Sprinklers notes the following errors in NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*, 1991 edition.

1. In 6-4.2.2, revise the formula to read:

$$\frac{P_v = 0.001123 Q^2}{D^4}$$

2. In Table A-5-3.4, *Large-Drop Sprinkler Data*, revise the rack storage heading as follows:

Double-Row Rack Storage<sup>3</sup> with Minimum 5.5 ft (1.7 m) Aisle Width and Multiple-Row Rack Storage with Minimum 8.0 ft (2.5 m) Aisle Width.

3. In Table A-5-3.5, *ESFR Sprinkler Data*, revise the first entry under the "Type of Storage" heading as follows:

Single-, double-, and multiple-row and portable rack storage (no open-top containers or solid shelves), and solid-piled or palletized storage.

**Issue Date: June 26, 1992**

## Errata

# NFPA 13

## Installation of Sprinkler Systems

1991 Edition

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**Issue Date: June 26, 1992**  
**Correction Issued: January, 1993**

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**NFPA 13**  
**Standard for the**  
**Installation of Sprinkler Systems**  
**1991 Edition**

This edition of NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Automatic Sprinklers, released by the Correlating Committee on Water Extinguishing Systems, and acted on by the National Fire Protection Association, Inc. at its Annual Meeting held May 19-23, 1991 in Boston, MA. It was issued by the Standards Council on July 19, 1991, with an effective date of August 16, 1991, and supersedes all previous editions.

The 1991 edition of this document has been approved by the American National Standards Institute.

**Origin and Development of NFPA 13**

NFPA 13 represents the first standard published under the auspices of the NFPA Committee on Automatic Sprinklers. Originally titled *Rules and Regulations of the National Board of Fire Underwriters for Sprinkler Equipments, Automatic and Open Systems*, the standard has been continuously updated to keep in step with change.

Full information about the NFPA actions on various changes will be found in the NFPA Proceedings. The dates of successive editions are as follows: 1896, 1899, 1902, 1905, 1907, 1908, 1910, 1912, 1913, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929. In 1930 a separate standard was published on "Class B" systems. This was integrated in the 1931 edition. Further revisions were adopted in 1934, 1935 and 1936. A two-step revision was presented in the form of a progress report in 1939 and finally adopted in 1940. Further amendments were made in 1947, 1950, 1953, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1961, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1978, 1980, 1982, 1984, and 1986.

The 1989 edition incorporated some new technology parameters such as the ESFR sprinkler.

The 1991 edition represents a complete reorganization of the standard — the first time for this document. The document is intended to present the requirements of the standard in a user-friendly format. This involves presentation of the material in a more logical, concise order.

Substantive changes include the introduction of 2 basic construction configurations, modifications to the area-density curves, and new design restrictions on pipe schedule systems. Other amendments have included the introduction of requirements for some nonmetallic piping materials.

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(Alternate to W. P. Stackpole)

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Rep. Nat'l Fire Sprinkler Assoc.

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**William D. Walton**, Center for Fire Research

**William E. Wilcox**, Factory Mutual Research Corp.

**R. J. Wright**, Underwriters Laboratories of Canada

**Donald M. Yarlus**, ICI Americas

Rep. NFPA Industrial Fire Protection Section

**Lewis H. Zimmermann**, Adelphia Automatic Sprinkler Co.

Rep. Nat'l Fire Sprinkler Assoc.

## Alternates

**Roger L. Allard**, Factory Mutual Research Corp.

(Alternate to W. E. Wilcox)

**James R. Bell**, Marriott Corp.

Rep. American Hotel & Motel Assoc.

(Alternate to T. G. Daly)

**J. P. Bonneville**, Insurers Advisory Organization, Quebec

(Alternate to M. H. Devenney)

**Graham Clarke**, Gage-Babcock & Assoc., Inc.

(Alternate to J. G. O'Neill)

**Don R. Dean**, Dow Chemical Co.

Rep. NFPA Industrial Fire Protection Section

(Alternate to J. L. DeRoo)

**Tommy E. England**, Industrial Risk Insurers

(Alternate to K. W. Linder)

**David D. Evans**, Center for Fire Research

(Alternate to W. D. Walton)

**Russell P. Fleming**, Nat'l Fire Sprinkler Assoc.

Rep. Nat'l Fire Sprinkler Assoc.

(Alternate to W. L. Testa)

**John Galt**, Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Assoc.

Rep. Canadian Automatic Sprinkler Assoc.

(Alternate to B. J. Lukes)

**Christopher M. Goddard**, ICI Americas Inc.

Rep. NFPA Industrial Fire Protection Section

(Alternate to D. M. Yaras)

**George E. Laverick**, Underwriters Laboratories Inc.

(Alternate to K. M. Bell)

**Edward R. Lising**, Underwriters Laboratories of Canada

(Alternate to R. J. Wright)

**Ramon D. Mallow**, American Fire Sprinkler Assoc.

Rep. American Fire Sprinkler Assoc., Inc.

(Alternate to R. J. Gray)

**J. R. Mawhinney**, Nat'l Research Council of Canada

(Alternate to J. K. Richardson)

**Francis J. Miklouchich**, Eastman Kodak Co.

(Alternate to E. J. Schiffhauer)

**Joseph G. Novak**, S. Pasadena Fire Dept.

(Alternate to FMANA Rep.)

**James Retzloff**, The Viking Corp.

Rep. Nat'l Fire Sprinkler Assoc.

(Alternate to C. B. Barnett)

**Paul E. Rousseau**, HFP Sprinkler Inc.

Rep. American Fire Sprinkler Assoc., Inc.

(Alternate to W. R. Templin)

**Gerald R. Schultz**, Schirmer Engineering Corp.

(Alternate to C. W. Schirmer)

**Harry Shaw**, Harry Shaw & Assoc., Inc.

Rep. International Assoc. of Fire Chiefs

(Alternate to W. D. Hilton)

**Jack Thacker**, Allan Automatic Sprinkler Co.

Rep. Nat'l Fire Sprinkler Assoc.

(Alternate to L. H. Zimmermann)

**James B. Visger**, Road Sprinkler Fitters Union

Rep. United Assoc. of Journeymen & Apprentices of Plumbing Pipe Fitting Ind. of the U.S. & Canada

(Alternate to J. J. Walsh)

**William A. Webb**, Rolf Jensen & Assoc., Inc.

(Alternate to R. H. Jensen)

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# NFPA 13

## Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems

### 1991 Edition

**NOTICE:** An asterisk (\*) following the number or letter designating a paragraph indicates explanatory material on that paragraph in Appendix A.

Information on referenced publications can be found in Chapter 10 and Appendix C.

## Chapter 1 General Information

**1-1 Scope.** This standard provides the minimum requirements for the design and installation of automatic fire sprinkler systems and exposure protection sprinkler systems, including the character and adequacy of water supplies and the selection of sprinklers, piping, valves, and all materials and accessories, but not including the installation of private fire service mains and water supplies.

**NOTE:** Consult other NFPA standards for additional requirements relating to water supplies.

**NOTE:** See Tentative Interim Amendment on page 131.

**1-2 Purpose.** The purpose of this standard is to provide a reasonable degree of protection for life and property from fire through standardization of design, installation, and testing requirements for sprinkler systems based upon sound engineering principles, test data, and field experience. This standard endeavors to continue the excellent record that has been established by sprinkler systems while meeting the needs of changing technology. Nothing in this standard is intended to restrict new technologies or alternate arrangements, providing the level of safety prescribed by this standard is not lowered. Materials or devices not specifically designated by this standard shall be utilized in complete accord with all conditions, requirements, and limitations of their listings.

**NOTE 1:** A sprinkler system is a specialized fire protection system and requires knowledgeable and experienced design and installation.

**NOTE 2:** Since its inception, this document has been developed on the basis of standardized materials, devices, and design practices. However, certain paragraphs, such as 2-3.5, 4-3.2, and this one, allow the use of materials and devices not specifically designated by this standard, provided such use is within parameters established by a listing organization. In using such materials or devices, it is important that all conditions, requirements, and limitations of the listing be fully understood and accepted and that the installation is in complete accord with such listing requirements.

**1-3 Retroactivity Clause.** The provisions of this document are considered necessary to provide a reasonable level of protection from loss of life and property from fire. They reflect situations and the state of the art at the time the standard was issued.

Unless otherwise noted, it is not intended that the provisions of this document be applied to facilities, equipment, structures, or installations that were existing or approved for construction or installation prior to the effective date of this document.

*Exception:* In those cases where it is determined by the authority having jurisdiction that the existing situation involves a distinct hazard to life or property, this standard shall apply.

## 1-4 Definitions.

### 1-4.1 NFPA Definitions.

**Approved.** Acceptable to the "authority having jurisdiction."

**NOTE:** The National Fire Protection Association does not approve, inspect or certify any installation, procedures, equipment, or materials nor does it approve or evaluate testing laboratories. In determining the acceptability of installations or procedures, equipment or materials, the authority having jurisdiction may base acceptance on compliance with NFPA or other appropriate standards. In the absence of such standards, said authority may require evidence of proper installation, procedure or use. The authority having jurisdiction may also refer to the listings or labeling practices of an organization concerned with product evaluations which is in a position to determine compliance with appropriate standards for the most current production of listed items.

**Authority Having Jurisdiction.** The "authority having jurisdiction" is the organization, office or individual responsible for "approving" equipment, an installation or a procedure.

**NOTE:** The phrase "authority having jurisdiction" is used in NFPA documents in a broad manner since jurisdictions and "approval" agencies vary as do their responsibilities. Where public safety is primary, the "authority having jurisdiction" may be a federal, state, local or other regional department or individual such as a fire chief, fire marshal, chief of a fire prevention bureau, labor department, health department, building official, electrical inspector, or others having statutory authority. For insurance purposes, an insurance inspection department, rating bureau, or other insurance company representative may be the "authority having jurisdiction." In many circumstances the property owner or his designated agent assumes the role of the "authority having jurisdiction"; at government installations, the commanding officer or departmental official may be the "authority having jurisdiction."

**Listed.** Equipment or materials included in a list published by an organization acceptable to the "authority having jurisdiction" and concerned with product evaluation, that maintains periodic inspection of production of listed equipment or materials and whose listing states either that the equipment or material meets appropriate standards or has been tested and found suitable for use in a specified manner.

**NOTE:** The means for identifying listed equipment may vary for each organization concerned with product evaluation, some of which do not recognize equipment as listed unless it is also labeled. The "authority having jurisdiction" should utilize the system employed by the listing organization to identify a listed product.

**Shall.** Indicates a mandatory requirement.

**Should.** Indicates a recommendation or that which is advised but not required.

**Standard.** A document containing only mandatory provisions, using the word shall to indicate requirements. Explanatory material may be included only in the form of fine print notes, in footnotes, or in an appendix.

#### 1-4.2 General Definitions.

**Compartment.** As used in 4-3.6.3 and 6-4.4.4, a space completely enclosed by walls and a ceiling. The compartment enclosure may have openings to an adjoining space if the openings have a minimum lintel depth of 8 in. (203 mm) from the ceiling.

**Drop-Out Ceiling.** A suspended ceiling system with listed translucent or opaque panels that are heat sensitive and fall from their setting when exposed to heat. This ceiling system is installed below the sprinklers.

**Dwelling Unit.** One or more rooms arranged for the use of one or more individuals living together as in a single housekeeping unit normally having cooking, living, sanitary, and sleeping facilities.

For purposes of this standard, dwelling unit includes hotel rooms, dormitory rooms, apartments, condominiums, sleeping rooms in nursing homes, and similar living units.

**Fire Control.** Limiting the size of a fire by distribution of water so as to decrease the heat release rate and pre-wet adjacent combustibles, while controlling ceiling gas temperatures to avoid structural damage.

**Fire Suppression.** Sharply reducing the heat release rate of a fire and preventing its regrowth by means of direct and sufficient application of water through the fire plume to the burning fuel surface.

**High Challenge Fire Hazard.** A fire hazard typical of that produced by fires in combustible high-piled storage.

**High-Piled Storage.** Solid piled, palletized, rack storage, bin box, and shelf storage in excess of 12 ft (3.7 m) in height. (See 5-2.3.1.1.)

**Hydraulically Designed System.** A calculated sprinkler system in which pipe sizes are selected on a pressure loss basis to provide a prescribed water density, in gallons per minute per square foot [(L/min)/m<sup>2</sup>], or a prescribed minimum discharge pressure or flow per sprinkler, distributed with a reasonable degree of uniformity over a specified area.

**Limited-Combustible Material.** As applied to a building construction material, a material, not complying with the definition of noncombustible material, that, in the form in which it is used, has a potential heat value not exceeding 3500 Btu per lb (8141 kJ/kg) and complies with one of the following paragraphs, (a) or (b). Materials subject to increase in combustibility or flame spread rating beyond the limits herein established through the effects of age, moisture, or other atmospheric condition shall be considered combustible.

(a) Materials having a structural base of noncombustible material, with a surfacing not exceeding a thickness of 1/8 in. (3.2 mm) that has a flame spread rating not greater than 50.

(b) Materials, in the form and thickness used, other than as described in (a), having neither a flame spread rating greater than 25 nor evidence of continued progressive combustion and of such composition that surfaces that would be exposed by cutting through the material on any plane would have neither a flame spread rating greater than 25 nor evidence of continued progressive combustion.

**Miscellaneous Storage.\*** Storage that does not exceed 12 ft (3.7 m) in height and is incidental to another occupancy use group as defined in 1-4.7 (see 5-2.3.1.1). Protection criteria for miscellaneous storage are within the scope of this standard.

**Noncombustible Material.** A material that, in the form in which it is used and under the conditions anticipated, will not ignite, burn, support combustion, or release flammable vapors when subjected to fire or heat. Materials that are reported as passing ASTM E136, *Standard Test Method for Behavior of Materials in a Vertical Tube Furnace at 750°C*, shall be considered noncombustible materials.

**Pipe Schedule System.** A sprinkler system in which the pipe sizing is selected from a schedule that is determined by the occupancy classification. A given number of sprinklers are allowed to be supplied from specific sizes of pipe.

**Small Rooms.** Rooms of light hazard occupancy classification having unobstructed construction and floor areas not exceeding 800 sq ft (74.3 m<sup>2</sup>). (See 1-4.7.1.)

**Sprinkler System.\*** For fire protection purposes, an integrated system of underground and overhead piping designed in accordance with fire protection engineering standards. The installation includes one or more automatic water supplies. The portion of the sprinkler system above-ground is a network of specially sized or hydraulically designed piping installed in a building, structure, or area, generally overhead, and to which sprinklers are attached in a systematic pattern. The valve controlling each system riser is located in the system riser or its supply piping. Each sprinkler system riser includes a device for actuating an alarm when the system is in operation. The system is usually activated by heat from a fire and discharges water over the fire area.

NOTE: The design and installation of water supply facilities such as gravity tanks, fire pumps, reservoirs or pressure tanks, and underground piping are covered by the following NFPA standards: NFPA 22, *Standard for Water Tanks for Private Fire Protection*; NFPA 20, *Standard for the Installation of Centrifugal Fire Pumps*; and NFPA 24, *Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances*.

**Thermal Barrier.** A material that will limit the average temperature rise of the unexposed surface to not more than 250°F (121°C) after 15 minutes of fire exposure complying with the standard time-temperature curve of NFPA 251, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials*.

### 1-4.3 Sprinkler System Type Definitions.

**Wet Pipe System.** A sprinkler system employing automatic sprinklers attached to a piping system containing water and connected to a water supply so that water discharges immediately from sprinklers opened by heat from a fire.

**Dry Pipe System.** A sprinkler system employing automatic sprinklers attached to a piping system containing air or nitrogen under pressure, the release of which (as from the opening of a sprinkler) permits the water pressure to open a valve known as a dry pipe valve. The water then flows into the piping system and out the opened sprinklers.

**Preaction System.** A sprinkler system employing automatic sprinklers attached to a piping system containing air that may or may not be under pressure, with a supplemental detection system installed in the same areas as the sprinklers. Actuating means of the valve are described in 3-3.2.1. Actuation of the detection system opens a valve that permits water to flow into the sprinkler piping system and to be discharged from any sprinklers that may be open.

**Deluge System.** A sprinkler system employing open sprinklers attached to a piping system connected to a water supply through a valve that is opened by the operation of a detection system installed in the same areas as the sprinklers. When this valve opens, water flows into the piping system and discharges from all sprinklers attached thereto.

**Combined Dry Pipe-Preaction System.** A sprinkler system employing automatic sprinklers attached to a piping system containing air under pressure with a supplemental detection system installed in the same areas as the sprinklers. Operation of the detection system actuates tripping devices that open dry pipe valves simultaneously and without loss of air pressure in the system. Operation of the detection system also opens listed air exhaust valves at the end of the feed main, which usually precedes the opening of sprinklers. The detection system also serves as an automatic fire alarm system.

**Antifreeze System.** A wet pipe sprinkler system employing automatic sprinklers attached to a piping system containing an antifreeze solution and connected to a water supply. The antifreeze solution is discharged, followed by water, immediately upon operation of sprinklers opened by heat from a fire.

**Circulating Closed-Loop System.** A wet pipe sprinkler system having non-fire-protection connections to automatic sprinkler systems in a closed-loop piping arrangement for the purpose of utilizing sprinkler piping to conduct water for heating or cooling. Water is not removed or used from the system, but only circulated through the piping system.

### 1-4.4\* System Component Definitions.

**Branch Lines.** The pipes in which the sprinklers are placed, either directly or through risers.

**Cross Mains.** The pipes supplying the branch lines, directly or through risers.

**Feed Mains.** The pipes supplying risers or cross mains.

**Risers.** The vertical supply pipes in a sprinkler system.

**Supervisory Devices.** Devices arranged to supervise the operative condition of automatic sprinkler systems.

**System Riser.** The aboveground supply pipe directly connected to the water supply.

### 1-4.5 Sprinkler Definitions.

**1-4.5.1** Sprinklers defined according to design and performance characteristics:

**Spray Sprinkler.** A type of sprinkler listed for its capability to provide fire control for a wide range of fire hazards.

**Old-Style/Conventional Sprinkler.** Sprinklers that direct from 40 to 60 percent of the total water initially in a downward direction and that are designed to be installed with the deflector either upright or pendent.

**Fast Response Sprinkler.** A type of sprinkler with a high level of thermal sensitivity, enabling it to respond at an early stage of fire development. This includes ESFR, QR, QREC, QRES, and residential sprinklers.

**Residential Sprinkler.** A type of fast response sprinkler specifically listed for use in protection against the fire hazards typically found in dwelling units.

**Extended Coverage (EC) Sprinkler.** A type of spray sprinkler listed as a special sprinkler with extended maximum protection area.

**Quick-Response (QR) Sprinkler.** A type of sprinkler that is both a fast response and a spray sprinkler.

**Quick-Response Extended Coverage (QREC) Sprinkler.** Sprinklers that are listed as both quick-response and extended coverage sprinklers.

**Quick-Response Early Suppression (QRES) Sprinkler.\*** Fast response sprinklers that are listed for their capability to provide fire suppression of specific fire hazards.

**Large-Drop Sprinkler.** A type of sprinkler that is capable of producing characteristic large water droplets and that is listed for its capability to provide fire control of specific high challenge fire hazards.

**Early Suppression Fast Response (ESFR) Sprinkler.\*** A type of fast response sprinkler listed for its capability to provide fire suppression of specific high challenge fire hazards.

**Open Sprinkler.** Sprinklers from which the heat responsive and actuating elements have been removed.

**Nozzles.** Devices for use in applications requiring special water discharge patterns, directional spray, or other unusual discharge characteristics.

**Special Sprinkler.** Sprinklers that have been tested and listed as prescribed in 4-3.2.

**1-4.5.2** Sprinklers defined according to orientation:

**Concealed Sprinkler.** Recessed sprinklers with cover plates.

**Flush Sprinkler.** Sprinklers in which all or part of the body, including the shank thread, is mounted above the lower plane of the ceiling.

**Pendent Sprinkler.** Sprinklers designed to be installed in such a way that the water stream is directed downward against the deflector.

**Recessed Sprinkler.** Sprinklers in which all or part of the body, other than the shank thread, is mounted within a recessed housing.

**Sidewall Sprinkler.** Sprinklers having special deflectors that are designed to discharge most of the water away from the nearby wall in a pattern resembling one quarter of a sphere, with a small portion of the discharge directed at the wall behind the sprinkler.

**Upright Sprinkler.** Sprinklers designed to be installed in such a way that the water spray is directed upwards against the deflector.

**1-4.5.3** Sprinklers defined according to special application or environment:

**Corrosion-Resistant Sprinkler.** Sprinklers fabricated with corrosion-resistant material or with special coatings or platings to be used in an atmosphere that would normally corrode sprinklers.

**Dry Sprinkler.\*** Sprinklers secured in an extension nipple that has a seal at the inlet end to prevent water from entering the nipple until the sprinkler operates. Dry sprinklers are intended to extend into an unheated area from a wet pipe system or (for dry-pendent sprinklers) to be used on a dry pipe system in the pendent position.

**Intermediate Level Sprinkler/Rack Storage Sprinkler.** Sprinklers equipped with integral shields to protect their operating elements from the discharge of sprinklers installed at higher elevations.

**Ornamental/Decorative Sprinkler.** Sprinklers that have been painted or plated by the manufacturer.

#### 1-4.6\* Construction Definitions.

**Obstructed Construction.** Construction where beams, trusses, or other members impede heatflow or water distribution in a manner that materially affects the ability of sprinklers to control or suppress a fire.

**Unobstructed Construction.** Construction where beams, trusses, or other members do not impede heatflow or water distribution in a manner that materially affects the ability of sprinklers to control or suppress a fire. Unobstructed construction has horizontal structural members that are not solid, where the openings are at least 70 percent of the cross section area, and the depth of the member does not exceed the least dimension of the openings, or all construction types where the spacing of structural members exceed 7 1/2 ft (2.3 m) on center.

For descriptions of construction types, see A-1-4.6(a) and (b).

**1-4.7\* Classification of Occupancies.** Occupancy classifications for this standard relate to sprinkler installations and their water supplies only. They are not intended to be a general classification of occupancy hazards.

**1-4.7.1\* Light Hazard Occupancies.** Occupancies or portions of other occupancies where the quantity and/or combustibility of contents is low and fires with relatively low rates of heat release are expected.

#### 1-4.7.2 Ordinary Hazard Occupancies.

**1-4.7.2.1\* Ordinary Hazard (Group 1).** Occupancies or portions of other occupancies where combustibility is low, quantity of combustibles is moderate, stockpiles of combustibles do not exceed 8 ft (2.4 m), and fires with moderate rates of heat release are expected.

**1-4.7.2.2\* Ordinary Hazard (Group 2).** Occupancies or portions of other occupancies where quantity and combustibility of contents is moderate to high, stockpiles do not exceed 12 ft (3.7 m), and fires with moderate to high rates of heat release are expected.

#### 1-4.7.3 Extra Hazard Occupancies.

**1-4.7.3.1\*** Occupancies or portions of other occupancies where quantity and combustibility of contents is very high and flammable and combustible liquids, dust, lint, or other materials are present, introducing the probability of rapidly developing fires with high rates of heat release.

**1-4.7.3.2** Extra hazard occupancies involve a wide range of variables that may produce severe fires. The following shall be used to evaluate the severity of Extra Hazard Occupancies:

Extra Hazard (Group 1) includes occupancies described in 1-4.7.3.1 with little or no flammable or combustible liquids.

Extra Hazard (Group 2) includes occupancies described in 1-4.7.3.1 with moderate to substantial amounts of flammable or combustible liquids or where shielding of combustibles is extensive.

#### 1-4.7.4 Special Occupancy Hazards.

**1-4.7.4.1\*** Other NFPA standards contain sprinkler system design criteria for fire control or suppression of specific hazards. These are listed in Chapter 10 and include but are not limited to NFPA 30, *Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code*; NFPA 30B, *Code for the Manufacture and Storage of Aerosol Products*; NFPA 40, *Standard for the Storage and Handling of Cellulose Nitrate Motion Picture Film*, NFPA 58, *Standard for the Storage and Handling of Liquefied Petroleum Gases*; NFPA 81, *Standard for Fur Storage, Fumigation and Cleaning*; NFPA 231, *Standard for General Storage*; NFPA 231C, *Standard for Rack Storage of Materials*; NFPA 231D, *Standard for Storage of Rubber Tires*; NFPA 231E, *Recommended Practice for the Storage of Baled Cotton*; NFPA 231F, *Standard for the Storage of Roll Paper*; NFPA 232, *Standard for the Protection of Records*; and NFPA 409, *Standard on Aircraft Hangars*.

**1-4.7.4.2** Miscellaneous storage as defined herein shall be classified as to occupancy group in accordance with Table 1-4.7.4.2.

**Table 1-4.7.4.2 Occupancy Group Classification for Miscellaneous Storage 12 ft (3.7 m) or Less in Height**

| Commodity Classification | Palletized and Bin Box | Rack |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------|
| I                        | OH-1                   | OH-1 |
| II                       | OH-1                   | OH-1 |
| III                      | OH-2                   | OH-2 |
| IV                       | OH-2                   | OH-2 |
| Group A Plastic          | EH-1                   | EH-2 |

NOTE: See Tentative Interim Amendment on page 131.

**1-4.7.4.2.1** The commodity classifications and storage characteristics in Table 1-4.7.4.2 shall be as defined in NFPA 231 and NFPA 231C.

**1-5 Abbreviations.** The standard abbreviations in Table 1-5 shall be used on the hydraulic calculation form.

**Table 1-5**

| Symbol or Abbreviation | Item  |
|------------------------|---|
| p                      | Pressure in psi   |
| gpm                    | U.S. Gallons per minute   |
| q                      | Flow increment in gpm to be added at a specific location  |
| Q                      | Summation of flow in gpm at a specific location   |
| P <sub>t</sub>         | Total pressure in psi at a point in a pipe  |
| P <sub>f</sub>         | Pressure loss due to friction between points indicated in location column   |
| P <sub>e</sub>         | Pressure due to elevation difference between indicated points. This can be a plus value or a minus value. Where minus, the (-) shall be used; where plus, no sign need be indicated |
| P <sub>v</sub>         | Velocity pressure in psi at a point in a pipe   |
| P <sub>n</sub>         | Normal pressure in psi at a point in a pipe   |
| E                      | 90° Ell   |
| EE                     | 45° Ell   |
| Lt.E                   | Long Turn Elbow   |
| Cr                     | Cross   |
| T                      | Tee—flow turned 90°   |
| GV                     | Gate Valve  |
| BV                     | Butterfly (Wafer) Check Valve   |
| Del V                  | Deluge Valve  |
| ALV                    | Alarm Valve   |
| DPV                    | Dry Pipe Valve  |
| CV                     | Swing Check Valve   |
| WCV                    | Butterfly (Wafer) Check Valve   |
| St                     | Strainer  |
| psi                    | Pounds per square inch  |
| v                      | Velocity of water in pipe in feet per second  |

## 1-6 Level of Protection.

**1-6.1** A building, when protected by an automatic sprinkler system installation, shall be provided with sprinklers in all areas.

*Exception:* Where specific sections of this standard permit the omission of sprinklers.

**1-6.2 Limited Area Systems.** When partial sprinkler systems are installed, the requirements of this standard shall be used insofar as they are applicable. The authority having jurisdiction shall be consulted in each case.

## Chapter 2 System Components and Hardware

**2-1 General.** This chapter provides requirements for correct use of sprinkler system components.

**2-1.1\*** All materials and devices essential to successful system operation shall be listed.

*Exception No. 1:* Equipment as permitted in Table 2-3.1, Table 2-4.1, and the Exceptions to 2-6.1 and 2-6.1.1 need not be listed.

*Exception No. 2:* Components that do not affect system operation such as drain valves and signs need not be listed. The use of reconditioned valves and devices other than sprinklers as replacement equipment in existing systems shall be permitted.

**2-1.2** System components shall be rated for the maximum working pressure to which they are exposed but not less than 175 psi (12.1 bars).

## 2-2 Sprinklers.

**2-2.1** Only new sprinklers shall be installed.

**2-2.2 Sprinkler Discharge Characteristics.** The K factor, relative discharge, and identification for sprinklers having different orifice sizes shall be in accordance with Table 2-2.2 on the following page.

*Exception:* Listed sprinklers having pipe threads different from those shown in Table 2-2.2 shall be permitted.

**2-2.2.1** For Light Hazard Occupancies not requiring as much water as is discharged by a nominal 1/2-in. (12.7-mm) orifice sprinkler operating at 7 psi (0.5 bar), sprinklers having a smaller orifice shall be permitted subject to the following restrictions:

(a) The system shall be hydraulically calculated. (See Chapter 6.)

(b) Small orifice sprinklers shall be installed in wet systems only.

*Exception:* Small orifice outside sprinklers for protection from exposure fires installed in conformance with Section 3-7 shall be permitted.

(c) A listed strainer shall be provided on the supply side of sprinklers having orifices smaller than 3/8 in. (9.5 mm).

**2-2.2.2** Sprinklers having orifice sizes exceeding 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) and having 1/2 in. NPT shall not be installed in new sprinkler systems.

## 2-2.3\* Temperature Characteristics.

**2-2.3.1** The standard temperature ratings of automatic sprinklers are shown in Table 2-2.3.1 on the following page. Automatic sprinklers shall have their frame arms colored in accordance with the color code designated in Table 2-2.3.1.

*Exception No. 1:* A dot on the top of the deflector, or the color of the coating material, or colored frame arms shall be permitted for color identification of corrosion-resistant sprinklers.

Table 2-2.2 Sprinkler Discharge Characteristics Identification

| Nominal Orifice Size (in.) | Orifice Type | K Factor <sup>1</sup> | Percent of Nominal 1/2 in. Discharge | Thread Type                | Pintle | Nominal Orifice Size Marked On Frame |
|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| 1/4                        | Small        | 1.3-1.5               | 25                                   | 1/2 in. NPT                | Yes    | Yes                                  |
| 5/16                       | Small        | 1.8-2.0               | 33.3                                 | 1/2 in. NPT                | Yes    | Yes                                  |
| 3/8                        | Small        | 2.6-2.9               | 50                                   | 1/2 in. NPT                | Yes    | Yes                                  |
| 7/16                       | Small        | 4.0-4.4               | 75                                   | 1/2 in. NPT                | Yes    | Yes                                  |
| 1/2                        | Standard     | 5.3-5.8               | 100                                  | 1/2 in. NPT                | No     | No                                   |
| 17/32                      | Large        | 7.4-8.2               | 140                                  | 3/4 in. NPT or 1/2 in. NPT | No     | No                                   |
| 5/8                        | Extra Large  | 11.0-11.5             | 200                                  | 1/2 in. NPT or 3/4 in. NPT | Yes    | Yes                                  |
| 5/8                        | Large-Drop   | 11.0-11.5             | 200                                  | 1/2 in. NPT or 3/4 in. NPT | Yes    | Yes                                  |
| 3/4                        | ESFR         | 13.5-14.5             | 250                                  | 3/4 in. NPT                | Yes    | No                                   |

<sup>1</sup>K factor is the constant in the formula  $Q = K\sqrt{p}$   
Where Q = Flow in gpm  
p = Pressure in psi

For SI Units:  $Q_m = K_m\sqrt{p_m}$   
Where  $Q_m$  = Flow in L/min  
 $p_m$  = Pressure in bars  
 $K_m = 14 K$

*Exception No. 2: Color identification shall not be required for ornamental sprinklers such as factory plated or factory painted sprinklers or for recessed, flush, or concealed sprinklers.*

*Exception No. 3: The frame arms of bulb type sprinklers need not be color coded.*

**2-2.3.2** The liquid in bulb type sprinklers shall be color coded in accordance with Table 2-2.3.1.

#### 2-2.4 Special Coatings.

**2-2.4.1\*** Listed corrosion-resistant sprinklers shall be installed in locations where chemicals, moisture, or other corrosive vapors sufficient to cause corrosion of such devices exist.

**2-2.4.2\*** Corrosion-resistant coatings shall be applied only by the manufacturer of the sprinkler.

*Exception: Any damage to the protective coating occurring at the time of installation shall be repaired at once using only the coating of the manufacturer of the sprinkler in the approved manner so that no part of the sprinkler will be exposed after installation has been completed.*

**2-2.4.3\*** Unless applied by the manufacturer, sprinklers shall not be painted, and any sprinklers that have been

painted shall be replaced with new listed sprinklers of the same characteristics, including orifice size, thermal response, and water distribution.

*Exception: Factory-applied paint or coating to sprinkler frames in accordance with 2-2.3.1 shall be permitted.*

**2-2.4.4** Ornamental finishes shall not be applied to sprinklers by anyone other than the sprinkler manufacturer, and only sprinklers listed with such finishes shall be used.

#### 2-2.5 Escutcheon Plates.

**2-2.5.1** Nonmetallic escutcheon plates shall be listed.

**2-2.5.2\*** Escutcheon plates used with a recessed or flush type sprinkler shall be part of a listed sprinkler assembly.

**2-2.6\* Guards and Shields.** Sprinklers subject to mechanical injury shall be protected with listed guards.

#### 2-2.7 Stock of Spare Sprinklers.

**2-2.7.1** A supply of spare sprinklers (never less than 6) shall be maintained on the premises so that any sprinklers that have operated or been damaged in any way can be

Table 2-2.3.1 Temperature Ratings, Classifications, and Color Codings

| °F  | Max. Ceiling Temp. | Temperature Rating |            | Temperature Classification | Color Code         | Glass Bulb Colors |
|-----|--------------------|--------------------|------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
|     | °C                 | °F                 | °C         |                            |                    |                   |
| 100 | 38                 | 135 to 170         | 57 to 77   | Ordinary                   | Uncolored or Black | Orange or Red     |
| 150 | 66                 | 175 to 225         | 79 to 107  | Intermediate               | White              | Yellow or Green   |
| 225 | 107                | 250 to 300         | 121 to 149 | High                       | Blue               | Blue              |
| 300 | 149                | 325 to 375         | 163 to 191 | Extra High                 | Red                | Purple            |
| 375 | 191                | 400 to 475         | 204 to 246 | Very Extra High            | Green              | Black             |
| 475 | 246                | 500 to 575         | 260 to 302 | Ultra High                 | Orange             | Black             |
| 625 | 329                | 650                | 343        | Ultra High                 | Orange             | Black             |



promptly replaced. These sprinklers shall correspond to the types and temperature ratings of the sprinklers in the property. The sprinklers shall be kept in a cabinet located where the temperature to which they are subjected will at no time exceed 100°F (38°C).

**2-2.7.2** A special sprinkler wrench shall also be provided and kept in the cabinet to be used in the removal and installation of sprinklers.

**2-2.7.3** The stock of spare sprinklers shall include all types and ratings installed and shall be as follows:

- (a) For systems with not over 300 sprinklers, not less than 6 sprinklers.
- (b) For systems with 300 to 1000 sprinklers, not less than 12 sprinklers.
- (c) For systems with over 1000 sprinklers, not less than 24 sprinklers.

### 2-3 Pipe and Tube.

**2-3.1** Pipe or tube used in sprinkler systems shall meet or exceed one of the standards in Table 2-3.1 or be in accordance with 2-3.2 through 2-3.5.

**Table 2-3.1 Pipe or Tube Materials and Dimensions**

| Materials and Dimensions   | Standard          |
|--|-------------------|
| <b>Ferrous Piping (Welded and Seamless)</b>  |                   |
| † Spec. for Black and Hot-Dipped Zinc Coated (Galvanized) Welded and Seamless Steel Pipe for Fire Protection Use ..... | ASTM A795         |
| † Spec. for Welded and Seamless Steel Pipe .....   | ANSI/<br>ASTM A53 |
| Wrought Steel Pipe .....   | ANSI B36.10M      |
| Spec. for Elec.-Resistance Welded Steel Pipe .....   | ASTM A135         |
| <b>Copper Tube (Drawn, Seamless)</b>   |                   |
| † Spec. for Seamless Copper Tube .....   | ASTM B75          |
| † Spec. for Seamless Copper Water Tube .....   | ASTM B88          |
| Spec. for General Requirements for Wrought Seamless Copper and Copper-Alloy Tube .....                                 | ASTM B251         |
| Brazing Filler Metal (Classification BCuP-3 or BCuP-4) .....   | AWS A5.8          |
| Solder Metal, 95-5 (Tin-Antimony-Grade 95TA) .....   | ASTM B32          |

† Denotes pipe or tubing suitable for bending (see 2-3.6) according to ASTM standards.

**2-3.2\*** When steel pipe listed in Table 2-3.1 is used and joined by welding as referenced in 2-5.2 or by roll grooved pipe and fittings as referenced in 2-5.3, the minimum nominal wall thickness for pressures up to 300 psi (20.7 bars) shall be in accordance with Schedule 10 for sizes up to 5 in. (127 mm); 0.134 in. (3.40 mm) for 6 in. (152 mm); and 0.188 in. (4.78 mm) for 8 and 10 in. (203 and 254 mm) pipe.

*Exception: Pressure limitations and wall thickness for steel pipe listed in accordance with 2-3.5 shall be in accordance with the listing requirements.*

**2-3.3** When steel pipe listed in Table 2-3.1 is joined by threaded fittings referenced in 2-5.1 or by fittings used with pipe having cut grooves, the minimum wall thickness shall be in accordance with Schedule 30 [in sizes 8 in. (203 mm) and larger] or Schedule 40 [in sizes less than 8 in. (203 mm)] pipe for pressures up to 300 psi (20.7 bars).

*Exception: Pressure limitations and wall thickness for steel pipe specially listed in accordance with 2-3.5 shall be in accordance with the listing requirements.*

**2-3.4\*** Copper tube as specified in the standards listed in Table 2-3.1 shall have a wall thickness of Type K, L, or M where used in sprinkler systems.

**2-3.5\*** Other types of pipe or tube investigated for suitability in automatic sprinkler installations and listed for this service, including but not limited to polybutylene, chlorinated polyvinyl chloride (CPVC), and steel differing from that provided in Table 2-3.1, shall be permitted when installed in accordance with their listing limitations, including installation instructions. Pipe or tube shall not be listed for portions of an occupancy classification.

**2-3.6 Pipe Bending.** Bending of Schedule 40 steel pipe and Types K and L copper tube shall be permitted when bends are made with no kinks, ripples, distortions, reductions in diameter, or any noticeable deviations from round. The minimum radius of a bend shall be 6 pipe diameters for pipe sizes 2 in. (51 mm) and smaller, and 5 pipe diameters for pipe sizes 2½ in. (64 mm) and larger.

### 2-4 Fittings.

**2-4.1** Fittings used in sprinkler systems shall meet or exceed the standards in Table 2-4.1 or be in accordance with 2-4.2.

**Table 2-4.1 Fittings Materials and Dimensions**

| Materials and Dimensions   | Standard    |
|--|-------------|
| <b>Cast Iron</b>   |             |
| Cast Iron Threaded Fittings, Class 125 and 250 .....   | ANSI B16.4  |
| Cast Iron Pipe Flanges and Flanged Fittings .....  | ANSI B16.1  |
| <b>Malleable Iron</b>  |             |
| Malleable Iron Threaded Fittings, Class 150 and 300 .....  | ANSI B16.3  |
| <b>Steel</b>   |             |
| Factory-made Wrought Steel Buttweld Fittings .....   | ANSI B16.9  |
| Buttwelding Ends for Pipe, Valves, Flanges, and Fittings .....   | ANSI B16.25 |
| Spec. for Piping Fittings of Wrought Carbon Steel and Alloy Steel for Moderate and Elevated Temperatures ..... | ASTM A234   |
| Steel Pipe Flanges and Flanged Fittings .....  | ANSI B16.5  |
| Forged Steel Fittings, Socket Welded and Threaded .....  | ANSI B16.11 |
| <b>Copper</b>  |             |
| Wrought Copper and Bronze Solder-Joint Pressure Fittings .....   | ANSI B16.22 |
| Cast Bronze Solder-Joint Pressure Fittings .....   | ANSI B16.18 |

**2-4.2\*** Other types of fittings investigated for suitability in automatic sprinkler installations and listed for this service, including but not limited to polybutylene, chlorinated polyvinyl chloride (CPVC), and steel differing from that provided in Table 2-4.1, shall be permitted when installed in accordance with their listing limitations, including installation instructions.

**2-4.3** Fittings shall be extra-heavy pattern where pressures exceed 175 psi (12.1 bars).

*Exception No. 1: Standard weight pattern cast-iron fittings 2 in. (51 mm) in size and smaller shall be permitted where pressures do not exceed 300 psi (20.7 bars).*

*Exception No. 2: Standard weight pattern malleable iron fittings 6 in. (152 mm) in size and smaller shall be permitted where pressures do not exceed 300 psi (20.7 bars).*

*Exception No. 3: Fittings shall be permitted for system pressures up to the limits specified in their listings.*

**2-4.4\* Couplings and Unions.** Screwed unions shall not be used on pipe larger than 2 in. (51 mm). Couplings and unions of other than screwed-type shall be of types listed specifically for use in sprinkler systems.

**2-4.5 Reducers and Bushings.** A one-piece reducing fitting shall be used wherever a change is made in the size of the pipe.

*Exception No. 1: Hexagonal or face bushings shall be permitted in reducing the size of openings of fittings when standard fittings of the required size are not available.*

*Exception No. 2: Hexagonal bushings as permitted in 4-4.1.7.21.1 are acceptable.*

## **2-5 Joining of Pipe and Fittings.**

### **2-5.1 Threaded Pipe and Fittings.**

**2-5.1.1** All threaded pipe and fittings shall have threads cut to ANSI/ASME B1.20.1.

**2-5.1.2\*** Steel pipe with wall thicknesses less than Schedule 30 [in sizes 8 in. (203 mm) and larger] or Schedule 40 [in sizes less than 8 in. (203 mm)] shall not be joined by threaded fittings.

*Exception: A threaded assembly investigated for suitability in automatic sprinkler installations and listed for this service shall be permitted.*

**2-5.1.3** Joint compound or tape shall be applied only to male threads.

### **2-5.2\* Welded Pipe and Fittings.**

**2-5.2.1** Welding methods that comply with all of the requirements of AWS D10.9, *Specification for Qualification of Welding Procedures and Welders for Piping and Tubing*, Level AR-3, are acceptable means of joining fire protection piping.

**2-5.2.2\*** Sprinkler piping shall be shop welded.

*Exception: Welding of sprinkler piping in place inside new buildings under construction shall be permitted only when the construction is noncombustible and no combustible contents are present and when the welding process is performed in accordance with NFPA 51B, Standard for Fire Prevention in Use of Cutting and Welding Processes.*

**2-5.2.3** Fittings used to join pipe shall be listed fabricated fittings or manufactured in accordance with Table 2-4.1. Such fittings joined in conformance with a qualified welding procedure as set forth in this section are an acceptable product under this standard, provided that materials and wall thickness are compatible with other sections of this standard.

*Exception: Fittings are not required when pipe ends are butt welded.*

**2-5.2.4** No welding shall be performed if there is impingement of rain, snow, sleet, or high wind on the weld area of the pipe product.

**2-5.2.5** When welding is performed:

(a)\* Holes in piping for outlets shall be cut to the full inside diameter of fittings prior to welding in place of the fittings.

(b) Discs shall be retrieved.

(c) Openings cut into piping shall be smooth bore, and all internal slag and welding residue shall be removed.

(d) Fittings shall not penetrate the internal diameter of the piping.

(e) Steel plates shall not be welded to the ends of piping or fittings.

(f) Fittings shall not be modified.

(g) Nuts, clips, eye rods, angle brackets, or other fasteners shall not be welded to pipe or fittings.

*Exception: Only tabs welded to pipe for longitudinal earthquake braces shall be permitted. (See 4-5.4.3.5.1.)*

**2-5.2.6** When reducing the pipe size in a run of piping, a reducing fitting designed for that purpose shall be used.

**2-5.2.7** Torch cutting and welding shall not be permitted as a means of modifying or repairing sprinkler systems.

### **2-5.2.8 Qualifications.**

**2-5.2.8.1** A welding procedure shall be prepared and qualified by the contractor or fabricator before any welding is done. Qualification of the welding procedure to be used and the performance of all welders and welding operators is required and shall meet or exceed the requirements of American Welding Society Standard AWS D10.9, Level AR-3.

**2-5.2.8.2** Contractors or fabricators shall be responsible for all welding they produce. Each contractor or fabricator shall have an established written quality assurance procedure ensuring compliance with the requirements of 2-5.2.5 available to the authority having jurisdiction.

**2-5.2.9 Records.**

**2-5.2.9.1** Welders or welding machine operators shall, upon completion of each weld, stamp an imprint of their identification into the side of the pipe adjacent to the weld.

**2-5.2.9.2** Contractors or fabricators shall maintain certified records, which are available to the authority having jurisdiction, of the procedures used and the welders or welding machine operators employed by them along with their welding identification imprints. Records shall show the date and the results of procedure and performance qualifications.

**2-5.3 Groove Joining Methods.**

**2-5.3.1** Pipe joined with grooved fittings shall be joined by a listed combination of fittings, gaskets, and grooves. Grooves cut or rolled on pipe shall be dimensionally compatible with the fittings.

**2-5.3.2** Grooved fittings including gaskets used on dry pipe systems shall be listed for dry pipe service.

**2-5.4\* Brazed and Soldered Joints.** Joints for the connection of copper tube shall be brazed.

*Exception No. 1: Solder joints shall be permitted for exposed wet pipe systems in Light Hazard Occupancies where the temperature classification of the installed sprinklers is ordinary or intermediate.*

*Exception No. 2: Solder joints shall be permitted for wet pipe systems in Light Hazard and Ordinary Hazard (Group 1) Occupancies where the piping is concealed, irrespective of sprinkler temperature ratings.*

**2-5.4.1\*** Highly corrosive fluxes shall not be used.

**2-5.5 Other Types.** Other joining methods investigated for suitability in automatic sprinkler installations and listed for this service shall be permitted when installed in accordance with their listing limitations, including installation instructions.

**2-5.6 End Treatment.** After cutting, pipe ends shall have burrs and fins removed.

**2-5.6.1** Pipe used with listed fittings and its end treatment shall be in accordance with the fitting manufacturer's installation instructions and the fitting's listing.

**2-6 Hangers.**

**2-6.1\* General.** Types of hangers shall be in accordance with the requirements of Section 2-6.

*Exception: Hangers certified by a registered professional engineer to include all of the following shall be acceptable:*

(a) Hangers are designed to support five times the weight of the water-filled pipe plus 250 lb (114 kg) at each point of piping support.

(b) These points of support are adequate to support the sprinkler system.

(c) Hanger components shall be ferrous.

*Detailed calculations shall be submitted, when required by the reviewing authority, showing stresses developed both in hangers and piping and safety factors allowed.*

**2-6.1.1** The components of hanger assemblies that directly attach to the pipe or to the building structure shall be listed.

*Exception: Mild steel hangers formed from rods need not be listed.*

**2-6.1.2** Hangers and their components shall be ferrous.

*Exception: Nonferrous components that have been proven by fire tests to be adequate for the hazard application, that are listed for this purpose, and that are in compliance with the other requirements of this section shall be acceptable.*

**2-6.1.3** Sprinkler piping shall be substantially supported from the building structure, which must support the added load of the water-filled pipe plus a minimum of 250 lb (114 kg) applied at the point of hanging.

**2-6.1.4** When sprinkler piping is installed below ductwork, piping shall be supported from the building structure or from the ductwork supports, provided such supports are capable of handling both the load of the ductwork and the load specified in 2-6.1.3.

**2-6.1.5\*** For trapeze hangers, the minimum size of steel angle or pipe span between purlins or joists shall be such that the available section modulus of the trapeze member from Table 2-6.1.5(b) equals or exceeds the section modulus required in Table 2-6.1.5(a). (See following pages.)

Any other sizes or shapes giving equal or greater section modulus shall be acceptable. All angles shall be used with the longer leg vertical. The trapeze member shall be secured to prevent slippage. When a pipe is suspended from a pipe trapeze of a diameter less than the diameter of the pipe being supported, ring, strap, or clevis hangers of the size corresponding to the suspended pipe shall be used on both ends.

**2-6.1.6** The size of hanger rods and fasteners required to support the steel angle iron or pipe indicated in Table 2-6.1.5(a) shall comply with 2-6.4.

**2-6.1.7\*** Sprinkler piping or hangers shall not be used to support nonsystem components.

**2-6.2 Hangers in Concrete.**

**2-6.2.1** The use of listed inserts set in concrete to support hangers shall be permitted.

**2-6.2.2** Listed expansion shields for supporting pipes under concrete construction shall be permitted to be used in a horizontal position in the sides of beams. In concrete

Table 2-6.1.5(a) Section Modulus Required for Trapeze Members (in.<sup>3</sup>)

| Span of Trapeze | 1 in. | 1¼ in. | 1½ in. | 2 in. | 2½ in. | 3 in. | 3½ in. | 4 in. | 5 in. | 6 in. | 8 in. | 10 in. |
|-----------------|-------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1 ft 6 in.      | .08   | .09    | .09    | .09   | .10    | .11   | .12    | .13   | .15   | .18   | .24   | .32    |
|                 | .08   | .09    | .09    | .10   | .11    | .12   | .13    | .15   | .18   | .22   | .30   | .41    |
| 2 ft 0 in.      | .11   | .12    | .12    | .13   | .13    | .15   | .16    | .17   | .20   | .24   | .32   | .43    |
|                 | .11   | .12    | .12    | .13   | .15    | .16   | .18    | .20   | .24   | .29   | .40   | .55    |
| 2 ft 6 in.      | .14   | .14    | .15    | .16   | .17    | .18   | .20    | .21   | .25   | .30   | .40   | .54    |
|                 | .14   | .15    | .15    | .16   | .18    | .21   | .22    | .25   | .30   | .36   | .50   | .68    |
| 3 ft 0 in.      | .17   | .17    | .18    | .19   | .20    | .22   | .24    | .26   | .31   | .36   | .48   | .65    |
|                 | .17   | .18    | .18    | .20   | .22    | .25   | .27    | .30   | .36   | .43   | .60   | .82    |
| 4 ft 0 in.      | .22   | .23    | .24    | .25   | .27    | .29   | .32    | .34   | .41   | .48   | .64   | .87    |
|                 | .22   | .24    | .24    | .26   | .29    | .33   | .36    | .40   | .48   | .58   | .80   | 1.09   |
| 5 ft 0 in.      | .28   | .29    | .30    | .31   | .34    | .37   | .40    | .43   | .51   | .59   | .80   | 1.08   |
|                 | .28   | .29    | .30    | .33   | .37    | .41   | .45    | .49   | .60   | .72   | 1.00  | 1.37   |
| 6 ft 0 in.      | .33   | .35    | .36    | .38   | .41    | .44   | .48    | .51   | .61   | .71   | .97   | 1.30   |
|                 | .34   | .35    | .36    | .39   | .44    | .49   | .54    | .59   | .72   | .87   | 1.20  | 1.64   |
| 7 ft 0 in.      | .39   | .40    | .41    | .44   | .47    | .52   | .55    | .60   | .71   | .83   | 1.13  | 1.52   |
|                 | .39   | .41    | .43    | .46   | .51    | .58   | .63    | .69   | .84   | 1.01  | 1.41  | 1.92   |
| 8 ft 0 in.      | .44   | .46    | .47    | .50   | .54    | .59   | .63    | .68   | .81   | .95   | 1.29  | 1.73   |
|                 | .45   | .47    | .49    | .52   | .59    | .66   | .72    | .79   | .96   | 1.16  | 1.61  | 2.19   |
| 9 ft 0 in.      | .50   | .52    | .53    | .56   | .61    | .66   | .71    | .77   | .92   | 1.07  | 1.45  | 1.95   |
|                 | .50   | .53    | .55    | .59   | .66    | .74   | .81    | .89   | 1.08  | 1.30  | 1.81  | 2.46   |
| 10 ft 0 in.     | .56   | .58    | .59    | .63   | .68    | .74   | .79    | .85   | 1.02  | 1.19  | 1.61  | 2.17   |
|                 | .56   | .59    | .61    | .65   | .74    | .82   | .90    | .99   | 1.20  | 1.44  | 2.01  | 2.74   |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Top values are for Schedule 10 pipe; bottom values are for Schedule 40 pipe.

Note: The table is based on a maximum allowable bending stress of 15 KSI and a midspan concentrated load from 15 ft of water-filled pipe, plus 250 lb.

having gravel or crushed stone aggregate, expansion shields shall be permitted to be used in the vertical position to support pipes 4 in. (102 mm) or less in diameter.

**2-6.2.3** For the support of pipes 5 in. (127 mm) and larger, expansion shields, if used in the vertical position, shall alternate with hangers connected directly to the structural members, such as trusses and girders, or to the sides of concrete beams. In the absence of convenient structural members, pipes 5 in. (127 mm) and larger shall be permitted to be supported entirely by expansion shields in the vertical position, but spaced not over 10 ft (3 m) apart.

**2-6.2.4** Expansion shields shall not be used in ceilings of gypsum or similar soft material. In cinder concrete, expansion shields shall not be used except on branch lines where they shall alternate with through bolts or hangers attached to beams.

**2-6.2.5** When expansion shields are used in the vertical position, the holes shall be drilled to provide uniform contact with the shield over its entire circumference. Depth of the hole shall not be less than specified for the type of shield used.

**2-6.2.6** Holes for expansion shields in the side of concrete beams shall be above the center line of the beam or above the bottom reinforcement steel rods.

## 2-6.3 Powder-Driven Studs and Welding Studs.

**2-6.3.1\*** Powder-driven studs, welding studs, and the tools used for installing these devices shall be listed. Pipe size, installation position, and construction material into which they are installed shall be in accordance with individual listings.

**2-6.3.2\*** Representative samples of concrete into which studs are to be driven shall be tested to determine that the studs will hold a minimum load of 750 lb (341 kg) for 2-in. (51-mm) or smaller pipe, 1000 lb (454 kg) for 2½-, 3-, or 3½-in. (64-, 76-, or 89-mm) pipe, and 1200 lb (545 kg) for 4- or 5-in. (102- or 127-mm) pipe.

**2-6.3.3** Increaser couplings shall be attached directly to the powder-driven studs or welding studs.

**2-6.3.4** Welding studs or other hanger parts shall not be attached by welding to steel less than U.S. Standard, 12 gauge.

## 2-6.4 Rods and "U" Hooks.

**2-6.4.1** Hanger rod size shall be the same as that approved for use with the hanger assembly, and the size of rods shall not be less than that given in Table 2-6.4.1.

*Exception: Rods of smaller diameter shall be permitted when the hanger assembly has been tested and listed by a testing laboratory and installed within the limits of pipe sizes expressed in individual listings. For rolled threads, the rod size shall not be less than the root diameter of the thread.*

**2-6.4.2 U-Hooks.** The size of the rod material of U-hooks shall not be less than that given in Table 2-6.4.2. Drive screws shall be used only in a horizontal position as in the side of a beam in conjunction with U-hangers only.

**2-6.4.3** The size of the rod material for eye rods shall not be less than specified in Table 2-6.4.3. When eye rods are fastened to wood structural members, the eye rod shall be backed with a large flat washer bearing directly against the structural member, in addition to the lock washer.

**Table 2-6.1.5(b) Available Section Moduli of Common Trapeze Hangers**

| Pipe               | Modulus | Angles |   |    |   | Modulus |      |
|--------------------|---------|--------|---|----|---|---------|------|
| <b>Schedule 10</b> |         |        |   |    |   |         |      |
| 1 in.              | .12     | 1½     | × | 1½ | × | ⅜       | .10  |
| 1¼ in.             | .19     | 2      | × | 2  | × | ⅛       | .13  |
| 1½ in.             | .26     | 2      | × | 1½ | × | ⅜       | .18  |
| 2 in.              | .42     | 2      | × | 2  | × | ⅜       | .19  |
| 2½ in.             | .69     | 2      | × | 2  | × | ¼       | .25  |
| 3 in.              | 1.04    | 2½     | × | 1½ | × | ⅜       | .28  |
| 3½ in.             | 1.38    | 2½     | × | 2  | × | ⅜       | .29  |
| 4 in.              | 1.76    | 2      | × | 2  | × | ⅝       | .30  |
| 5 in.              | 3.03    | 2½     | × | 2½ | × | ⅜       | .30  |
| 6 in.              | 4.35    | 2      | × | 2  | × | ⅜       | .35  |
|                    |         | 2½     | × | 2½ | × | ¼       | .39  |
|                    |         | 3      | × | 2  | × | ⅜       | .41  |
|                    |         | 3      | × | 2½ | × | ⅜       | .43  |
|                    |         | 3      | × | 3  | × | ⅜       | .44  |
|                    |         | 2½     | × | 2½ | × | ⅝       | .48  |
|                    |         | 3      | × | 2  | × | ¼       | .54  |
|                    |         | 2½     | × | 2  | × | ⅜       | .55  |
|                    |         | 2½     | × | 2½ | × | ⅜       | .57  |
|                    |         | 3      | × | 3  | × | ¼       | .58  |
|                    |         | 3      | × | 3  | × | ⅝       | .71  |
|                    |         | 2½     | × | 2½ | × | ½       | .72  |
|                    |         | 3½     | × | 2½ | × | ¼       | .75  |
|                    |         | 3      | × | 2½ | × | ⅜       | .81  |
|                    |         | 3      | × | 3  | × | ⅜       | .83  |
|                    |         | 3½     | × | 2½ | × | ⅝       | .93  |
|                    |         | 3      | × | 3  | × | 7/16    | .95  |
|                    |         | 4      | × | 4  | × | ¼       | 1.05 |
|                    |         | 3      | × | 3  | × | ½       | 1.07 |
|                    |         | 4      | × | 3  | × | ⅝       | 1.23 |
|                    |         | 4      | × | 4  | × | ⅝       | 1.29 |
|                    |         | 4      | × | 3  | × | ⅜       | 1.46 |
|                    |         | 4      | × | 4  | × | ⅜       | 1.52 |
|                    |         | 5      | × | 3½ | × | ⅝       | 1.94 |
|                    |         | 4      | × | 4  | × | ½       | 1.97 |
|                    |         | 4      | × | 4  | × | ⅝       | 2.40 |
|                    |         | 4      | × | 4  | × | ¾       | 2.81 |
|                    |         | 6      | × | 4  | × | ⅜       | 3.32 |
|                    |         | 6      | × | 4  | × | ½       | 4.33 |
|                    |         | 6      | × | 4  | × | ¾       | 6.25 |
|                    |         | 6      | × | 6  | × | 1       | 8.57 |
| <b>Schedule 40</b> |         |        |   |    |   |         |      |
| 1 in.              | .13     |        |   |    |   |         |      |
| 1¼ in.             | .23     |        |   |    |   |         |      |
| 1½ in.             | .33     |        |   |    |   |         |      |
| 2 in.              | .56     |        |   |    |   |         |      |
| 2½ in.             | 1.06    |        |   |    |   |         |      |
| 3 in.              | 1.72    |        |   |    |   |         |      |
| 3½ in.             | 2.39    |        |   |    |   |         |      |
| 4 in.              | 3.21    |        |   |    |   |         |      |
| 5 in.              | 5.45    |        |   |    |   |         |      |
| 6 in.              | 8.50    |        |   |    |   |         |      |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**2-6.4.3.1** Eye rods shall be secured with lock washers to prevent lateral motion.**2-6.4.4** Threaded sections of rods shall not be formed or bent.**2-6.4.5 Screws.** For ceiling flanges and U-hooks, screw dimensions shall not be less than those given in Table 2-6.4.5.

*Exception: When the thickness of planking and thickness of flange do not permit the use of screws 2 in. (51 mm) long, screws 1¾ in. (44 mm) long shall be permitted with hangers spaced not over 10 ft (3 m) apart. When the thickness of beams or joists does not permit the use of screws 2½ in. (64 mm) long, screws 2 in. (51 mm) long shall be permitted with hangers spaced not over 10 ft (3 m) apart.*

**Table 2-6.4.1 Hanger Rod Sizes**

| Pipe Size                 | Diam. of Rod |     | Pipe Size       | Diam. of Rod |      |
|---------------------------|--------------|-----|-----------------|--------------|------|
|                           | in.          | mm  |                 | in.          | mm   |
| Up to and including 4 in. | ⅜            | 9.5 | 5, 6, and 8 in. | ½            | 12.7 |
|                           |              |     | 10 and 12 in.   | ⅝            | 15.9 |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**Table 2-6.4.2 U-Hook Rod Sizes**

| Pipe Size       | Hook Material Diameter |      |
|-----------------|------------------------|------|
|                 | in.                    | mm   |
| Up to 2 in.     | ⅝                      | 7.9  |
| 2½ in. to 6 in. | ⅜                      | 9.5  |
| 8 in.           | ½                      | 12.7 |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**Table 2-6.4.3 Eye Rod Sizes**

| Pipe Size   | Diameter of Rod |                 |     |      |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----|------|
|             | With Bent Eye   | With Welded Eye |     |      |
|             | in.             | mm              | in. | mm   |
| Up to 4 in. | ⅜               | 9.5             | ⅜   | 9.5  |
| 5-6 in.     | ½               | 12.7            | ½   | 12.7 |
| 8 in.       | ¾               | 19.1            | ½   | 12.7 |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**Table 2-6.4.5 Screw Dimensions for Ceiling Flanges and U-Hooks**

| Pipe Size             | 2 Screw Flanges            |  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Up to 2 in.           | Wood Screw No. 18 × 1½ in. |  |
| Pipe Size             | 3 Screw Flanges            |  |
| Up to 2 in.           | Wood Screw No. 18 × 1½ in. |  |
| 2½ in., 3 in., 3½ in. | Lag Screw ⅜ in. × 2 in.    |  |
| 4 in., 5 in., 6 in.   | Lag Screw ½ in. × 2 in.    |  |
| 8 in.                 | Lag Screw ⅝ in. × 2 in.    |  |
| Pipe Size             | 4 Screw Flanges            |  |
| Up to 2 in.           | Wood Screw No. 18 × 1½ in. |  |
| 2½ in., 3 in., 3½ in. | Lag Screw ⅜ in. × 1½ in.   |  |
| 4 in., 5 in., 6 in.   | Lag Screw ½ in. × 2 in.    |  |
| 8 in.                 | Lag Screw ⅝ in. × 2 in.    |  |
| Pipe Size             | U-Hooks                    |  |
| Up to 2 in.           | Drive Screw No. 16 × 2 in. |  |
| 2½ in., 3 in., 3½ in. | Lag Screw ⅜ in. × 2½ in.   |  |
| 4 in., 5 in., 6 in.   | Lag Screw ½ in. × 3 in.    |  |
| 8 in.                 | Lag Screw ⅝ in. × 3 in.    |  |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**2-6.4.6** The size bolt or lag (coach) screw used with an eye rod or flange on the side of the beam shall not be less than specified in Table 2-6.4.6.

*Exception:* When the thickness of beams or joists does not permit the use of screws 2½ in. (64 mm) long, screws 2 in. (51 mm) long shall be permitted with hangers spaced not over 10 ft (3 m) apart.

**Table 2-6.4.6 Minimum Bolt or Lag Screw Sizes**

| Size of Pipe              | Size of Bolt or Lag Screw |      | Length of Lag Screw Used with Wood Beams |    |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|------|--|----|
|                           | in.                       | mm   | in.                                      | mm |
| Up to and including 2 in. | ¾                         | 9.5  | 2½                                       | 64 |
| 2½ to 6 in. (inclusive)   | ½                         | 12.7 | 3  | 76 |
| 8 in.                     | ⅝                         | 15.9 | 3  | 76 |

**2-6.4.7** Wood screws shall be installed with a screwdriver. Nails are not acceptable for fastening hangers.

**2-6.4.8** Screws in the side of a timber or joist shall be not less than 2½ in. (64 mm) from the lower edge when supporting branch lines and not less than 3 in. (76 mm) when supporting main lines.

*Exception:* This requirement shall not apply to 2 in. (51 mm) or thicker nailing strips resting on top of steel beams.

**2-6.4.9** The minimum plank thickness and the minimum width of the lower face of beams or joists in which lag screw rods are used shall be as given in Table 2-6.4.9.

**Table 2-6.4.9 Minimum Plank Thicknesses and Beam or Joist Widths**

| Pipe Size        | Nominal Plank Thickness |     | Nominal Width of Beam or Joist Face |     |
|------------------|-------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|-----|
|                  | in.                     | mm  | in.                                 | mm  |
| Up to 2 in.      | 3                       | 76  | 2                                   | 51  |
| 2½ in. to 3½ in. | 4                       | 102 | 2                                   | 51  |
| 4 in. and 5 in.  | 4                       | 102 | 3                                   | 76  |
| 6 in.            | 4                       | 102 | 4                                   | 102 |

**2-6.4.10** Lag screw rods shall not be used for support of pipes larger than 6 in. (152 mm). All holes for lag screw rods shall be predrilled ⅛ in. (3.2 mm) less in diameter than the maximum root diameter of the lag screw thread.

## **2-7 Valves.**

### **2-7.1 Types of Valves to Be Used.**

**2-7.1.1** All valves controlling connections to water supplies and to supply pipes to sprinklers shall be listed indicating valves. Such valves shall not close in less than 5 seconds when operated at maximum possible speed from the fully open position.

*Exception No. 1:* A listed underground gate valve equipped with a listed indicator post shall be permitted.

*Exception No. 2:* A listed water control valve assembly with a reliable position indication connected to a remote supervisory station shall be permitted.

*Exception No. 3:* A nonindicating valve, such as an underground gate valve with approved roadway box complete with T-wrench, accepted by the authority having jurisdiction, shall be permitted.

**2-7.1.2** When water pressures exceed 175 psi (12.1 bars), valves shall be used in accordance with their pressure ratings.

**2-7.1.3** Wafer type valves with components that extend beyond the valve body shall be installed in a manner that does not interfere with the operation of any system components.

**2-7.2 Drain Valves and Test Valves.** Drain valves and test valves shall be approved.

**2-7.3 Identification of Valves.** All control, drain, and test connection valves shall be provided with permanently marked weather-proof metal or rigid plastic identification signs. The sign shall be secured with corrosion-resistant wire, chain, or other approved means.

## **2-8 Fire Department Connections.**

**2-8.1** The fire department connection(s) shall be internal threaded swivel fitting(s) having threads compatible with those of the local fire department.

**2-8.2** Connections shall be equipped with listed plugs or caps.

## **2-9 Waterflow Alarms.**

**2-9.1** Waterflow alarm apparatus shall be listed for the service and so constructed and installed that any flow of water from a sprinkler system equal to or greater than that from a single automatic sprinkler of the smallest orifice size installed on the system will result in an audible alarm on the premises within 5 minutes after such flow begins.

### **2-9.2 Waterflow Detecting Devices.**

**2-9.2.1 Wet Pipe Systems.** The alarm apparatus for a wet pipe system shall consist of a listed alarm check valve or other listed waterflow detecting alarm device with the necessary attachments required to give an alarm.

**2-9.2.2 Dry Pipe Systems.** The alarm apparatus for a dry pipe system shall consist of listed alarm attachments to the dry pipe valve. When a dry pipe valve is located on the system side of an alarm valve, connection of the actuating device of the alarms for the dry pipe valve to the alarms on the wet pipe system is permitted.

**2-9.2.3 Preaction and Deluge Systems.** The alarm apparatus for deluge and preaction systems shall consist of alarms actuated independently by the detection system and the flow of water.

**2-9.2.4\*** Paddle-type waterflow alarm indicators shall be installed in wet systems only.

### 2-9.3 Attachments — General.

**2-9.3.1\*** An alarm unit shall include a listed mechanical alarm, horn, or siren or a listed electric gong, bell, speaker, horn, or siren.

**2-9.3.2\*** Outdoor water motor operated or electrically operated bells shall be weatherproofed and guarded.

**2-9.4** All piping to water motor operated devices shall be galvanized or brass or other corrosion-resistant material acceptable under this standard and of a size not less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. (19 mm).

### 2-9.5 Attachments — Electrically Operated.

**2-9.5.1\*** Electrically operated alarm attachments forming part of an auxiliary, central station, local protective, proprietary, or remote station signaling system shall be installed in accordance with the following applicable NFPA standards:

(a) NFPA 71, *Standard for the Installation, Maintenance, and Use of Signaling Systems for Central Station Service*,

(b) NFPA 72, *Standard for the Installation, Maintenance, and Use of Protective Signaling Systems*.

*Exception:* Sprinkler waterflow alarm systems that are not part of a required protective signaling system need not be supervised and shall be installed in accordance with NFPA 70, *National Electrical Code*,® Article 760.

**2-9.5.2** Outdoor electric alarm devices shall be listed for outdoor use.

**2-9.6** Drains from alarm devices shall be so arranged that there will be no overflowing at the alarm apparatus, at domestic connections, or elsewhere with the sprinkler drains wide open and under system pressure. (See 4-5.3.6.1.)

## Chapter 3 System Requirements

### 3-1 Wet Pipe Systems.

**3-1.1 Pressure Gauges.** A listed pressure gauge conforming to 4-6.3.2 shall be installed in each system riser. Pressure gauges shall be installed above and below each alarm check valve when such devices are present.

**3-1.2 Relief Valves.** A gridded wet pipe system shall be provided with a relief valve not less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. (6.4 mm) in size set to operate at pressures not greater than 175 psi (12.1 bars).

*Exception No. 1:* When the maximum system pressure exceeds 165 psi (11.4 bars), the relief valve shall operate at 10 psi (0.7 bars) in excess of the maximum system pressure.

*Exception No. 2:* When auxiliary air reservoirs are installed to absorb pressure increases, a relief valve shall not be required.

**3-1.3 Auxiliary Systems.** A wet pipe system shall be permitted to supply an auxiliary dry pipe, preaction, or deluge system, provided the water supply is adequate.

### 3-2\* Dry Pipe Systems.

**3-2.1 Pressure Gauges.** Listed pressure gauges conforming to 4-6.3.2 shall be connected:

- (a) On the water side and air side of the dry pipe valve,
- (b) At the air pump supplying the air receiver where one is provided,
- (c) At the air receiver where one is provided,
- (d) In each independent pipe from air supply to dry pipe system, and
- (e) At exhausters and accelerators.

**3-2.2 Dry-Pendent Sprinklers.** Automatic sprinklers installed in the pendent position shall be of the listed dry-pendent type.

*Exception:* Pendent sprinklers installed on return bends are permitted when both the sprinklers and the return bends are located in a heated area.

### 3-2.3\* Size of Systems.

**3-2.3.1 Volume Limitations.** Not more than 750 gal (2839 L) system capacity shall be controlled by one dry pipe valve.

*Exception:* Piping volume may exceed 750 gal (2839 L) for nongridded systems if the system design is such that water is delivered to the system test connection in not more than 60 seconds, starting at the normal air pressure on the system and at the time of fully opened inspection test connection.

**3-2.3.2** Gridded dry pipe systems shall not be installed. (See 4-5.3.5.3.3.)

### 3-2.4 Quick-Opening Devices.

**3-2.4.1** Dry pipe valves shall be provided with a listed quick-opening device when system capacity exceeds 500 gal (1893 L).

*Exception:* A quick-opening device shall not be required if the requirements of 3-2.3.1 Exception can be met without such a device.

**3-2.4.2** The quick-opening device shall be located as close as practical to the dry pipe valve. To protect the restriction orifice and other operating parts of the quick-opening device against submergence, the connection to the riser shall be above the point at which water (priming water and back drainage) is expected when the dry pipe valve and quick-opening device are set, except where design features of the particular quick-opening device make these requirements unnecessary.

**3-2.4.3** A soft disc globe or angle valve shall be installed in the connection between the dry pipe sprinkler riser and the quick-opening device.

**3-2.4.4** A check valve shall be installed between the quick-opening device and the intermediate chamber of the dry pipe valve. If the quick-opening device requires pressure feedback from the intermediate chamber, a valve type that will clearly indicate whether it is opened or closed shall be permitted in place of that check valve. This valve shall be constructed so that it may be locked or sealed in the open position.

**3-2.4.5** A listed antiflooding device shall be installed in the connection between the dry pipe sprinkler riser and the quick-opening device.

*Exception: Where the quick-opening device has built-in anti-flooding design features.*

### **3-2.5\* Location and Protection of Dry Pipe Valve.**

**3-2.5.1** The dry pipe valve and supply pipe shall be protected against freezing and mechanical injury.

**3-2.5.2** Valve rooms shall be lighted and heated. The source of heat shall be of a permanently installed type. Heat tape shall not be used in lieu of heated valve enclosures to protect the dry pipe valve and supply pipe against freezing.

**3-2.5.3** The supply for the sprinkler in the dry pipe valve enclosure shall be from the dry side of the system.

**3-2.5.4** Protection against accumulation of water above the clapper shall be provided for a low differential dry pipe valve. An automatic high water level signaling device or an automatic drain device is acceptable.

### **3-2.6 Air Pressure and Supply.**

**3-2.6.1 Maintenance of Air Pressure.** Air or nitrogen pressure shall be maintained on dry pipe systems throughout the year.

**3-2.6.2\* Air Supply.** The compressed air supply shall be from a source available at all times and having a capacity capable of restoring normal air pressure in the system within 30 minutes.

**3-2.6.3 Air Filling Connection.** The connection pipe from the air compressor shall not be less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (13 mm) in diameter and shall enter the system above the priming water level of the dry pipe valve. A check valve shall be installed in this air line, and a shutoff valve of the renewable disc type shall be installed on the supply side of this check valve and shall remain closed unless filling the system.

**3-2.6.4 Relief Valve.** A listed relief valve shall be provided between the compressor and controlling valve, set to relieve at a pressure 5 psi (0.3 bars) in excess of maximum air pressure carried in the system.

**3-2.6.5 Shop Air Supply.** When the air supply is taken from a shop system having a normal pressure greater than that required for dry pipe systems and an automatic air maintenance device is not used, the relief valve shall be installed between two control valves in the air line, and a small air cock, which is normally left open, shall be installed in the fitting below the relief valve. (See Figure 3-2.6.5.)

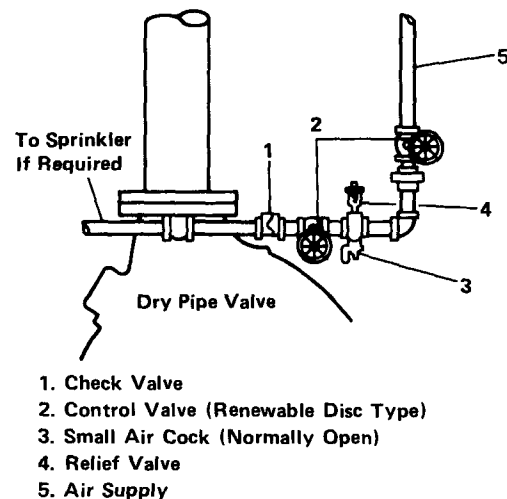


Figure 3-2.6.5 Air supply from shop system.

**3-2.6.6 Automatic Air Compressor.** When a dry pipe system is supplied by an automatic air compressor or plant air system, any device or apparatus used for automatic maintenance of air pressure shall be of a type specifically listed for such service and capable of maintaining the required air pressure on the dry pipe system. Automatic air supply to more than one dry pipe system shall be connected to enable individual maintenance of air pressure in each system. A check valve or other positive backflow prevention device shall be installed in the air supply to each system to prevent air- or waterflow from one system to another.

**3-2.6.7 System Air Pressure.** The system air pressure shall be maintained in accordance with the instruction sheet furnished with the dry pipe valve, or 20 psi (1.4 bars) in excess of the calculated trip pressure of the dry pipe valve, based on the highest normal water pressure of the system supply. The permitted rate of air leakage shall be as specified in 8-2.3.

**3-2.6.8 Nitrogen.** When used, nitrogen shall be introduced through a pressure regulator set to maintain system pressure in accordance with 3-2.6.7.

### **3-3 Preaction Systems and Deluge Systems.**

#### **3-3.1\* General.**

**3-3.1.1** All components of pneumatic, hydraulic, or electrical systems shall be compatible.



**3-3.1.2** The automatic water control valve shall be provided with manual means for operation that is independent of detection devices and of the sprinklers.

**3-3.1.3 Pressure Gauges.** Listed pressure gauges conforming to 4-6.3.2 shall be installed as follows:

(a) Above and below preaction valve and below deluge valve.

(b) On air supply to preaction and deluge valves.

**3-3.1.4** A supply of spare fusible elements for heat-responsive devices, not less than two of each temperature rating, shall be maintained on the premises for replacement purposes.

**3-3.1.5** Hydraulic release systems shall be designed and installed in accordance with manufacturer's requirements and listing for height limitations above deluge valves or deluge valve actuators to prevent water column.

**3-3.1.6 Location and Spacing of Detection Devices.** Spacing of detection devices, including automatic sprinklers used as detectors, shall be in accordance with their listing and manufacturer's specifications.

**3-3.1.7 Devices for Test Purposes and Testing Apparatus.**

**3-3.1.7.1** When detection devices installed in circuits are located where not readily accessible, an additional detection device shall be provided on each circuit for test purposes at an accessible location and shall be connected to the circuit at a point that will assure a proper test of the circuit.

**3-3.1.7.2** Testing apparatus capable of producing the heat or impulse necessary to operate any normal detection device shall be furnished to the owner of the property with each installation. Where explosive vapors or materials are present, hot water, steam, or other methods of testing not involving an ignition source shall be used.

**3-3.1.8 Location and Protection of System Water Control Valves.**

**3-3.1.8.1** System water control valves and supply pipes shall be protected against freezing and mechanical injury.

**3-3.1.8.2** Valve rooms shall be lighted and heated. The source of heat shall be of a permanently installed type. Heat tape shall not be used in lieu of heated valve enclosure rooms to protect preaction and deluge valves and supply pipe against freezing.

**3-3.2 Praction Systems.**

**3-3.2.1** Praction systems shall operate by one of the means described in (a) through (c) below.

(a) Systems that admit water to sprinkler piping upon operation of detection devices.

(b) Systems that admit water to sprinkler piping upon operation of detection devices or automatic sprinklers.

(c)\* Systems that admit water to sprinkler piping upon operation of both detection devices and automatic sprinklers.

**3-3.2.2 Size of Systems.** Not more than 1000 automatic sprinklers shall be controlled by any one preaction valve.

*Exception: For preaction system types described in 3-3.2.1(c), system volume shall not exceed 750 gal (2839 L) controlled by one preaction valve unless the system is designed to deliver water to the system test connection in not more than 60 seconds, starting at the normal air pressure on the system with the detection system operated and at the time of fully opened inspection test connection. Air pressure and supply shall comply with 3-2.6.*

**3-3.2.3 Supervision.** Sprinkler piping and fire detection devices shall be automatically supervised when there are more than 20 sprinklers on the system.

**3-3.2.4 Pendent Sprinklers.** Automatic sprinklers on preaction systems installed in the pendent position shall be of the listed dry-pendent type.

*Exception: Pendent sprinklers installed on return bends are permitted when both the sprinklers and the return bends are located in a heated area.*

**3-3.3\* Deluge Systems.**

**3-3.3.1** The detection devices or systems shall be automatically supervised.

**3-3.3.2** Deluge systems shall be hydraulically calculated.

**3-4 Combined Dry Pipe and Praction Systems.**

**3-4.1\* General.**

**3-4.1.1\*** Combined automatic dry pipe and preaction systems shall be so constructed that failure of the detection system shall not prevent the system from functioning as a conventional automatic dry pipe system.

**3-4.1.2** Combined automatic dry pipe and preaction systems shall be so constructed that failure of the dry pipe system of automatic sprinklers shall not prevent the detection system from properly functioning as an automatic fire alarm system.

**3-4.1.3** Provisions shall be made for the manual operation of the detection system at locations requiring not more than 200 ft (61 m) of travel.

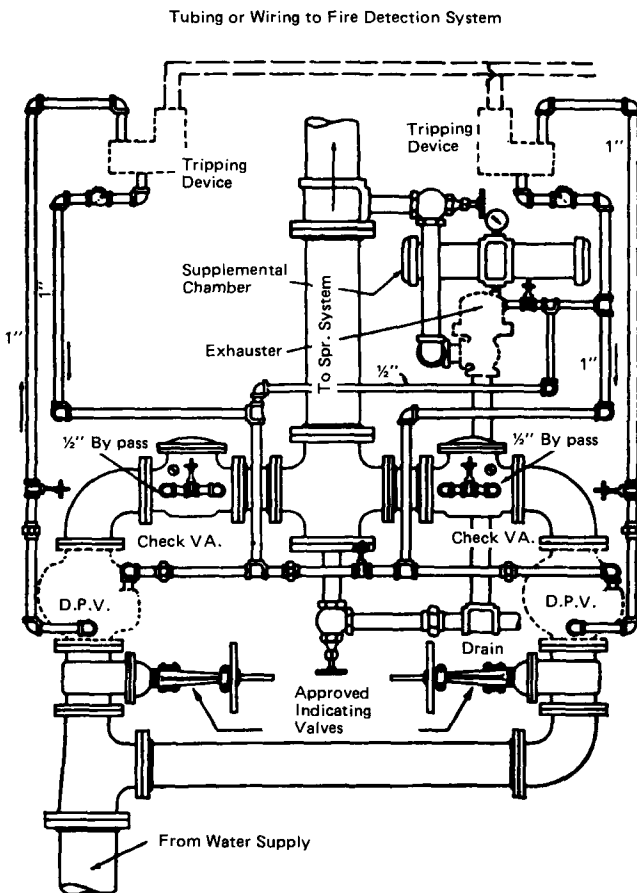
**3-4.1.4 Dry-Pendent Sprinklers.** Automatic sprinklers installed in the pendent position shall be of the listed dry-pendent type.

*Exception: Pendent sprinklers installed on return bends are permitted when both the sprinklers and the return bends are located in a heated area.*

**3-4.2 Dry Pipe Valves in Combined Systems.**

**3-4.2.1** Where the system consists of more than 600 sprinklers or has more than 275 sprinklers in any fire area,

the entire system shall be controlled through two 6-in. (152-mm) dry pipe valves connected in parallel and shall feed into a common feed main. These valves shall be checked against each other. (See Figure 3-4.2.)



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**Figure 3-4.2** Header for dry pipe valves installed in parallel for combined systems, standard trimmings not shown.

**3-4.2.2** Each dry pipe valve shall be provided with a listed tripping device actuated by the detection system. Dry pipe valves shall be cross-connected through a 1-in. (25.4-mm) pipe connection to permit simultaneous tripping of both dry pipe valves. This 1-in. (25.4-mm) pipe connection shall be equipped with an indicating valve so that either dry pipe valve can be shut off and worked on while the other remains in service.

**3-4.2.3** The check valves between the dry pipe valves and the common feed main shall be equipped with 1/2-in. (13-mm) bypasses so that a loss of air from leakage in the trimmings of a dry pipe valve will not cause the valve to trip until the pressure in the feed main is reduced to the

tripping point. An indicating valve shall be installed in each of these bypasses so that either dry pipe valve can be completely isolated from the main riser or feed main and from the other dry pipe valve.

**3-4.2.4** Each combined dry pipe and preaction system shall be provided with listed quick-opening devices at the dry pipe valves.

**3-4.3\* Air Exhaust Valves.** One or more listed air exhaust valves of 2-in. (51-mm) or larger size controlled by operation of a fire detection system shall be installed at the end of the common feed main. These air exhaust valves shall have soft-seated globe or angle valves in their intakes; also, approved strainers shall be installed between these globe valves and the air exhaust valves.

#### 3-4.4 Subdivision of System Using Check Valves.

**3-4.4.1** Where more than 275 sprinklers are required in a single fire area, the system shall be divided into sections of 275 sprinklers or less by means of check valves. If the system is installed in more than one fire area or story, not more than 600 sprinklers shall be supplied through any one check valve. Each section shall have a 1 1/4-in. (33-mm) drain on the system side of each check valve supplemented by a dry pipe system auxiliary drain.

**3-4.4.2** Section drain lines and dry pipe system auxiliary drains shall be located in heated areas or inside of heated cabinets to enclose drain valves and auxiliary drains for each section.

**3-4.4.3** Air exhaust valves at the end of a feed main and associated check valves shall be protected against freezing.

**3-4.5 Time Limitation.** The sprinkler system shall be so constructed and the number of sprinklers controlled shall be so limited that water shall reach the farthest sprinkler within a period of time not exceeding 1 minute for each 400 ft (122 m) of common feed main from the time the heat-responsive system operates. Maximum time permitted shall not exceed 3 minutes.

**3-4.6 System Test Connection.** The end section shall have a system test connection as required for dry pipe systems.

#### 3-5 Antifreeze Systems.

**3-5.1\* Where Used.** The use of antifreeze solutions shall be in conformity with state and local health regulations.

##### 3-5.2\* Antifreeze Solutions.

**3-5.2.1** When sprinkler systems are supplied by potable water connections, the use of antifreeze solutions other than water solutions of pure glycerine (C.P. or U.S.P. 96.5 percent grade) or propylene glycol shall not be permitted. Suitable glycerine-water and propylene glycol-water mixtures are shown in Table 3-5.2.1.

**Table 3-5.2.1 Antifreeze Solutions to Be Used if Potable Water Is Connected to Sprinklers**

| Material   | Solution (by Volume) | Specific Gravity at 60°F (15.6°C) | Freezing Point °F | Freezing Point °C |
|--|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Glycerine  | 50% Water            | 1.133                             | -15               | -26.1             |
| C.P. or U.S.P. Grade*                                | 40% Water            | 1.151                             | -22               | -30.0             |
|  | 30% Water            | 1.165                             | -40               | -40.0             |
| Hydrometer Scale 1.000 to 1.200                      |                      |                                   |                   |                   |
| Propylene Glycol                                     | 70% Water            | 1.027                             | + 9               | -12.8             |
|  | 60% Water            | 1.034                             | - 6               | -21.1             |
|  | 50% Water            | 1.041                             | -26               | -32.2             |
|  | 40% Water            | 1.045                             | -60               | -51.1             |
| Hydrometer Scale 1.000 to 1.200 (Subdivisions 0.002) |                      |                                   |                   |                   |

\*C.P.—Chemically Pure. U.S.P.—United States Pharmacopoeia 96.5%.

**3-5.2.2** If potable water is not connected to sprinklers, the commercially available materials indicated in Table 3-5.2.2 (see page 25) are permitted for use in antifreeze solutions.

**3-5.2.3\*** An antifreeze solution shall be prepared with a freezing point below the expected minimum temperature for the locality. The specific gravity of the prepared solution shall be checked by a hydrometer with suitable scale or refractometer having a scale calibrated for the antifreeze solution involved. [See Figures 3-5.2.3(a) and (b).]

**3-5.3\* Arrangement of Supply Piping and Valves.** Sprinklers shall be below the interface between the water and antifreeze solutions.

*Exception:* Sprinklers are permitted to be above the water/antifreeze interface when a check valve with a 1/32-in. (0.8-mm) hole in the clapper is provided in a U-loop. In most cases, this necessitates the use of a 5-ft (1.5-m) drop pipe or U-loop as illustrated in Figure 3-5.3.

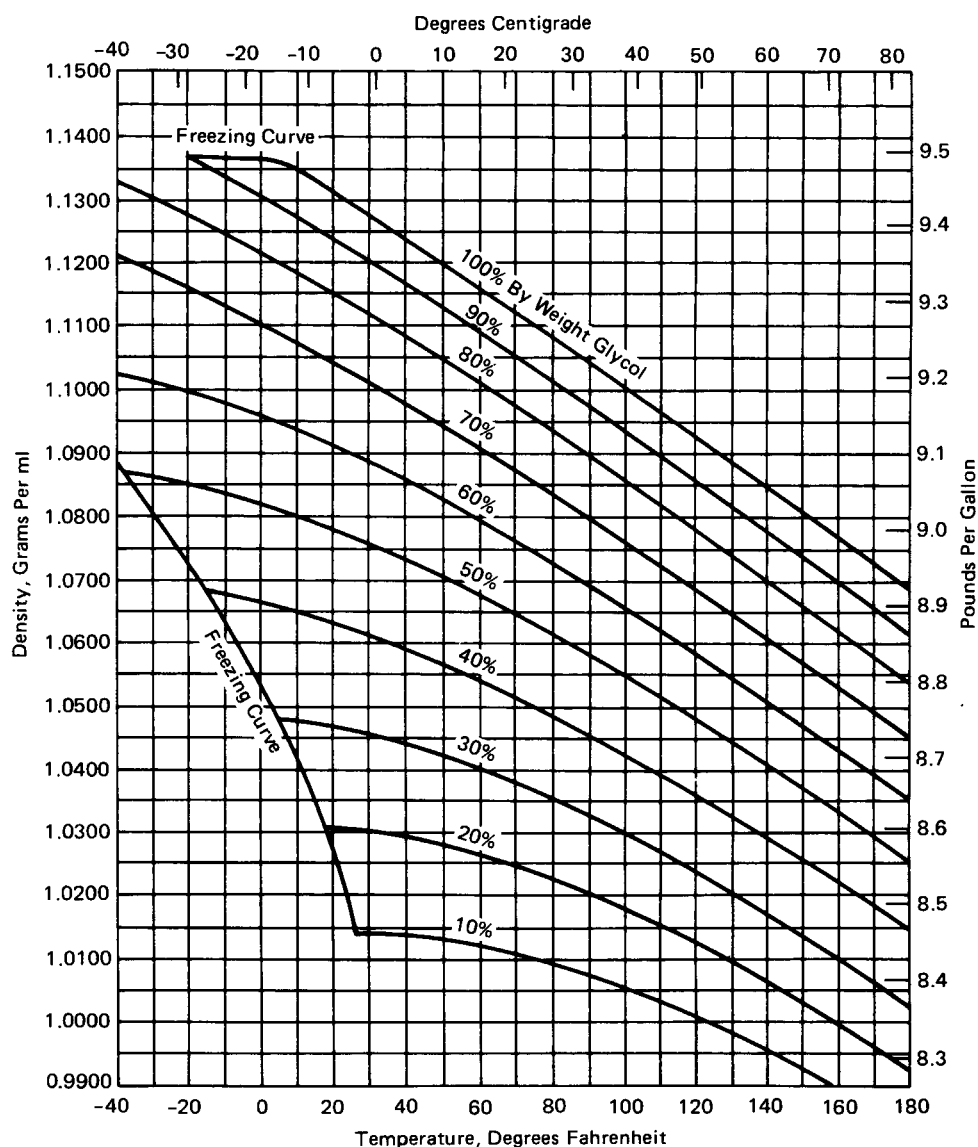


Figure 3-5.2.3(a) Densities of aqueous ethylene glycol solutions (percent by weight).

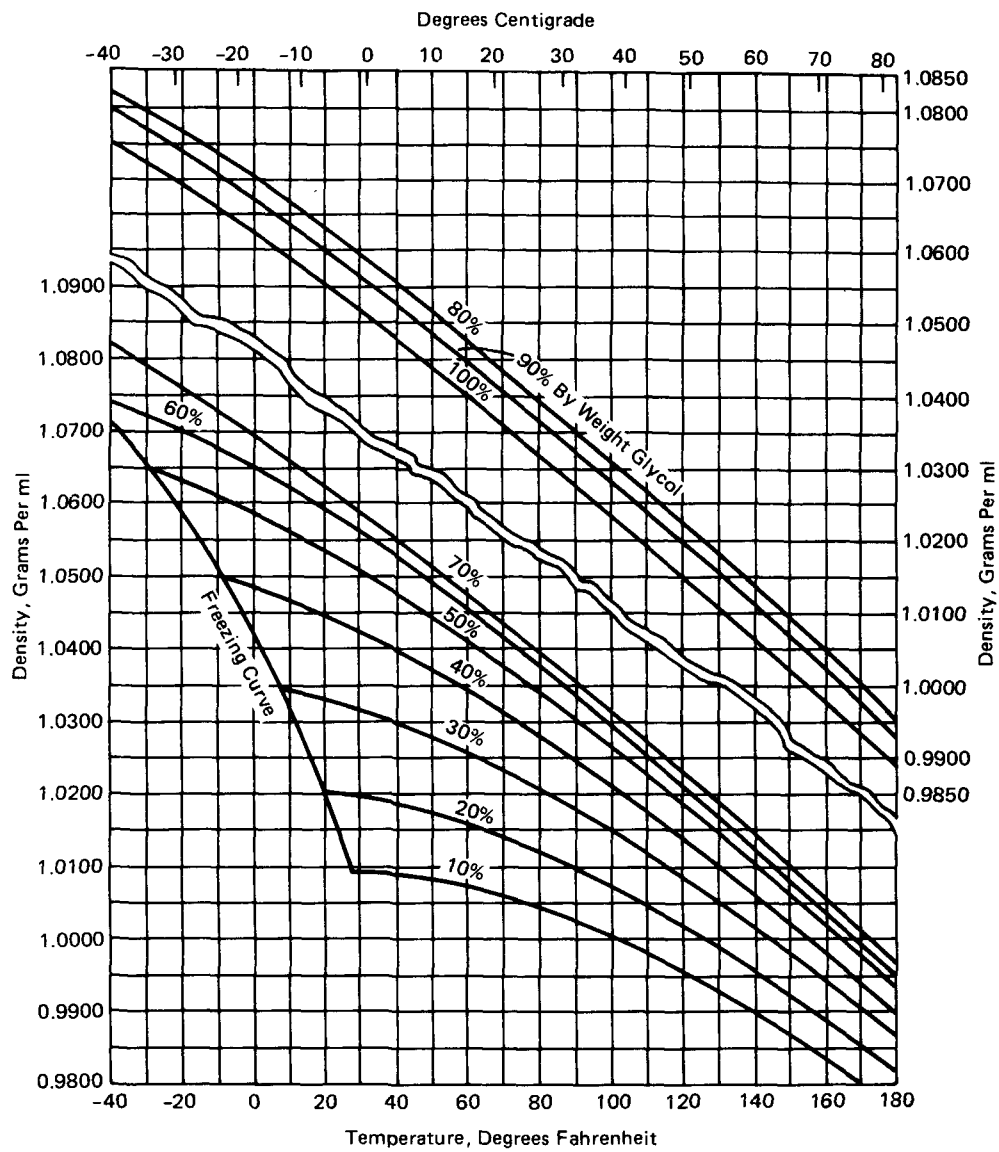


Figure 3-5.2.3(b) Densities of aqueous propylene glycol solutions (percent by weight).

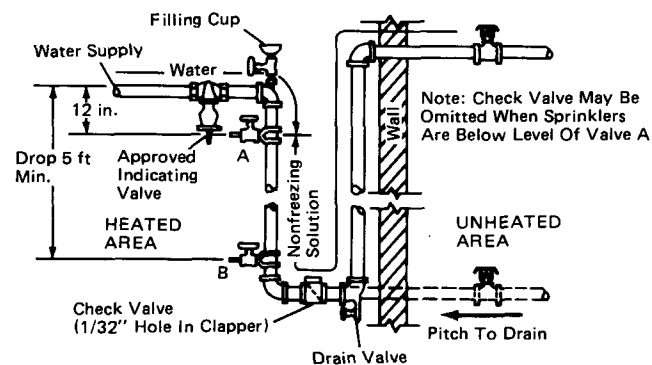
**Table 3-5.2.2 Antifreeze Solution to Be Used if Nonpotable Water Is Connected to Sprinklers**

| Material   | Solution (by Volume)                           | Specific Gravity at 60°F (15.6°C) | Freezing Point °F | Freezing Point °C |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Glycerine  | If glycerine is used, see Table 3-5.2.1        |                                   |                   |                   |
| Diethylene Glycol                                    | 50% Water                                      | 1.078                             | -13               | -25.0             |
|  | 45% Water                                      | 1.081                             | -27               | -32.8             |
|  | 40% Water                                      | 1.086                             | -42               | -41.1             |
| Hydrometer Scale 1.000 to 1.120 (Subdivisions 0.002) |  |                                   |                   |                   |
| Ethylene Glycol                                      | 61% Water                                      | 1.056                             | -10               | -23.3             |
|  | 56% Water                                      | 1.063                             | -20               | -28.9             |
|  | 51% Water                                      | 1.069                             | -30               | -34.4             |
|  | 47% Water                                      | 1.073                             | -40               | -40.0             |
| Hydrometer Scale 1.000 to 1.120 (Subdivisions 0.002) |  |                                   |                   |                   |
| Propylene Glycol                                     | If propylene glycol is used, see Table 3-5.2.1 |                                   |                   |                   |
| Calcium Chloride 80% "Flake"                         | lb CaCl <sub>2</sub> per gal of Water          |                                   |                   |                   |
| Fire Protection Grade†                               | 2.83   | 1.183                             | 0                 | -17.8             |
| Add corrosion inhibitor                              | 3.38   | 1.212                             | -10               | -23.3             |
| of sodium bichromate                                 | 3.89   | 1.237                             | -20               | -28.9             |
| 1/4 oz per gal water                                 | 4.37   | 1.258                             | -30               | -34.4             |
|  | 4.73   | 1.274                             | -40               | -40.0             |
|  | 4.93   | 1.283                             | -50               | -45.6             |

† Free from magnesium chloride and other impurities.

**3-5.3.1** A water control valve and two small solution test valves shall be provided as illustrated in Figure 3-5.3.

*Exception: When the connection between the antifreeze system and the wet pipe system incorporates a backflow prevention device, an expansion chamber shall be provided to compensate for the expansion of the antifreeze solution.*



NOTE: The 1/32-in. (0.8-mm) hole in the check valve clapper is needed to allow for expansion of the solution during a temperature rise and thus prevent damage to sprinklers.

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure 3-5.3 Arrangement of supply piping and valves.**

### 3-6 Automatic Sprinkler Systems with Nonfire Protection Connections.

#### 3-6.1 Circulating Closed-Loop Systems.

##### 3-6.1.1 System Components.

**3-6.1.1.1** A circulating closed-loop system is primarily a sprinkler system and shall comply with all provisions of this standard such as those for control valves, area limitations of a system, alarms, fire department connections, sprinkler spacing, etc.

*Exception: Items as specifically detailed within 3-6.1.*

**3-6.1.1.2** Piping, fittings, valves, and pipe hangers shall meet requirements specified in Chapter 2.

**3-6.1.1.3** A dielectric fitting shall be installed in the junction where dissimilar piping materials are joined, e.g., copper to steel.

*Exception: Dielectric fittings are not required in the junction where sprinklers are connected to piping.*

**3-6.1.1.4** It is not required that other auxiliary devices be listed for sprinkler service; however, these devices, such as pumps, circulating pumps, heat exchangers, radiators, and luminaries, shall be pressure rated at 175 or 300 psi (12.1 or 20.7 bars) (rupture pressure of 5 times rated water working pressure) to match the required rating of sprinkler system components.

**3-6.1.1.5** Auxiliary devices shall incorporate materials of construction and be so constructed that they will maintain their physical integrity under fire conditions to avoid impairment to the fire protection system.

**3-6.1.1.6** Auxiliary devices, where hung from the building structure, shall be supported independently from the sprinkler portion of the system, following recognized engineering practices.

**3-6.1.2\* Hydraulic Characteristics.** Piping systems for attached heating and cooling equipment shall have auxiliary pumps or an arrangement made to return water to the piping system in order to assure the following:

(a) Water for sprinklers shall not be required to pass through heating or cooling equipment. At least one direct path shall exist for waterflow from the sprinkler water supply to every sprinkler. Pipe sizing in the direct path shall be in accordance with design requirements of this standard.

(b) No portions of the sprinkler piping shall have less than the sprinkler system design pressure regardless of the mode of operation of the attached heating or cooling equipment.

(c) There shall be no loss or outflow of water from the system due to or resulting from the operation of heating or cooling equipment.

(d) Shutoff valves and a means of drainage shall be provided on piping to heating or cooling equipment at all points of connection to sprinkler piping and shall be installed in such a manner as to make possible repair or removal of any auxiliary component without impairing the serviceability and response to the sprinkler system. All auxiliary components, including the strainer, shall be installed on the auxiliary equipment side of the shutoff valves.

### 3-6.1.3 Water Temperature.

**3-6.1.3.1 Maximum.** In no case shall maximum water temperature flowing through the sprinkler portion of the system exceed 120°F (49°C). Protective control devices listed for this purpose shall be installed to shut down heating or cooling systems when temperature of water flowing through the sprinkler portion of the system exceeds 120°F (49°C). When water temperature exceeds 100°F (37.8°C), intermediate or higher temperature rated sprinklers shall be used.

**3-6.1.3.2 Minimum.** Precautions shall be taken to ensure that temperatures below 40°F (4°C) are not permitted.

**3-6.1.4 Obstruction to Discharge.** Automatic sprinklers shall not be obstructed by auxiliary devices, piping, insulation, etc., from detecting fire or from proper distribution of water.

**3-6.1.5 Signs.** Caution signs shall be attached to all valves controlling sprinklers. The caution sign shall be worded as follows:

"This valve controls fire protection equipment. Do not close until after fire has been extinguished. Use auxiliary valves when necessary to shut off supply to auxiliary equipment.

CAUTION: Automatic alarm will be sounded if this valve is closed."

**3-6.1.6 Water Additives.** Materials added to water shall not adversely affect the fire fighting properties of the water and shall be in conformity with any state or local health regulations. Due care and caution shall be given to the use of additives that may remove or suspend scale from older piping systems. When additives are necessary for proper system operation, due care shall be taken to ensure that additives are replenished after alarm testing or whenever water is removed from the system.

**3-6.1.7 Waterflow Detection.** The supply of water from sprinkler piping through auxiliary devices, circulatory piping, and pumps shall not under any condition or operation, transient or static, cause false sprinkler waterflow signals.

**3-6.1.7.1** A sprinkler waterflow signal shall not be impaired when water is discharged through an opened sprinkler or through the system test connection while auxiliary equipment is in any mode of operation (on, off, transient, stable).

## 3-7 Outside Sprinklers for Protection against Exposure Fires.

**3-7.1 Applications.** Exposure protection systems shall be permitted on buildings regardless of whether the building's interior is protected by a sprinkler system.

### 3-7.2 Water Supply and Control.

**3-7.2.1\*** Sprinklers installed for protection against exposure fires shall be supplied from a standard water supply as outlined in Chapter 7.

*Exception: When approved, other supplies, such as manual valves or pumps or fire department connections, shall be acceptable.*

**3-7.2.2** When fire department connections are used for water supply, they shall be so located that they will not be affected by the exposing fire.

### 3-7.3 Control.

**3-7.3.1** Each system of outside sprinklers shall have an independent control valve.

**3-7.3.2** Manually controlled open sprinklers shall be used only where constant supervision is present.

**3-7.3.3** Sprinklers may be of the open or automatic type. Automatic sprinklers in areas subject to freezing shall be on dry pipe systems conforming to Section 3-2 or anti-freeze systems conforming to Section 3-5.

**3-7.3.4** Automatic systems of open sprinklers shall be controlled by the operation of fire detection devices designed for the specific application.

### 3-7.4 System Components.

**3-7.4.1 Drain Valves.** Each system of outside sprinklers shall have a separate drain valve installed on the system side of each control valve.

*Exception: Open sprinkler-top fed systems arranged to facilitate drainage.*

**3-7.4.2 Check Valves.** When sprinklers are installed on two adjacent sides of a building, protecting against two separate and distinct exposures, with separate control valves for each side, the end lines shall be connected with check valves located so that one sprinkler around the corner will operate. The intermediate pipe between the two check valves shall be arranged to drain. As an alternate solution, an additional sprinkler shall be installed on each system located around the corner from the system involved.

**3-7.4.3 System Arrangement.** When one exposure affects two sides of the protected structure, the system shall not be subdivided between the two sides, but rather shall be arranged to operate as a single system.

**3-7.5 Pipe and Fittings.** Pipe and fittings installed on the exterior of the building shall be corrosion resistant.

**3-7.6 Strainers.** A listed strainer shall be provided in the riser or feed main that supplies sprinklers having orifices smaller than  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. (9.5 mm).

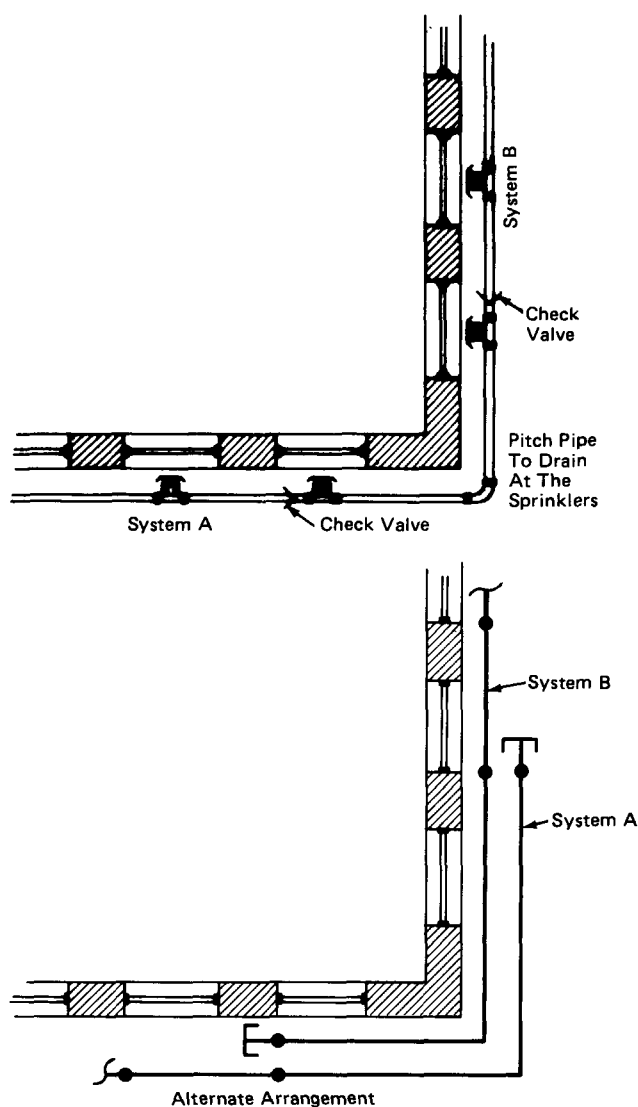


Figure 3-7.4.2 Arrangement of check valves.

**3-7.7 Gauge Connections.** A listed pressure gauge conforming to 4-6.3.2 shall be installed immediately below the control valve of each system.

**3-7.8 Sprinklers.** Only sprinklers of such type as are listed for window, cornice, sidewall, or ridge pole service shall be installed for such use except where adequate coverage by use of other types of listed sprinklers and/or nozzles has been demonstrated. Small orifice or large orifice sprinklers shall be permitted.

### 3-8\* Cold Storage Rooms.

**3-8.1\*** Fittings for visual internal inspection of piping in cold storage rooms shall be provided whenever the following occurs:

- (a)\* A cross main connects to a riser or feed main,
- (b)\* Feed mains change direction,

(c)\* A riser or feed main passes through a wall or floor from a warm room to a cold room.

**3-8.2** A local low air-pressure alarm shall be installed on sprinkler systems supplying freezer sections.

**3-8.3** Piping in cold storage rooms shall be installed with pitch, as outlined in 4-5.3.3.

**3-8.4\*** The air supply for systems shall be taken from the room of lowest temperature, or through a chemical dehydrator, to eliminate introducing moisture. Compressed nitrogen gas from cylinders shall be acceptable in lieu of air.

### 3-9 Commercial-Type Cooking Equipment and Ventilation.

**3-9.1** In cooking areas protected by automatic sprinklers, additional sprinklers or automatic spray nozzles shall be provided to protect commercial-type cooking equipment and ventilation systems that are designed to carry away grease-laden vapors unless otherwise protected. (See NFPA 96, *Standard for the Installation of Equipment for the Removal of Smoke and Grease-Laden Vapors from Commercial Cooking Equipment*.)

**3-9.2\*** Standard sprinklers or automatic spray nozzles shall be so located as to provide for the protection of exhaust ducts, hood exhaust duct collars, and hood exhaust plenum chambers.

*Exception: Sprinklers or automatic spray nozzles in ducts, duct collars, and plenum chambers may be omitted when all cooking equipment is served by listed grease extractors.*

**3-9.3** Exhaust ducts shall have one sprinkler or automatic spray nozzle located at the top of each vertical riser and at the midpoint of each offset. The first sprinkler or automatic spray nozzle in a horizontal duct shall be installed at the duct entrance. Horizontal exhaust ducts shall have such devices located on 10-ft (3-m) centers beginning no more than 5 ft (1.5 m) from the duct entrance. Sprinkler(s) or automatic spray nozzle(s) in exhaust ducts subject to freezing shall be properly protected against freezing by approved means. (See 4-5.4.1.)

*Exception: Sprinklers or automatic spray nozzles may be omitted from a vertical riser located outside of a building provided the riser does not expose combustible material or provided the interior of a building and the horizontal distance between the hood outlet and the vertical riser is at least 25 ft (7.6 m).*

**3-9.4** Each hood exhaust duct collar shall have one sprinkler or automatic spray nozzle located 1 in. minimum to 12 in. maximum (25.4 mm min. to 305 mm max.) above the point of duct collar connection in the hood plenum. Hoods that have listed fire dampers located in the duct collar shall be protected with a sprinkler or automatic spray nozzle located on the discharge side of the damper and be so positioned as not to interfere with damper operation.

**3-9.5** Hood exhaust plenum chambers shall have one sprinkler or automatic spray nozzle centered in each chamber not exceeding 10 ft (3 m) in length. Plenum chambers

greater than 10 ft (3 m) in length shall have two sprinklers or automatic spray nozzles evenly spaced with the maximum distance between the two sprinklers not to exceed 10 ft (3 m).

**3-9.6** Sprinklers or automatic spray nozzles being used in duct, duct collar, and plenum areas shall be of the extra high temperature classification [325 to 375°F (163 to 191°C)] and have orifice sizes not less than 1/4 in. (6.4 mm) and not more than 1/2 in. (13 mm).

*Exception: When use of a temperature measuring device indicates temperatures above 300°F (149°C), a sprinkler or automatic spray nozzle of higher classification shall be used.*

**3-9.7** Access must be provided to all sprinklers or automatic spray nozzles for examination and replacement.

### 3-9.8 Cooking Equipment.

**3-9.8.1** Cooking equipment (such as deep fat fryers, ranges, griddles, and broilers) that may be a source of ignition shall be protected in accordance with the provisions of 3-9.1.

**3-9.8.2** A sprinkler or automatic spray nozzle used for protection of deep fat fryers shall be listed for that application. The position, arrangement, location, and water supply for each sprinkler or automatic spray nozzle shall be in accordance with its listing.

**3-9.8.3** The operation of any cooking equipment sprinkler or automatic spray nozzle shall automatically shut off all sources of fuel and heat to all equipment requiring protection. Any gas appliance not requiring protection but located under ventilating equipment shall also be shut off. All shutdown devices shall be of the type that requires manual resetting prior to fuel or power being restored.

**3-9.9** A listed indicating valve shall be installed in the water supply line to the sprinklers and spray nozzles protecting the cooking and ventilating system.

**3-9.10** An approved line strainer shall be installed in the main water supply preceding sprinklers or automatic spray nozzles having orifices smaller than 3/8 in. (9.5 mm).

**3-9.11** A system test connection shall be provided to verify proper operation of equipment specified in 3-9.8.3.

**3-9.12** Sprinklers and automatic spray nozzles used for protecting commercial-type cooking equipment and ventilating systems shall be replaced annually.

*Exception: When automatic bulb-type sprinklers or spray nozzles are used and annual examination shows no build-up of grease or other material on the sprinklers or spray nozzles.*

## Chapter 4 Installation Requirements

### 4-1\* Basic Requirements.

**4-1.1\*** The requirements for spacing, location, and position of sprinklers are based on the following principles:

- (a) Sprinklers installed throughout the premises,
- (b) Sprinklers located so as not to exceed maximum protection area per sprinkler,
- (c) Sprinklers positioned and located so as to provide satisfactory performance with respect to activation time and distribution.

*Exception No. 1: For locations permitting omission of sprinklers see 4-4.1.7.1, 4-4.1.7.2, 4-4.1.7.7.*

*Exception No. 2: When sprinklers are specifically tested and test results demonstrate that deviations from clearance requirements to structural members do not impair the ability of the sprinkler to control or suppress a fire, their positioning and locating in accordance with the test results shall be permitted.*

*Exception No. 3: Clearance between sprinklers and ceilings exceeding the maximum specified in 4-4.1.4 shall be permitted provided that tests or calculations demonstrate comparable sensitivity and performance of the sprinklers to those installed in conformance with 4-4.1.4.*

### 4-2 Protection Area Limitations.

**4-2.1 Systems.** The maximum floor area on any one floor to be protected by sprinklers supplied by any one sprinkler system riser or combined system riser shall be as follows:

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Light Hazard  | 52,000 sq ft (4831 m <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Ordinary Hazard   | 52,000 sq ft (4831 m <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Extra Hazard  |                                     |
| Pipe Schedule   | 25,000 sq ft (2323 m <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Hydraulically Calculated  | 40,000 sq ft (3716 m <sup>2</sup> ) |
| Storage — High-piled storage<br>(as defined in 1-4.2) and storage<br>covered by other NFPA<br>standards | 40,000 sq ft (3716 m <sup>2</sup> ) |

*Exception No. 1: The floor area occupied by mezzanines shall not be included in the above area.*

*Exception No. 2: When single systems protect extra hazard, high-piled storage, or storage covered by other NFPA standards and ordinary or light hazard areas, the extra hazard or storage area coverage shall not exceed the floor area specified for that hazard and the total area coverage shall not exceed 52,000 sq ft (4831 m<sup>2</sup>).*

**4-2.2\* Sprinklers.** The maximum protection area per sprinkler shall comply with Table 4-2.2.

**4-2.2.1** The protection area per sprinkler shall be determined as follows:

**4-2.2.1.1 Along Branch Lines.** Determine distance to next sprinkler (or to wall or obstruction in case of end sprinkler on branch line) upstream and downstream. Choose the larger of either twice the distance to the wall or the distance to the next sprinkler. Call this S.



Table 4-2.2 Maximum Sprinkler Protection Areas (sq ft)<sup>8</sup>

|  | Light Hazard       | Ordinary Hazard | Extra Hazard <sup>5</sup> | High-Piled Storage <sup>6</sup> | Large-Drop Sprinklers <sup>7</sup> | Early Suppression Fast Response Sprinklers <sup>7</sup> |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Unobstructed Construction <sup>1</sup> | 225 <sup>2</sup>   | 130             | 100                       | 100                             | 130                                | 100   |
| Noncombustible Obstructed Construction | 225 <sup>2</sup>   | 130             | 100                       | 100                             | 130                                | 100   |
| Combustible Obstructed Construction    | 168 <sup>3,4</sup> | 130             | 100                       | 100                             | 100                                | N/A   |

Note 1: Wood truss construction as defined in A-1-4.6(b)(v) is classified as obstructed construction for the purpose of determining sprinkler protection areas. Note 2: For Light Hazard Occupancies, the protection area per sprinkler for pipe schedule systems shall not exceed 200 sq ft per sprinkler.

Note 3: For light combustible framing members spaced less than 3 ft on center, maximum spacing is 130 sq ft [for examples, see A-1-4.6(a)(ii), A-1-4.6(a)(v), and A-1-4.6(b)(vi)].

Note 4: For heavy combustible framing members spaced 3 ft or more on center, maximum spacing is 225 sq ft [for examples, see A-1-4.6(a)(i)].

Note 5: For Extra Hazard Occupancies:

1) The protection area per sprinkler for pipe schedule systems shall not exceed 90 sq ft.

2) The protection area per sprinkler for hydraulically designed systems with densities below 0.25 gpm/ft<sup>2</sup> may exceed 100 sq ft, but shall not exceed 130 sq ft.

Note 6: For high-piled storage occupancies:

1) The protection area per sprinkler may exceed 100 sq ft but shall not exceed 130 sq ft for systems hydraulically designed in accordance with NFPA 231 and 231C for densities below 0.25 gpm/sq ft.

2) Where protection areas are specifically indicated in the design criteria of other portions of this standard or other NFPA standards, those protection areas shall be used.

3) For protection involving large-drop sprinklers use the large-drop sprinkler column in the table.

Note 7: For large-drop and ESFR sprinklers, the minimum spacing is 80 sq ft per sprinkler.

Note 8: For special sprinkler protection areas see 4-3.2.

N/A Denotes data not available in current standard.

For SI Units: 1 sq ft = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>; 1 ft = 0.3048 m; 1 gpm/ft<sup>2</sup> = 40.746 L/min/m<sup>2</sup>.

**4-2.2.1.2 Between Branch Lines.** Determine perpendicular distance to sprinkler on branch lines (or to wall or obstruction in the case of the last branch line) on each side of the branch line on which the subject sprinkler is positioned. Choose the larger of either twice the distance to the wall or obstruction or the distance to the next sprinkler. Call this *L*.

**4-2.2.1.3 Protection area of the sprinkler =  $S \times L$ .**

*Exception:* In a small room as defined in 1-4.2, the protection area of each sprinkler in the small room shall be the area of the room divided by the number of sprinklers in the room.

## 4-3 Use of Sprinklers.

### 4-3.1 General.

**4-3.1.1\*** Sprinklers shall be installed in accordance with their listing.

*Exception:* When construction features or other special situations require unusual water distribution, listed sprinklers shall be permitted to be installed in positions other than anticipated by their listing to achieve specific results.

**4-3.1.2\*** Upright sprinklers shall be installed with the frame arms parallel to the branch line.

### 4-3.1.3 Temperature Ratings.

**4-3.1.3.1** Ordinary-temperature rated sprinklers shall be used throughout buildings.

*Exception No. 1:* Where maximum ceiling temperatures exceed 100°F (38°C), sprinklers with temperature ratings in accordance with the maximum ceiling temperatures of Table 2-2.3.1 shall be used.

*Exception No. 2:* Intermediate- and high-temperature sprinklers shall be permitted to be used throughout Ordinary and Extra Hazard Occupancies.

*Exception No. 3:* Sprinklers of intermediate and high temperature classifications shall be installed in specific locations as required by 4-3.1.3.2.

**4-3.1.3.2** The following practices shall be observed to provide sprinklers of other than ordinary temperature classification unless other temperatures are determined or unless high-temperature sprinklers are used throughout [see Tables 4-3.1.3.2(a) and (b) and Figure 4-3.1.3.2 on the following pages].

(a) Sprinklers in the heater zone shall be of the high temperature classification, and sprinklers in the danger zone of the intermediate temperature classification.

(b) Sprinklers located within 12 in. (305 mm) to one side or 30 in. (762 mm) above an uncovered steam main, heating coil, or radiator shall be of the intermediate temperature classification.

(c) Sprinklers within 7 ft (2.1 m) of a low-pressure blow-off valve that discharges free in a large room shall be of the high temperature classification.

(d) Sprinklers under glass or plastic skylights exposed to the direct rays of the sun shall be of the intermediate temperature classification.

(e) Sprinklers in an unventilated, concealed space, under an insulated roof, or in an unventilated attic shall be of the intermediate temperature classification.

(f) Sprinklers in unventilated show windows having high powered electric lights near the ceiling shall be of the intermediate temperature classification.

(g) Sprinklers protecting commercial-type cooking equipment and ventilation systems shall be of the high or

**Table 4-3.1.3.2(a) Temperature Ratings of Sprinklers Based on Distance from Heat Sources**

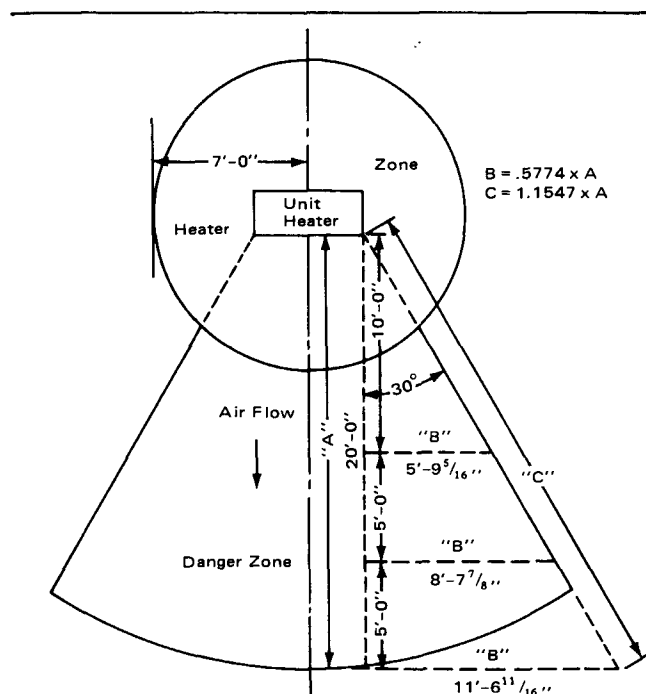
| Type of Heat Condition   | Ordinary Degree Rating                          | Intermediate Degree Rating   | High Degree Rating  |
|--|---|--|---|
| 1. Heating Ducts<br>(a) Above  | More than 2 ft 6 in.                            | 2 ft 6 in. or less   | —   |
| (b) Side and Below   | More than 1 ft 0 in.                            | 1 ft 0 in. or less   | —   |
| (c) Diffuser<br><br>Downward Discharge<br>Horizontal Discharge                                     | Any distance except as shown under Intermediate | <i>Downward:</i> Cylinder with 1 ft 0 in. radius from edge, extending 1 ft 0 in. below and 2 ft 6 in. above<br><i>Horizontal:</i> Semi-cylinder with 2 ft 6 in. radius in direction of flow, extending 1 ft 0 in. below and 2 ft 6 in. above | —   |
| 2. Unit Heater<br>(a) Horizontal Discharge   | —   | <i>Discharge Side:</i> 7 ft 0 in. to 20 ft 0 in. radius pie-shaped cylinder [see Figure 4-3.1.3.2] extending 7 ft 0 in. above and 2 ft 0 in. below heater; also 7 ft 0 in. radius cylinder more than 7 ft 0 in. above unit heater            | 7 ft 0 in. radius cylinder extending 7 ft 0 in. above and 2 ft 0 in. below unit heater                            |
| (b) Vertical Downward Discharge<br>[Note: For sprinklers below unit heater, see Figure 4-3.1.3.2.] | —   | 7 ft 0 in. radius cylinder extending upward from an elevation 7 ft 0 in. above unit heater   | 7 ft 0 in. radius cylinder extending from the top of the unit heater to an elevation 7 ft 0 in. above unit heater |
| 3. Steam Mains (Uncovered)<br>(a) Above  | More than 2 ft 6 in.                            | 2 ft 6 in. or less   | —   |
| (b) Side and Below   | More than 1 ft 0 in.                            | 1 ft 0 in. or less   | —   |
| (c) Blowoff Valve  | More than 7 ft 0 in.                            | —  | 7 ft 0 in. or less  |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Table 4-3.1.3.2(b) Ratings of Sprinklers in Specified Locations**

| Location  | Ordinary Degree Rating     | Intermediate Degree Rating   | High Degree Rating |
|---|----------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Skylights   | —                          | Glass or plastic   | —                  |
| Attics  | Ventilated                 | Unventilated   | —                  |
| Peaked Roof: Metal or thin boards; concealed or not concealed; insulated or uninsulated | Ventilated                 | Unventilated   | —                  |
| Flat Roof: Metal, not concealed; insulated or uninsulated                               | Ventilated or unventilated | Note: For uninsulated roof, climate and occupancy may necessitate Intermediate sprinklers. Check on job. | —                  |
| Flat Roof: Metal; concealed; insulated or uninsulated                                   | Ventilated                 | Unventilated   | —                  |
| Show Windows  | Ventilated                 | Unventilated   | —                  |

Note: A check of job condition by means of thermometers may be necessary.



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure 4-3.1.3.2 Heater and danger zones at unit heaters.**

extra high temperature classification as determined by use of a temperature measuring device. (See 3-9.6.)

**4-3.1.3.3** In case of occupancy change involving temperature change the sprinklers shall be changed accordingly.

**4-3.2 Special Sprinklers.** Installation of special sprinklers with protection areas, locations, and distances between sprinklers differing from those specified in Table 4-2.2 and Section 4-4 shall be permitted when found suitable for such use based on: fire tests related to the hazard category; tests to evaluate distribution, wetting of floors and walls, and interference to distribution by structural elements; and tests to characterize response sensitivity.

*Exception No. 1: The maximum protection area for special sprinklers shall not exceed 400 sq ft (36 m<sup>2</sup>) per sprinkler.*

*Exception No. 2: Maximum area of coverage for individual extended coverage pendent and upright sprinklers shall be limited to areas having equal-sided dimensions.*

**4-3.3 Old-Style Sprinklers.** Old-style sprinklers shall not be used in a new installation.

*Exception No. 1: Old-style sprinklers shall be installed in fur storage vaults. See 4-4.1.7.15.*

*Exception No. 2: Use of old-style sprinklers shall be permitted when construction features or other special situations require unique water distribution.*

**4-3.4 Sidewall Spray Sprinklers.** Sidewall sprinklers shall be installed only in Light Hazard Occupancies.

*Exception: Sidewall sprinklers shall be permitted to be used in Ordinary Hazard Occupancies when specifically listed for such use.*

**4-3.5 Open Sprinklers.** Open sprinklers shall be permitted to protect special hazards, for protection against exposures, or in other special locations.

**4-3.6 Residential Sprinklers.**

**4-3.6.1\*** Residential sprinklers shall be permitted in dwelling units and their adjoining corridors located in any occupancy provided they are installed in conformance with their listing and the positioning requirements of NFPA 13D, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Mobile Homes*, or NFPA 13R, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Residential Occupancies up to and Including Four Stories in Height*.

**4-3.6.2** Residential sprinklers shall be used only in wet systems.

*Exception: Residential sprinklers shall be permitted for use in dry systems if specifically listed for such service.*

**4-3.6.3** When residential sprinklers are installed within a compartment as defined in 1-4.2, all sprinklers shall be from the same manufacturer and have the same heat-response thermal characteristic.

**4-3.7 Early Suppression Fast Response (ESFR) Sprinklers.**

**4-3.7.1** ESFR sprinklers shall be used only in wet pipe systems.

**4-3.7.2** ESFR sprinklers shall be installed only in buildings with roof or ceiling slope not exceeding 1 in. per ft (84 mm/m).

**4-3.7.3** ESFR sprinklers shall be permitted for use in buildings with the following types of construction:

(a) Smooth ceiling, joists consisting of steel truss shaped member, wood truss shaped members that consist of wood top and bottom chord members not exceeding 4 in. (102 mm) in depth with steel tube or bar web.

(b) Wood beams of 4 in. by 4 in. (102 mm by 102 mm) or greater nominal dimension, concrete or steel beams spaced 3½ to 7½ ft (0.9 to 2.3 m) on centers and either supported on or framed into girders. Ceiling panels formed by members capable of trapping heat to aid the operation of sprinklers with members spaced greater than 7½ ft (2.3 m) and limited to a maximum of 300 sq ft (27.9 m<sup>2</sup>) in area.

(c) Paragraphs (a) and (b) apply to construction with noncombustible or combustible roof or decks.

(d) Construction with ceiling panels formed by members capable of trapping heat to aid the operation of sprinklers with members spaced greater than 7½ ft (2.3 m) and limited to a maximum of 300 sq ft (27.9 m<sup>2</sup>) in area.

**4-3.7.4 Temperature Rating.** Sprinkler temperature ratings shall be nominal 165°F (74°C).

*Exception:* Sprinklers of intermediate and high temperature ratings shall be installed in specific locations as required by 4-3.1.3.

#### 4-3.8 Large-Drop Sprinklers.

**4-3.8.1** Large-drop sprinklers shall be permitted to be used in wet, dry, or preaction systems.

**4-3.8.2\*** In preaction and dry pipe systems, piping materials shall be limited to internally galvanized steel or copper.

*Exception:* Nongalvanized fittings shall be permitted.

**4-3.8.3** Sprinkler temperature ratings shall be the same as those indicated in Tables 4-3.1.3.2(a) and (b) or those used in large scale fire testing to determine the protection requirements for the hazard involved.

*Exception:* Sprinklers of intermediate and high temperature ratings shall be installed in specific locations as required by 4-3.1.3.

#### 4-3.9 Quick Response Early Suppression (QRES) Sprinklers. (Reserved)

### 4-4 Sprinkler Spacing and Location.

#### 4-4.1 Upright and Pendent Spray Sprinkler.

**4-4.1.1 Sprinkler Spacing Limitations.** The maximum distance between sprinklers, either on branch lines or between branch lines, shall be as follows:

|                             |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Light Hazard Occupancies    | 15 ft |
| Ordinary Hazard Occupancies | 15 ft |
| Extra Hazard Occupancies    | 12 ft |
| High-Piled Storage          | 12 ft |

When sprinklers are spaced less than 6 ft (1.8 m) on center see 4-4.1.7.8.

*Exception No. 1:* For Extra Hazard Occupancies and high-piled storage in bays 25 ft (7.6 m) wide, a spacing of 12 ft 6 in. (3.8 m) shall be permitted.

*Exception No. 2:* For densities less than 0.25 gpm per sq ft [10.2 (L/min)/m<sup>2</sup>] spacing of 15 ft (4.6 m) shall be permitted.

#### 4-4.1.2 Distance from Walls.

**4-4.1.2.1** The distance from sprinklers to walls shall not exceed one-half of the allowable distance between sprinklers.

*Exception\*:* Within small rooms, sprinklers shall be permitted to be located not more than 9 ft (2.7 m) from any single wall. Sprinkler spacing limitations of 4-4.1.1 and area limitations of Table 4-2.2 shall not be exceeded.

**4-4.1.2.2** Sprinklers shall be located a minimum of 4 in. (102 mm) from a wall.

#### 4-4.1.3 Obstructions to Sprinkler Discharge

**4-4.1.3.1\* Obstructions Located at the Ceiling.** Non-continuous obstructions at the ceiling or roof such as columns, bar joists, truss webs, and light fixtures shall be treated as vertical obstructions.

*Exception:* Obstructions that can meet the separation requirements for horizontal obstructions in 4-4.1.3.1.2.

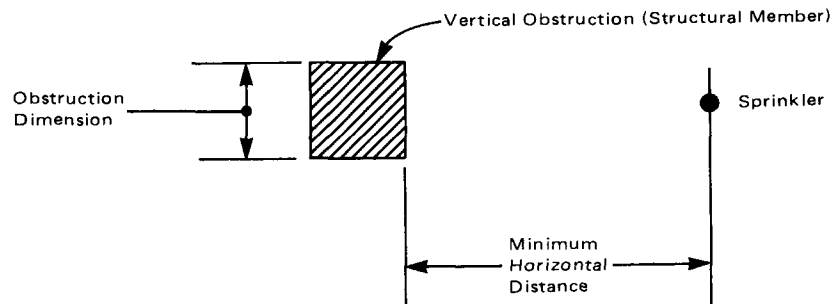
**4-4.1.3.1.1 Vertical Obstructions.** The minimum separation between vertical obstructions and a sprinkler shall be as shown in Table 4-4.1.3.1.1 and Figures 4-4.1.3.1.1(a), (b), (c), and (d).

*Exception:* Sprinklers shall be permitted to be spaced on opposite sides of the obstruction providing the distance from the centerline of the obstruction to the sprinklers does not exceed one-half the allowable distance between sprinklers.

**Table 4-4.1.3.1.1 Minimum Distance from Vertical Obstructions**

| Maximum Dimension of Obstruction | Minimum Horizontal Distance |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1/2 - 1 in.                      | 6 in.                       |
| >1 in. - 4 in.                   | 12 in.                      |
| >4 in.                           | 24 in.                      |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.



**Figure 4-4.1.3.1.1(a).**

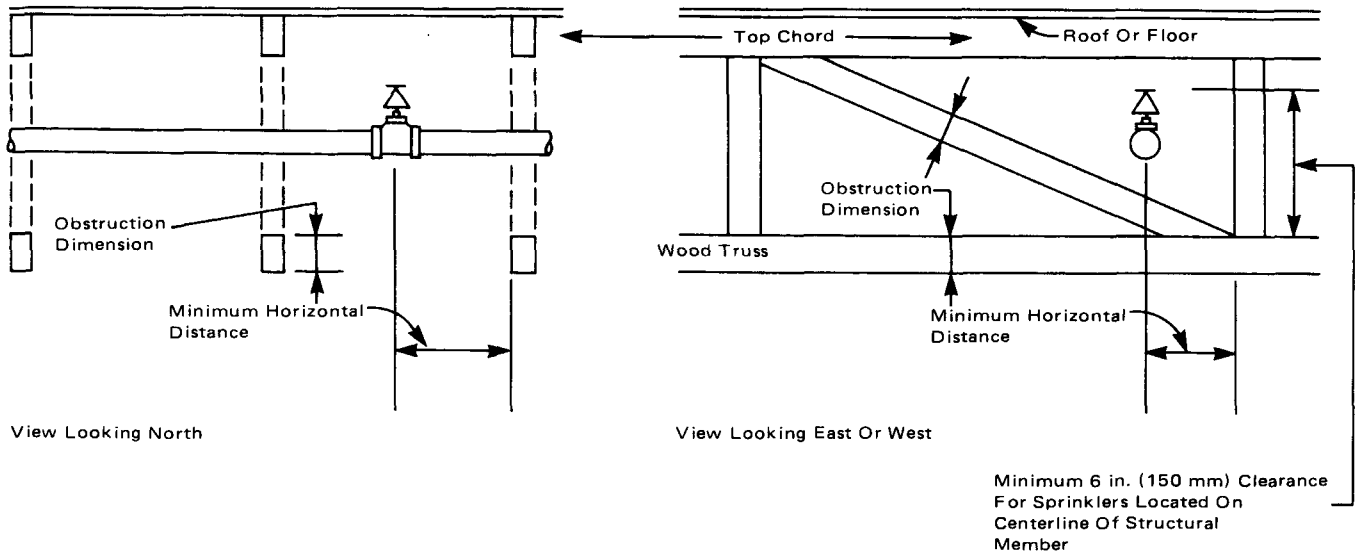


Figure 4-4.1.3.1.1(b).

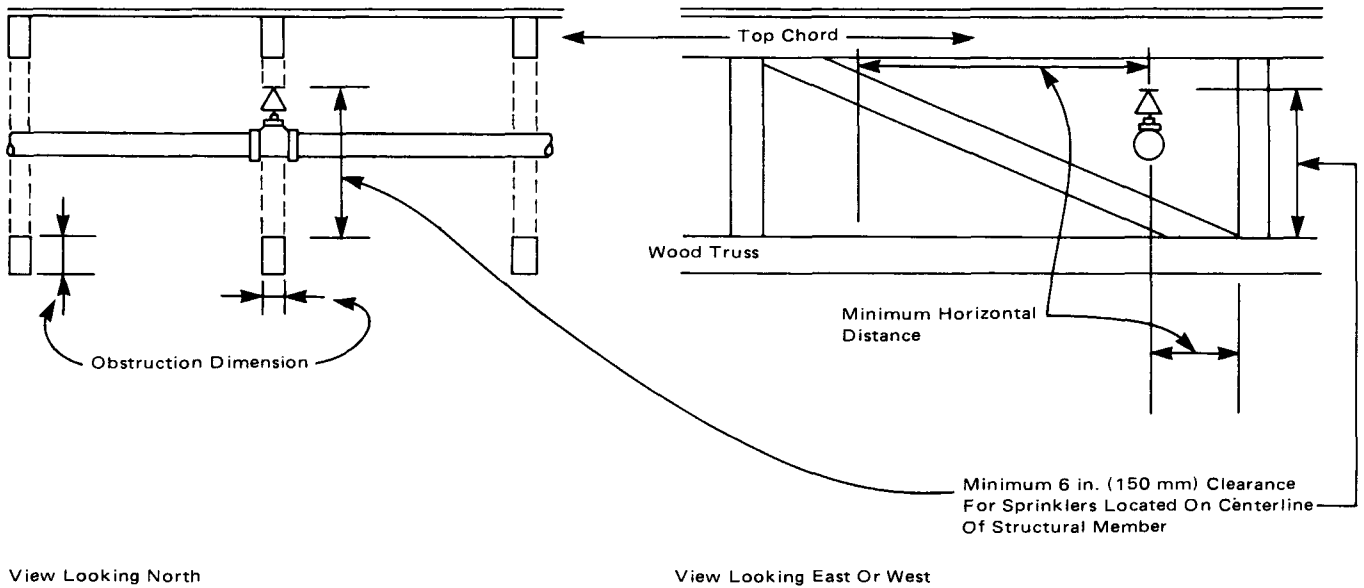


Figure 4-4.1.3.1.1(c).

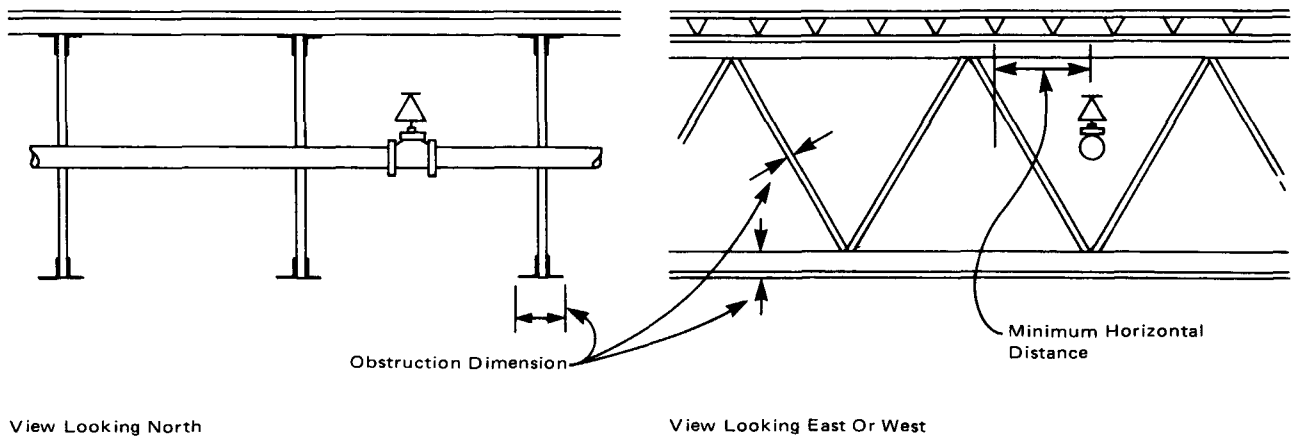


Figure 4-4.1.3.1.1(d).

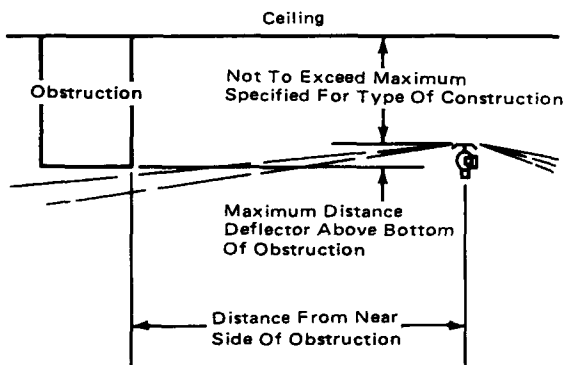
**4-4.1.3.1.2 Horizontal Obstructions.** The minimum separation of a sprinkler from a horizontal obstruction shall be determined by the height of the deflector above the bottom of the obstruction as shown in Table 4-4.1.3.1.2 and Figure 4-4.1.3.1.2.

*Exception:* Sprinklers shall be permitted to be spaced on opposite sides of the obstruction providing the distance from the centerline of the obstruction to the sprinklers does not exceed one-half the allowable distance between sprinklers.

**Table 4-4.1.3.1.2 Position of Deflector when Located above Bottom of Obstruction**

| Distance from Sprinkler to Side of Obstruction | Maximum Allowable Distance Deflector above Bottom of Obstruction |
|--|--|
| Less than 1 ft.....                            | 0 in.  |
| 1 ft to less than 2 ft.....                    | 1 in.  |
| 2 ft to less than 2 ft 6 in. ....              | 2 in.  |
| 2 ft 6 in. to less than 3 ft.....              | 3 in.  |
| 3 ft to less than 3 ft 6 in. ....              | 4 in.  |
| 3 ft 6 in. to less than 4 ft.....              | 6 in.  |
| 4 ft to less than 4 ft 6 in. ....              | 7 in.  |
| 4 ft 6 in. to less than 5 ft.....              | 9 in.  |
| 5 ft to less than 5 ft 6 in. ....              | 11 in.   |
| 5 ft 6 in. to less than 6 ft.....              | 14 in.   |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.



**Figure 4-4.1.3.1.2** Position of deflector, upright, or pendent sprinkler when located above bottom of obstructions.

#### 4-4.1.3.2 Obstructions Located below Sprinklers

**4-4.1.3.2.1\*** Sprinklers shall be installed under ducts, decks, and other obstructions over 4 ft (1.2 m) wide.

*Exception:* Ceiling sprinklers shall be permitted to be spaced in accordance with Table 4-4.1.3.1.2.

**4-4.1.3.2.2** Sprinklers installed under open gratings shall be of the intermediate level/rack storage type or otherwise shielded from the discharge of overhead sprinklers.

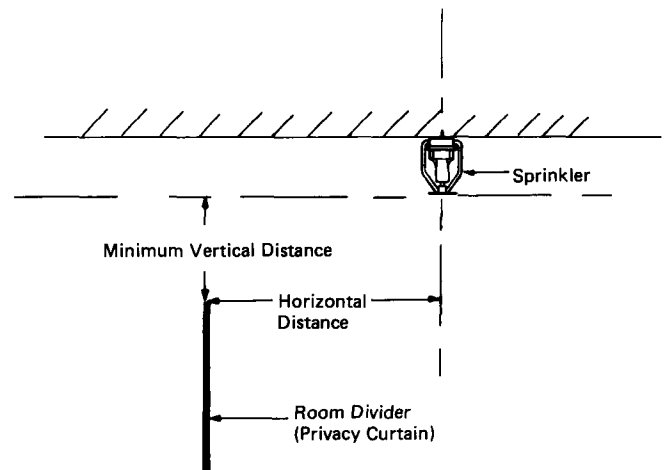
**4-4.1.3.2.3** Sprinklers shall be permitted to be installed on the centerline of a truss or directly above a beam provided the truss chord or beam dimension is not more than 8 in. (203 mm) and the sprinkler deflector is located at least 6 in. (152 mm) above the structural member.

**4-4.1.3.3\* Suspended or Floor Mounted Vertical Obstructions.** The distance from sprinklers to privacy curtains, free-standing partitions, room dividers, and similar obstructions in Light Hazard Occupancies shall be as shown in Table 4-4.1.3.3 and Figure 4-4.1.3.3.

**Table 4-4.1.3.3 Horizontal and Minimum Vertical Distances for Sprinklers**

| Horizontal Distance             | Minimum Vertical Distance below Deflector |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 6 in. or less.....              | 3 in.                                     |
| More than 6 in. to 9 in. ....   | 4 in.                                     |
| More than 9 in. to 12 in. ....  | 6 in.                                     |
| More than 12 in. to 15 in. .... | 8 in.                                     |
| More than 15 in. to 18 in. .... | 9½ in.                                    |
| More than 18 in. to 24 in. .... | 12½ in.                                   |
| More than 24 in. to 30 in. .... | 15½ in.                                   |
| More than 30 in. ....           | 18 in.                                    |

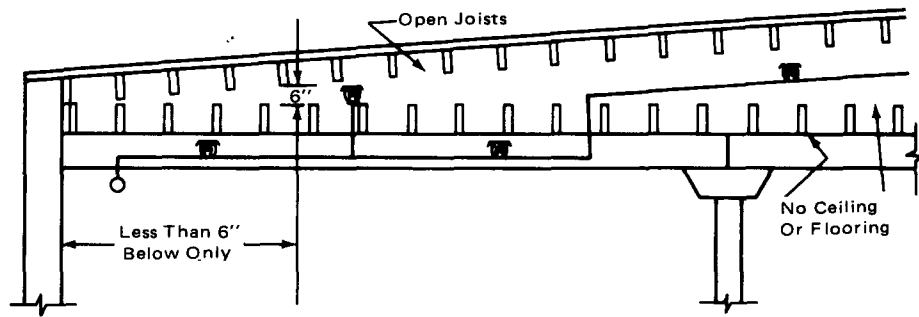
For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.



**Figure 4-4.1.3.3** Sprinklers installed near privacy curtains, free-standing partitions, or room dividers.

**4-4.1.3.4 Double Joist Obstructions.** Where there are two sets of joists under a roof or ceiling, and there is no flooring over the lower set, sprinklers shall be installed above and below the lower set of joists where there is a clearance of 6 in. (152 mm) or more between the top of the lower joist and the bottom of the upper joist. (See Figure 4-4.1.3.4.)

*Exception:* Sprinklers are permitted to be omitted from below the lower set of joists where at least 18 in. (457 mm) is maintained between the sprinkler deflector and the top of the lower joist.



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

Figure 4-4.1.3.4 Arrangement of sprinklers under two sets of open joists — no sheathing on lower joists.

#### 4-4.1.4 Distance below Ceilings.

**4-4.1.4.1** Under unobstructed construction, the distance between the sprinkler deflector and the ceiling shall be a minimum of 1 in. (25.4 mm) and a maximum of 12 in. (305 mm).

*Exception:* Special ceiling-type sprinklers (concealed, recessed, and flush types) shall be permitted to have the operating element above the ceiling and the deflector located nearer to the ceiling when installed in accordance with their listing.

**4-4.1.4.2** Under obstructed construction, the sprinkler deflector shall be located 1 to 6 in. (25.4 to 152 mm) below the structural members and a maximum distance of 22 in. (559 mm) below the ceiling/roof deck.

*Exception No. 1:* Sprinklers shall be permitted to be installed with the deflector at or above the bottom of the structural member to a maximum of 22 in. (559 mm) below the ceiling/roof deck when the sprinkler is installed in conformance with 4-4.1.3.1.2.

*Exception No. 2:* Where sprinklers are installed in each bay of obstructed construction, deflectors shall be a minimum of 1 in. (25.4 mm) and a maximum of 12 in. (152 mm) below the ceiling.

**4-4.1.4.3** Deflectors of sprinklers under concrete tee construction with stems spaced less than 7½ ft (2.3 m) but more than 3 ft (0.9 m) on centers shall, regardless of the depth of the tee, be located at or above the plane 1 in. (25.4 mm) below the bottom of the stems of the tees and shall comply with Table 4-4.1.3.1.2.

**4-4.1.5\* Position of Deflectors.** Deflectors of sprinklers shall be parallel to ceilings, roofs, or the incline of stairs.

*Exception No. 1:* When sprinklers are installed in the peak of a pitched roof, the sprinkler shall be installed with the deflector horizontal.

*Exception No. 2:* Pitched roofs having slopes less than 1 in. per ft (83 mm/m) are considered level in the application of this rule, and sprinklers shall be permitted to be installed with deflectors horizontal.

**4-4.1.6\* Clear Space below Sprinklers.** A minimum of 18 in. (457 mm) clearance shall be maintained between top of storage and ceiling sprinkler deflectors.

*Exception:* Where other standards specify greater minimums, they shall be followed.

#### 4-4.1.7 Special Situations.

##### 4-4.1.7.1 Concealed Spaces.

**4-4.1.7.1.1\*** All concealed spaces enclosed wholly or partly by exposed combustible construction shall be protected by sprinklers.

*Exception No. 1:* Concealed spaces formed by studs or joists with less than 6 in. (152 mm) between the inside or near edges of the studs or joists. (See Figure 4-4.1.3.4.)

*Exception No. 2:* Concealed spaces formed by bar joists with less than 6 in. (152 mm) between the roof or floor deck and ceiling.

*Exception No. 3:* Concealed spaces formed by ceilings attached directly to or within 6 in. (152 mm) of wood joist construction.

*Exception No. 4:* Concealed spaces formed by ceilings attached directly to the underside of composite wood joist construction, provided the joist channels are fire-stopped into volumes each not exceeding 160 cu ft (4.53 m³) using materials equivalent to the web construction.

*Exception No. 5:* Concealed spaces entirely filled with noncombustible insulation.

*Exception No. 6:* Concealed spaces within wood joist construction and composite wood joist construction having noncombustible insulation filling the space from the ceiling up to the bottom edge of the joist of the roof or floor deck, provided that in composite wood joist construction the joist channels are fire-stopped into volumes each not exceeding 160 cu ft (4.53 m³). The joists shall be fire-stopped to the full depth of the joist with material equivalent to the web construction.

*Exception No. 7:* Concealed spaces over isolated small rooms not exceeding 55 sq ft (4.6 m²) in area.

*Exception No. 8: When the exposed surfaces have a flame spread rating of 25 or less and the materials have been demonstrated not to propagate fire in the form in which they are installed in the space.*

*Exception No. 9: Noncombustible concealed spaces having exposed combustible insulation when the heat content of the facing and substrate of the insulation material does not exceed 1000 Btu per sq ft (11 356 kJ/m<sup>2</sup>).*

**4-4.1.7.1.2** Sprinklers in concealed spaces having no access for storage or other use shall be installed in accordance with requirements of Light Hazard Occupancy.

**4-4.1.7.1.3** When heat-producing devices such as furnaces or process equipment are located in the joist channels above a ceiling attached directly to the underside of composite wood joist construction that would not otherwise require sprinkler protection of the spaces, the joist channel containing the heat-producing devices shall be sprinklered by installing sprinklers in each joist channel, on each side, adjacent to the heat-producing device.

#### **4-4.1.7.2 Vertical Shafts.**

**4-4.1.7.2.1** One sprinkler shall be installed at the top of shafts.

*Exception No. 1: Noncombustible, nonaccessible vertical duct shafts.*

*Exception No. 2: Noncombustible, nonaccessible vertical electrical shafts.*

*Exception No. 3: Noncombustible, nonaccessible vertical pipe shafts.*

**4-4.1.7.2.2\*** Where vertical shafts have combustible surfaces, one sprinkler shall be installed at each alternate floor level. Where a shaft having combustible surfaces is trapped, an additional sprinkler shall be installed at the top of each trapped section.

**4-4.1.7.2.3** Where accessible vertical shafts have noncombustible surfaces, one sprinkler shall be installed near the bottom.

**4-4.1.7.2.4** Where vertical openings are not protected by fire rated enclosures, sprinklers shall be placed so as to fully protect the openings.

#### **4-4.1.7.3 Stairways.**

**4-4.1.7.3.1** Sprinklers shall be installed beneath all stairways of combustible construction.

**4-4.1.7.3.2** In noncombustible stair shafts with noncombustible stairs, sprinklers shall be installed at the top of the shaft and under the first landing above the bottom of the shaft.

*Exception: Sprinklers shall be installed beneath landings or stairways when the area beneath is used for storage.*

**4-4.1.7.3.3\*** Sprinklers shall be installed in the stair shaft at each floor landing serving two or more separate fire divisions located at the same level as the landing.

**4-4.1.7.3.4\*** Where moving stairways, staircases, or similar floor openings are unenclosed, the floor openings involved shall be protected by closely spaced sprinklers in combination with draft stops.

The draft stops shall be located immediately adjacent to the opening, shall be at least 18 in. (457 mm) deep, and shall be of noncombustible or limited-combustible material that will stay in place before and during sprinkler operation. Sprinklers shall be spaced not more than 6 ft (1.8 m) apart and placed 6 to 12 in. (152 to 305 mm) from the draft stop on the side away from the opening. When sprinklers are closer than 6 ft (1.8 m), cross baffles shall be provided in accordance with 4-4.1.7.8.

*Exception: Closely spaced sprinklers and draft stops are not required around large openings such as those found in shopping malls, atrium buildings, and similar structures where all adjoining levels and spaces are protected by automatic sprinklers in accordance with this standard and where the openings have all horizontal dimensions between opposite edges of 20 ft (6 m) or greater and an area of 1000 sq ft (93 m<sup>2</sup>) or greater.*

**4-4.1.7.4\* Building Service Chutes.** Building service chutes (linen, rubbish, etc.) shall be protected internally by automatic sprinklers. A sprinkler shall be provided above the top service opening of the chute, above the lowest service opening, and above service openings at alternate levels in buildings over two stories in height. The room or area into which the chute discharges shall also be protected by automatic sprinklers.

**4-4.1.7.5 Spaces under Ground Floors, Exterior Docks, and Platforms.** Sprinklers shall be installed in spaces under all ground floors, exterior docks, and platforms.

*Exception: Sprinklers shall be permitted to be omitted when all of the following conditions prevail:*

- (a) *The space is not accessible for storage purposes and is protected against accumulation of wind-borne debris;*
- (b) *The space contains no equipment such as steam pipes, electric wiring, or conveyors;*
- (c) *The floor over the space is of tight construction;*
- (d) *No combustible or flammable liquids or materials that under fire conditions may convert into combustible or flammable liquids are processed, handled, or stored on the floor above the space.*

#### **4-4.1.7.6\* Exterior Roofs or Canopies.**

**4-4.1.7.6.1** Sprinklers shall be installed under roofs or canopies over areas where combustibles are stored or handled.

*Exception: Sprinklers are permitted to be omitted where construction is noncombustible and areas under the roofs or canopies are not used for storage or handling of combustibles.*



**4-4.1.7.6.2** Sprinklers shall be installed under exterior combustible roofs or canopies exceeding 4 ft (1.2 m) in width.

**4-4.1.7.7 Dwelling Units.**

**4-4.1.7.7.1** Sprinklers are not required in bathrooms that are located within dwelling units, that do not exceed 55 sq ft (5.1 m<sup>2</sup>), and that have walls and ceilings of noncombustible or limited-combustible materials with a 15 minute thermal barrier rating including the walls and ceilings behind fixtures.

*Exception: Sprinklers are required in bathrooms of nursing homes and in bathrooms opening directly onto public corridors or exitways.*

**4-4.1.7.7.2** Sprinklers are not required in clothes closets, linen closets, and pantries within dwelling units in hotels and motels where the area of the space does not exceed 24 sq ft (2.2 m<sup>2</sup>), the least dimension does not exceed 3 ft (0.9 m), and the walls and ceilings are surfaced with noncombustible or limited-combustible materials.

**4-4.1.7.8 Baffles.** Baffles shall be installed whenever sprinklers are less than 6 ft (1.8 m) apart to prevent operating sprinklers from wetting adjacent sprinklers, thus delaying or preventing their operation. Baffles shall be located midway between sprinklers and arranged to protect the actuating elements. Baffles shall be of noncombustible or limited-combustible material that will stay in place before and during sprinkler operation. The baffles shall be approximately 8 in. (203 mm) wide and 6 in. (152 mm) high. The tops of baffles shall extend 2 to 3 in. (51 to 76 mm) above the deflectors of upright sprinklers. The bottoms of baffles shall extend downward to a level at least even with the deflectors of pendent sprinklers. (See A-4-4.1.7.3.4.)

*Exception No. 1: For in-rack sprinklers, see NFPA 231C, Standard for Rack Storage of Materials.*

*Exception No. 2: Baffles are not required for old-style sprinklers protecting fur storage vaults.*

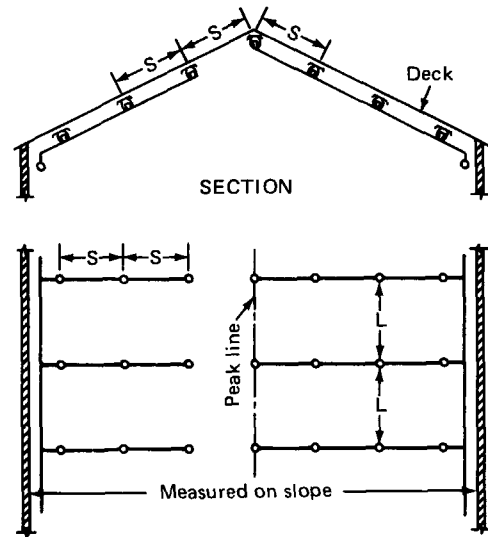
**4-4.1.7.9 Spacing under Pitched Surfaces.**

**4-4.1.7.9.1** The distance between sprinklers either on the branch lines or between the branch lines, running up or down the slope of a pitched surface, shall be measured along the slope.

**4-4.1.7.9.2\*** Sprinklers under or near the peak shall have deflectors located not more than 3 ft (0.9 m) vertically down from the peak. [See Figures 4-4.1.7.9.2(a) and 4-4.1.7.9.2(b).]

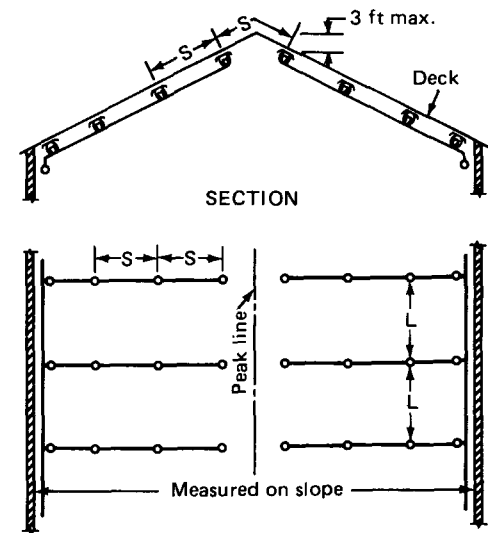
*Exception No. 1: Under saw-toothed roofs, sprinklers at the highest elevation shall not exceed a distance of 3 ft (0.9 m) measured down the slope from the peak.*

*Exception No. 2: Under a steeply pitched surface, the distance from the peak to the deflectors shall be permitted to be increased to maintain a horizontal clearance of not less than 2 ft (0.6 m) from other structural members. [See Figure 4-4.1.7.9.2(c).]*



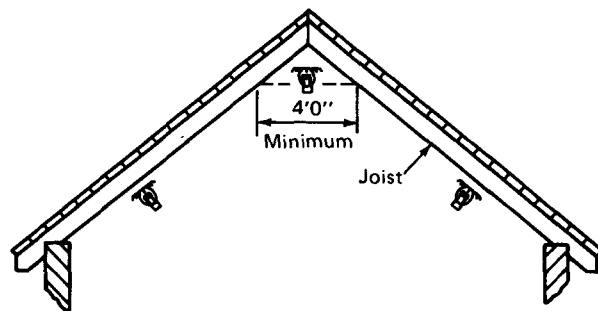
For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure 4-4.1.7.9.2(a) Sprinklers at pitched roofs; branch lines run up the slope.**



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure 4-4.1.7.9.2(b) Sprinklers at pitched roofs; branch lines run up the slope.**



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure 4-4.1.7.9.2(c) Desirable horizontal clearance for sprinklers at peak of pitched roof.**

#### 4-4.1.7.10 Spacing of Sprinklers under Curved Roof Buildings.

**4-4.1.7.10.1** Under curved surfaces, the horizontal distance measured at the floor level from the wall to the nearest sprinkler shall not be greater than one-half the allowable distance between sprinklers.

**4-4.1.7.10.2** Deflectors of sprinklers shall be parallel with the curve of the surface.

**4-4.1.7.10.3** When Extra Hazard Occupancy spacing of sprinklers is used under curved ceilings of other than fire resistive construction, the sprinkler spacing as projected on the floor shall not be greater than that required for Extra Hazard Occupancies, but in no case shall the spacing at the roof or ceiling be wider than that required for Ordinary Hazard Occupancies.

**4-4.1.7.11 Library Stack Rooms.** Sprinklers shall be installed in every aisle and at every tier of stacks with distance between sprinklers along aisles not to exceed 12 ft (3.6 m). [See Figure 4-4.1.7.11(a).]

*Exception No. 1: When vertical shelf dividers are incomplete and allow water distribution to adjacent aisles, sprinklers are permitted to be omitted in alternate aisles on each tier. Where ventilation openings are also provided in tier floors, sprinklers shall be staggered vertically. [See Figure 4-4.1.7.11(b).]*

*Exception No. 2: Sprinklers are permitted to be installed without regard to aisles when there is 18 in. (457 mm) or more clearance between sprinkler deflectors and tops of racks.*

**4-4.1.7.12 Electrical Equipment.** When sprinkler protection is provided in generator or transformer rooms, hoods or shields installed to protect important electrical equipment from sprinkler discharge shall be noncombustible.

**4-4.1.7.13\* Open-Grid Ceilings.** Open-grid ceilings shall not be installed beneath sprinklers.

*Exception No. 1: Open-grid ceilings in which the openings are  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. (6.4 mm) or larger in the least dimension, when the thickness or depth of the material does not exceed the least dimension of the opening, and when such openings constitute 70 percent of the area of the ceiling material. The spacing of the sprinklers over the open grid ceiling shall then comply with the following:*

(a) *In Light Hazard Occupancies when sprinkler spacing (either spray or old-style sprinklers) is less than 10 ft by 10 ft (3 m by 3 m), a minimum clearance of at least 18 in. (457 mm) shall be provided between the sprinkler deflectors and the upper surface of the open-grid ceiling. When spacing is greater than 10 ft by 10 ft (3 m by 3 m) but less than 10 ft by 12 ft (3 m by 3.7 m), a clearance of at least 24 in. (610 mm) shall be provided from spray sprinklers and at least 36 in. (914 mm) from old-style sprinklers. When spacing is greater than 10 ft by 12 ft (3 m by 3.7 m), a clearance of at least 48 in. (1219 mm) shall be provided.*

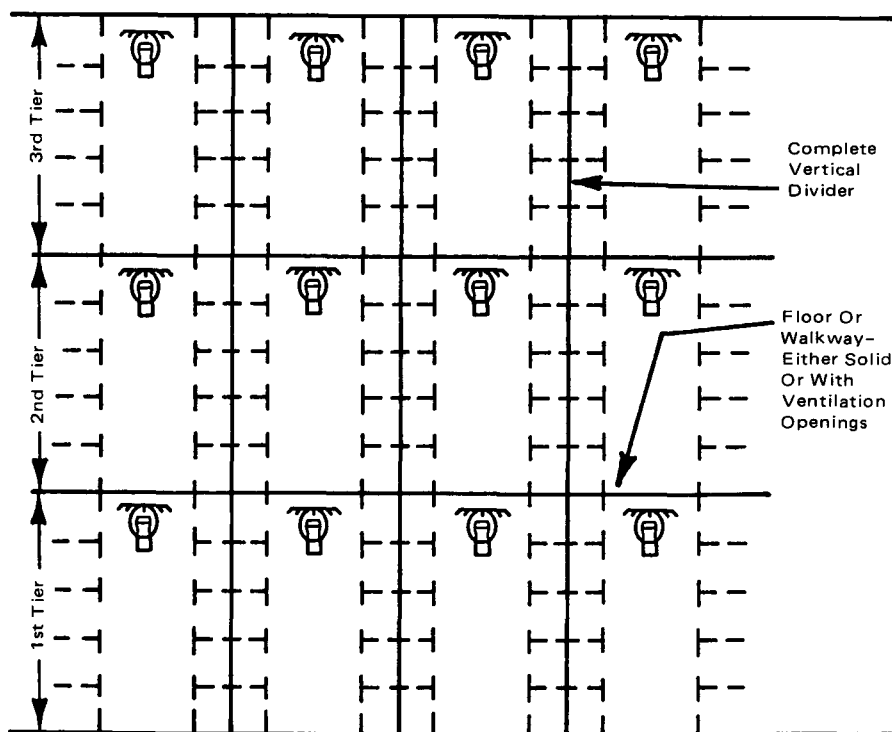


Figure 4-4.1.7.11(a) Sprinklers in multitier library bookstacks with complete vertical dividers.

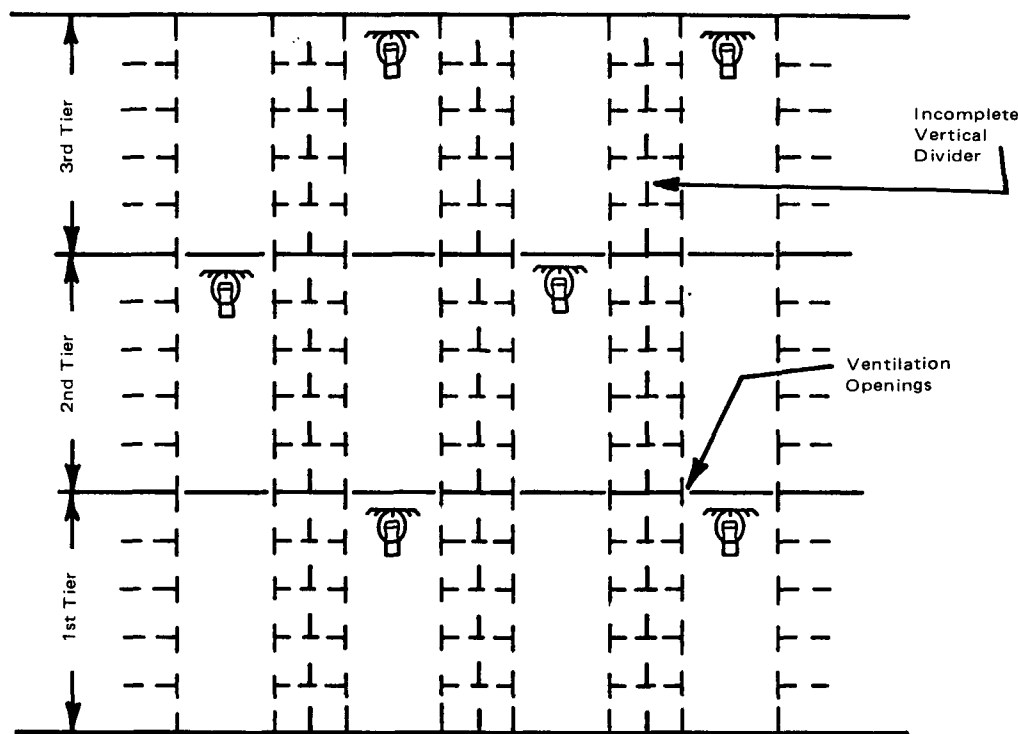


Figure 4-4.1.7.11(b) Sprinklers in multitier library bookstacks with incomplete vertical dividers.

(b) In Ordinary Hazard Occupancies, open-grid ceilings shall be permitted to be installed beneath spray sprinklers only. When sprinkler spacing is less than 10 ft by 10 ft (3 m by 3 m), a minimum clearance of at least 24 in. (610 mm) shall be provided between the sprinkler deflectors and the upper surface of the open-grid ceiling. When spacing is greater than 10 ft by 10 ft (3 m by 3 m), a clearance of at least 36 in. (914 mm) shall be provided.

*Exception No. 2:* Other types of open-grid ceilings shall not be installed beneath sprinklers unless they are listed for such service and are installed in accordance with instructions contained in each package of ceiling material.

#### 4-4.1.7.14 Drop-Out Ceilings.

**4-4.1.7.14.1** Drop-out ceilings shall be permitted to be installed beneath sprinklers when ceilings are listed for that service and are installed in accordance with their listings.

*Exception:* Special sprinklers shall not be installed above drop-out ceilings unless specifically listed for this purpose.

**4-4.1.7.14.2** Drop-out ceilings shall not be considered ceilings within the context of this standard.

**4-4.1.7.14.3\*** Piping installed above drop-out ceilings shall not be considered concealed piping (see 2-5.4, *Exception No. 2*).

**4-4.1.7.14.4\*** Sprinklers shall not be installed beneath drop-out ceilings.

#### 4-4.1.7.15\* Fur Vaults.

**4-4.1.7.15.1** Sprinklers shall be listed old-style having orifice sizes selected to provide as closely as possible but not less than 20 gal per min (76 L/min) per sprinkler, for four sprinklers, based on the water pressure available.

**4-4.1.7.15.2** Sprinklers in fur storage vaults shall be located centrally over the aisles between racks and shall be spaced not over 5 ft (1.5 m) apart along the aisles.

**4-4.1.7.15.3** When sprinklers are spaced 5 ft (1.5 m) apart along the sprinkler branch lines, pipe sizes shall be in accordance with the following schedule:

|        |               |        |               |
|--------|---------------|--------|---------------|
| 1 in.  | 4 sprinklers  | 2 in.  | 20 sprinklers |
| 1¼ in. | 6 sprinklers  | 2½ in. | 40 sprinklers |
| 1½ in. | 10 sprinklers | 3 in.  | 80 sprinklers |

**4-4.1.7.16 Stages.** Sprinklers shall be installed under the roof at the ceiling, in spaces under the stage either containing combustible materials or constructed of combustible materials, and in all adjacent spaces and dressing rooms, storerooms, and workshops.

**4-4.1.7.16.1** When proscenium opening protection is required, a deluge system shall be provided with open sprinklers located not more than 3 ft (0.9 m) away from the stage side of the proscenium arch and spaced up to a maximum of 6 ft (1.8 m) on center. (See Chapter 5 for design criteria.)

**4-4.1.7.17 Rack Storage.** For sprinklers in storage racks see NFPA 231C, *Standard for Rack Storage of Materials*.

**4-4.1.7.18 Provision for Flushing Systems.** All sprinkler systems shall be arranged for flushing. Readily removable fittings shall be provided at the end of all cross mains. All cross mains shall terminate in 1¼-in. (33-mm) or larger pipe. All branch lines on gridded systems shall be arranged to facilitate flushing.

**4-4.1.7.19 Stair Towers.** Stairs, towers, or other construction with incomplete floors, if piped on independent risers, shall be treated as one area with reference to pipe sizes.

**4-4.1.7.20 Return Bends.** Return bends shall be used when pendent sprinklers are supplied from a raw water source, mill pond, or from open-top reservoirs. Return bends shall be connected to the top of branch lines in order to avoid accumulation of sediment in the drop nipples.

*Exception No. 1: Return bends are not required for deluge systems.*

*Exception No. 2: Return bends are not required when dry-pendent sprinklers are used.*

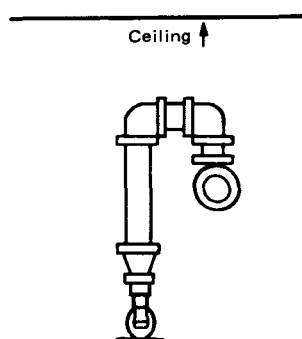


Figure 4-4.1.7.20 Return bend arrangement.

#### 4-4.1.7.21 Piping to Sprinklers below Ceilings.

**4-4.1.7.21.1** In new installations expected to supply sprinklers below a ceiling, minimum 1 in. (25 mm) outlets shall be provided.

*Exception: Hexagonal bushings may be used to accommodate temporary sprinklers and shall be removed with the temporary sprinklers when the permanent ceiling sprinklers are installed.*

**4-4.1.7.21.2** In revamping existing systems, a nipple not exceeding 4 in. (102 mm) in length and of the same pipe thread size as the sprinkler being removed shall be permitted to be installed in the branch line fitting. All other piping shall be 1 in. (25 mm) where it supplies a single sprinkler in an area.

*Exception: When it is necessary to pipe two new ceiling sprinklers from an existing outlet in an overhead system, the use of a nipple not exceeding 4 in. (102 mm) in length and of the same pipe thread size as the existing outlet shall be permitted, provided that a hydraulic calculation verifies that the design flow rate will be achieved.*

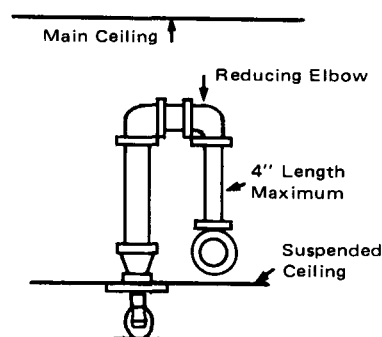


Figure 4-4.1.7.21.2(a) Nipple and reducing elbow supplying sprinkler below ceiling.

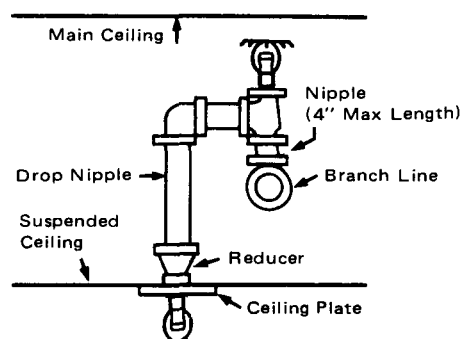


Figure 4-4.1.7.21.2(b) Sprinklers in concealed space and below ceiling.

**4-4.1.7.22 Dry Pipe Underground.** When necessary to place pipe that will be under air pressure underground, the pipe shall be protected against corrosion (see 4-5.4.2), or unprotected cast or ductile iron pipe may be used when joined with a gasketed joint listed for air service underground.

**4-4.1.7.23\* One and One-Half-Inch Hose Connections.** One and one-half-inch [1½-in. (38-mm)] hose used for fire purposes only shall be permitted to be connected to wet sprinkler systems only, subject to the following restrictions:

(a) Hose station's supply pipes shall not be connected to any pipe smaller than 2½ in. (64 mm).

*Exception: For hydraulically designed loops and grids the minimum size pipe between the hose station's supply pipe and the source shall be permitted to be 2 in. (51 mm).*

(b) For piping serving a single hose station, pipe shall be minimum 1 in. (25 mm) for horizontal runs up to 20 ft (6.1 m), minimum 1¼ in. (33 mm) for the entire run for runs between 20 and 80 ft (6.1 and 24.4 m), and minimum 1½ in. (38 mm) for the entire run for runs greater than 80 ft (24.4 m). For piping serving multiple hose stations, runs shall be a minimum of 1½ in. (38 mm) throughout.

(c) Piping shall be at least 1 in. (25 mm) for vertical runs.

(d) When the pressure at any hose station outlet exceeds 100 psi (6.9 bars), an approved device shall be installed at the outlet to reduce the pressure at the outlet to 100 psi (6.9 bars).

**4-4.1.7.24\* Hose Connections for Fire Department Use.**

In buildings of Light or Ordinary Hazard Occupancy, 2½ in. (64 mm) hose valves for fire department use may be attached to wet pipe sprinkler system risers. [See 5-2.3.1.3(d).] The following restrictions shall apply:

(a) Sprinklers shall be under separate floor control valves.

(b) The minimum size of the riser shall be 4 in. (102 mm) unless hydraulic calculations indicate a smaller size riser will satisfy sprinkler and hose stream demands.

(c) Each combined sprinkler and standpipe riser shall be equipped with a riser control valve to permit isolating a riser without interrupting the supply to other risers from the same source of supply.

(d) For fire department connections serving standpipe and sprinkler systems, refer to Section 2-8.

**4-4.1.7.25\*** When individual floor/zone control valves are not provided, a flanged joint or mechanical coupling shall be used at the riser at each floor for connections to piping serving floor areas in excess of 5000 sq ft (465 m²).

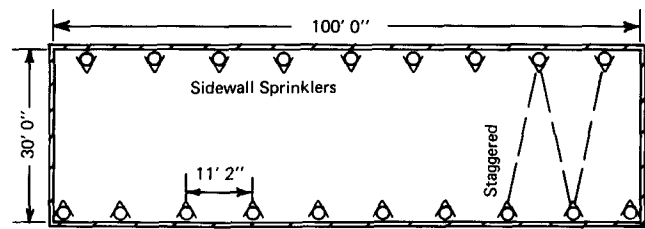
**4-4.2 Sidewall Spray Sprinklers.**

**4-4.2.1 Distance between Sprinklers on Branch Lines.** Sidewall sprinklers shall be installed along the length of a single wall of rooms or bays not exceeding the width dimension specified in Table 4-4.2.1.

*Exception:* Where the width of the room or bay exceeds the maximum allowed, up to 30 ft (9.1 m) for Light Hazard Occupancy, or 20 ft (6.1 m) for Ordinary Hazard Occupancy, sidewall sprinklers on a staggered basis shall be provided on two opposite walls or sides of bays with spacing as required by Table 4-4.2.1. (See Figure 4-4.2.1.)

**4-4.2.2 Protection Area Limitations.**

**4-4.2.2.1\*** Protection area limitations for sidewall sprinklers shall be in conformity with Table 4-4.2.1.



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure 4-4.2.1** Spacing of sidewall sprinklers under unobstructed construction in Light Hazard Occupancies.

**4-4.2.2.2** The distance from a sidewall sprinkler to an end wall shall not exceed one-half the allowable distance between sidewall sprinklers.

**4-4.2.3 Position of Sidewall Sprinklers.**

**4-4.2.3.1** Sidewall sprinklers shall only be installed along walls, lintels, or soffits where the distance from the ceiling to the bottom of the lintel or soffit is at least 2 in. (51 mm) greater than the distances from the ceiling to sidewall sprinkler deflector.

**4-4.2.3.2** Sidewall sprinklers shall not be installed back to back without being separated by a continuous lintel or soffit.

**4-4.2.3.3** Sidewall sprinkler deflectors (vertical type) shall be located not more than 6 in. (152 mm) or less than 4 in. (102 mm) from walls and ceilings.

*Exception No. 1:* Horizontal sidewall sprinklers are permitted to be located 6 to 12 in. (152 to 305 mm) below noncombustible ceilings when listed for these positions.

*Exception No. 2:* Horizontal sidewall sprinklers are permitted to be located with their deflectors less than 4 in. (102 mm) from the wall on which they are mounted.

**Table 4-4.2.1** Dimensions for Sidewall Sprinkler Installation for Various Ceiling Types

|   | Light Hazard Occupancy |  |  | Ordinary Hazard Occupancy |   |
|---|------------------------|--|--|---------------------------|---|
|   | Combustible sheathing  | Combustible construction with noncombustible or limited combustible sheathing, wood lath and plaster | Noncombustible construction with noncombustible or limited combustible sheathing | Combustible sheathing     | Noncombustible or limited combustible sheathing |
| Maximum distance between sprinklers on branch line        | 14                     | 14   | 14   | 10                        | 10  |
| Maximum room width for single branch line along wall (ft) | 12                     | 12   | 14   | 10                        | 10  |
| Maximum area coverage (ft²)                               | 120                    | 168  | 196  | 80                        | 100   |

For SI Units: 1 ft = 0.3048 m; 1 ft² = 0.0929 m².

**4-4.2.3.4** Sidewall sprinklers, when installed under a sloped ceiling, shall be located at the high point of the slope and positioned to discharge downward, and the deflector shall be parallel to the sloped ceiling.

**4-4.2.3.5** When soffits are used for the installation of sidewall sprinklers, they shall not exceed 8 in. (203 mm) in width or projection from the wall.

*Exception: When soffits exceed 8 in., additional sprinklers shall be installed below the soffit.*

**4-4.2.4 Obstructions to Sidewall Sprinklers.** Sidewall sprinklers shall be installed where no beams or similar obstructions are located closer than 4 ft (2.3 m) from the sprinkler. Beams or similar obstructions located greater than 4 ft (2.3 m) from the sprinkler shall be in conformity with Table 4-4.2.4.

**Table 4-4.2.4 Sidewall Sprinkler Clearance**

| Distance from Sidewall Sprinkler to Side of Obstruction | Maximum Allowable Distance of Deflector above Bottom of Obstruction (in.) |
|---|---|
| Less than 4 ft  | 0   |
| 4 ft to less than 5 ft                                  | 1   |
| 5 ft to less than 5 ft 6 in.                            | 2   |
| 5 ft 6 in. to less than 6 ft                            | 3   |
| 6 ft to less than 6 ft 6 in.                            | 4   |
| 6 ft 6 in. to less than 7 ft                            | 6   |
| 7 ft to less than 7 ft 6 in.                            | 7   |
| 7 ft 6 in. to less than 8 ft                            | 9   |
| 8 ft to less than 8 ft 6 in.                            | 11  |
| 8 ft 6 in. to less than 9 ft                            | 14  |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

#### 4-4.3 Large-Drop Sprinklers.

**4-4.3.1\* Spacing.** The distance between sprinklers shall be limited to not more than 12 ft (3.7 m) or less than 8 ft (2.4 m).

*Exception: Under obstructed combustible construction, the maximum distance shall be limited to 10 ft (3.0 m).*

**4-4.3.2 Clear Space below Sprinklers.** A minimum of 36 in. (914 mm) shall be maintained between the top of storage and ceiling sprinkler deflectors.

#### 4-4.3.3\* Distance below Ceiling.

**4-4.3.3.1** Under unobstructed construction, the distance between the sprinkler deflector and the ceiling shall be a minimum of 6 in. and a maximum of 8 in.

**4-4.3.3.2** Under obstructed construction, the distance between the sprinkler deflector and the ceiling shall be a minimum of 6 in. and a maximum of 12 in.

*Exception: Under wood joist or composite wood joist construction, the sprinklers shall be located 1 to 6 in. below the structural members to a maximum distance of 22 in. below the ceiling/roof or deck.*

#### 4-4.3.4\* Obstructions to Distribution.

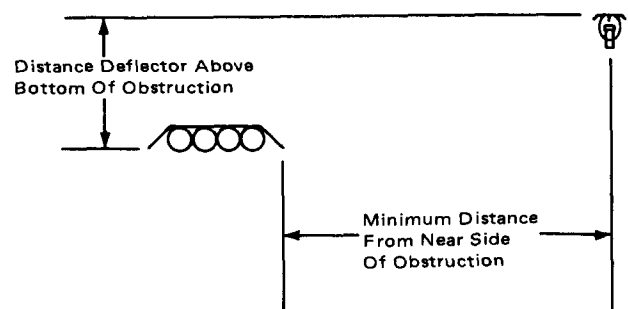
**4-4.3.4.1 Obstructions Located at the Ceiling.** When sprinkler deflectors are located above the bottom of obstructions such as beams, girders, ducts, fluorescent lighting fixtures, etc., located at the ceiling, the sprinklers shall be positioned so that the maximum distance from the bottom of the obstruction to the deflectors does not exceed the values specified in 4-4.1.3.

#### 4-4.3.4.2 Obstructions Located below the Sprinklers.

**4-4.3.4.2.1** Sprinklers shall be positioned with respect to fluorescent lighting fixtures, ducts, and obstructions more than 24 in. (610 mm) wide and located entirely below the sprinklers so that the minimum horizontal distance from the near side of the obstruction to the center of the sprinkler is not less than the value specified in Table 4-4.3.4.2.1. (See Figure 4-4.3.4.2.1.)

**Table 4-4.3.4.2.1 Position of Sprinklers in Relation to Obstruction Located Entirely Below the Sprinklers**

| Distance of Deflector above Bottom of Obstruction | Minimum Distance to Side of Obstruction, ft (m) |
|---|---|
| Less than 6 in. (152 mm)                          | 1½ (0.5)  |
| 6 in. (152 mm) to less than 12 in. (305 mm)       | 3 (0.9)   |
| 12 in. (305 mm) to less than 18 in. (457 mm)      | 4 (1.2)   |
| 18 in. (457 mm) to less than 24 in. (610 mm)      | 5 (1.5)   |
| 24 in. (610 mm) to less than 30 in. (660 mm)      | 6 (1.8)   |



**Figure 4-4.3.4.2.1** Position of sprinklers in relation to obstructions located entirely below the sprinklers. (To be used with Table 4-4.3.4.2.1.)

**4-4.3.4.2.2** When the bottom of the obstruction is located 24 in. (610 mm) or more below the sprinkler deflectors:

(a) Sprinklers shall be positioned so that the obstruction is centered between adjacent sprinklers. (See Figure 4-4.3.4.2.2.)

(b) The obstruction shall be limited to a maximum width of 24 in. (610 mm). (See Figure 4-4.3.4.2.2.)

*Exception:* When obstruction is greater than 24 in. (610 mm) wide, one or more lines of sprinklers shall be installed below the obstruction.

(c) The obstruction shall not extend more than 12 in. (305 mm) to either side of the midpoint between sprinklers. (See Figure 4-4.3.4.2.2.)

*Exception:* When the extensions of the obstruction exceed 12 in. (305 mm), one or more lines of sprinklers shall be installed below the obstruction.

(d) At least 18 in. (457 mm) clearance shall be maintained between the top of storage and the bottom of the obstruction. (See Figure 4-4.3.4.2.2.)

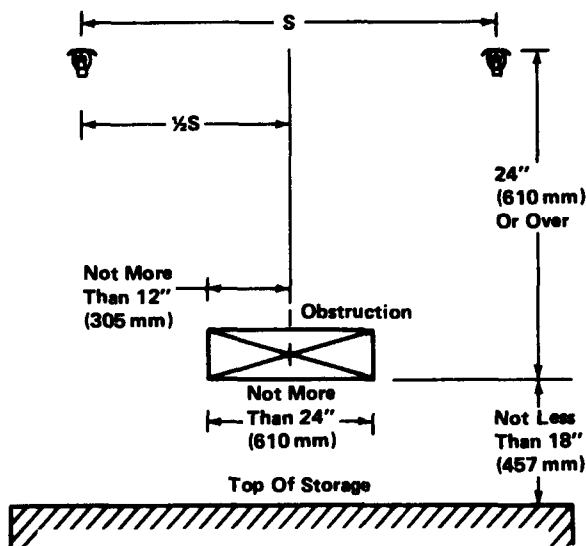


Figure 4-4.3.4.2.2 Position of sprinklers in relation to obstructions located 24 in. (610 mm) or more below deflectors.

**4-4.3.4.2.3 Obstructions Parallel to and Directly below Branch Lines.** In the special case of an obstruction running parallel to and directly below a branch line:

(a) The sprinkler shall be located at least 36 in. (914 mm) above the top of the obstruction. (See Figure 4-4.3.4.2.3.)

(b) The obstruction shall be limited to a maximum width of 12 in. (305 mm). (See Figure 4-4.3.4.2.3.)

(c) The obstruction shall be limited to a maximum extension of 6 in. (152 mm) to either side of the center line of the branch line. (See Figure 4-4.3.4.2.3.)

**4-4.4 Quick Response Early Suppression (QRES) Sprinklers.** (Reserved)

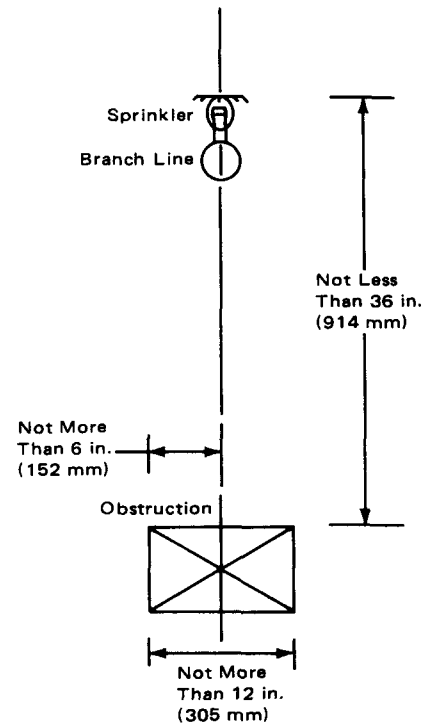


Figure 4-4.3.4.2.3 Position of sprinklers in relation to obstructions running parallel to and directly below branch lines.

#### 4-4.5 Early Suppression Fast Response (ESFR) Sprinklers.

**4-4.5.1 Spacing.** The distance between sprinklers shall be limited to not more than 12 ft (3.7 m) or less than 8 ft (2.4 m).

##### 4-4.5.2 Distances.

**4-4.5.2.1 Distance from Walls.** The distance from walls to sprinklers shall not exceed one-half of the allowable distance between sprinklers.

**4-4.5.2.2 Clear Space below Sprinklers.** At least 36 in. (914 mm) shall be maintained between sprinkler deflectors and the top of storage.

**4-4.5.2.3 Distances below Ceiling.** Sprinklers shall be positioned so that deflectors are a maximum 14 in. (356 mm) and a minimum 6 in. (152 mm) below the ceiling.

**4-4.5.3 Location of Sprinklers in Obstructed Construction.** With obstructed construction, the branch lines shall be permitted to be installed across the beams, but sprinklers shall be located in the bays and not under the beams.

##### 4-4.5.4 Obstruction to Discharge.

**4-4.5.4.1 Obstructions Located at or near the Ceiling.** When sprinkler deflectors are located above the bottom of

beams, girders, ducts, fluorescent lighting fixtures, or other obstructions located at the ceiling, the sprinklers shall be positioned so that the maximum distance from the bottom of the obstruction to the deflector does not exceed the value specified in 4-4.1.3.

**4-4.5.4.2 Obstructions Located Entirely below the Sprinklers.** Sprinklers shall be positioned with respect to any fluorescent lighting fixtures, ducts, or any other obstruction more than 12 in. (305 mm) wide and located entirely below the sprinklers so that the minimum horizontal distance from the near side of the obstruction to the center of the sprinkler is not less than the value specified in Table 4-4.3.4.2.1. (See Figure 4-4.3.4.2.1.)

## 4-5 Piping Installation.

### 4-5.1 Valves.

**4-5.1.1\* Valves Controlling Sprinkler Systems.** (See 2-7.1.)

**4-5.1.1.1\*** Each system shall be provided with a listed indicating valve in an accessible location, so located as to control all automatic sources of water supply.

**4-5.1.1.2** At least one listed indicating valve shall be installed in each source of water supply.

*Exception:* There shall be no shutoff valve in the fire department connection.

**4-5.1.1.3** Valves on connections to water supplies, sectional control valves, and other valves in supply pipes to sprinklers shall be supervised open by one of the following methods:

- (a) Central station, proprietary, or remote station signaling service.
- (b) Local signaling service that will cause the sounding of an audible signal at a constantly attended point.
- (c) Valves locked in the open position.
- (d) Valves located within fenced enclosures under the control of the owner, sealed in the open position, and inspected weekly as part of an approved procedure.

Floor control valves in high-rise buildings and valves controlling flow to sprinklers in circulating closed loop systems shall comply with (a) or (b) above.

*Exception:* Supervision of underground gate valves with roadway boxes shall not be required.

**4-5.1.1.4** When there is more than one source of water supply, a check valve shall be installed in each connection.

**4-5.1.1.5** Check valves shall be installed in a vertical or horizontal position in accordance with their listing.

**4-5.1.1.6\*** When a single wet pipe sprinkler system is equipped with a fire department connection, the alarm valve is considered a check valve and an additional check valve shall not be required.

**4-5.1.1.7\*** In a city connection serving as one source of supply, the city valve in the connection shall be acceptable as one of the required valves. A listed indicating valve or an indicator post valve shall be installed on the system side of the check valve required in 4-5.1.1.4.

*Exception:* When a wet pipe sprinkler system is equipped with an (alarm) check valve, a gate valve is not required on the system side of the (alarm) check valve.

### 4-5.1.2 Pressure Reducing Valves.

**4-5.1.2.1** In portions of systems where all components are not listed for pressure greater than 175 psi (12.1 bars) and the potential exists for normal (nonfire condition) water pressure in excess of 175 psi (12.1 bars), a listed pressure reducing valve shall be installed and set for an outlet pressure not exceeding 165 psi (11.4 bars) at the maximum inlet pressure.

**4-5.1.2.2** Pressure gauges shall be installed on the inlet and outlet sides of each pressure reducing valve.

**4-5.1.2.3\*** A relief valve of not less than 1/2 in. (13 mm) in size shall be provided on the discharge side of the pressure reducing valve set to operate at a pressure not exceeding 175 psi (12.1 bars).

**4-5.1.2.4** A listed indicating valve shall be provided on the inlet side of each pressure reducing valve.

*Exception:* A listed indicating valve is not required where the pressure reducing valve meets the listing requirements for use as an indicating valve.

## 4-5.2 Pipe Support.

### 4-5.2.1 General

**4-5.2.1.1** Sprinkler piping shall be supported independently of the ceiling sheathing.

*Exception:* Toggle hangers shall be permitted only for the support of pipe 1 1/2 in. (38 mm) or smaller in size under ceilings of hollow tile or metal lath and plaster.

**4-5.2.1.2** When sprinkler piping is installed in storage racks as defined in NFPA 231C, *Standard for Rack Storage of Materials*, piping shall be supported from the storage rack structure or building in accordance with all applicable provisions of 4-5.2 and 4-5.4.3.

### 4-5.2.2 Maximum Distance between Hangers.

**4-5.2.2.1\*** The maximum distance between hangers shall not exceed that in Table 4-5.2.2.1.

*Exception No. 1:* The maximum distance between hangers for steel pipe and copper tube shall be modified as specified in 4-5.2.1 and 4-5.2.2.

*Exception No. 2:* The maximum distance between hangers for CPVC pipe and polybutylene pipe shall be modified as specified in the individual product listings.



**Table 4-5.2.2.1 Maximum Distance between Hangers (ft - in.)**

| Nominal Pipe Size (in.)               | 3/4  | 1    | 1 1/4 | 1 1/2 | 2    | 2 1/2 | 3    | 3 1/2 | 4    | 5    | 6    | 8    |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|
| Steel Pipe Except Threaded Light-wall | N/A  | 12-0 | 12-0  | 15-0  | 15-0 | 15-0  | 15-0 | 15-0  | 15-0 | 15-0 | 15-0 | 15-0 |
| Threaded Light-wall Steel Pipe        | N/A  | 12-0 | 12-0  | 12-0  | 12-0 | 12-0  | 12-0 | N/A   | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  |
| Copper Tube                           | 8-0  | 8-0  | 10-0  | 10-0  | 12-0 | 12-0  | 12-0 | 15-0  | 15-0 | 15-0 | 15-0 | 15-0 |
| CPVC                                  | 5-6  | 6-0  | 6-6   | 7-0   | 8-0  | 9-0   | 10-0 | N/A   | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  |
| Polybutylene (IPS)                    | N/A  | 3-9  | 4-7   | 5-0   | 5-11 | N/A   | N/A  | N/A   | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  |
| Polybutylene (CTS)                    | 2-11 | 3-4  | 3-11  | 4-5   | 5-5  | N/A   | N/A  | N/A   | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

*Exception No. 3: Holes through concrete beams shall be acceptable for the support of steel pipe as a substitute for hangers.*

**4-5.2.3 Location of Hangers on Branch Lines.** This subsection applies to the support of steel pipe or copper tube as specified in 2-3.1 and subject to the provisions of 4-5.2.2.

**4-5.2.3.1** There shall be not less than one hanger for each section of pipe.

*Exception No. 1\*: When sprinklers are spaced less than 6 ft (1.8 m) apart, hangers spaced up to a maximum of 12 ft (3.7 m) shall be permitted.*

*Exception No. 2: Starter lengths less than 6 ft (1.8 m) shall not require a hanger, unless on the end line of a sidefeed system or where an intermediate cross main hanger has been omitted.*

**4-5.2.3.2** The distance between a hanger and the centerline of an upright sprinkler shall not be less than 3 in. (76 mm).

**4-5.2.3.3\*** The unsupported length between the end sprinkler and the last hanger on the line shall not be greater than 36 in. (914 mm) for 1-in. (2.5-cm) pipe or 48 in. (1219 mm) for 1 1/4-in. (3.2-cm) pipe, and 60 in. (15.2 cm) for 1 1/2-in. (3.8-cm) or larger pipe. When any of these limits is exceeded, the pipe shall be extended beyond the end sprinkler and shall be supported by an additional hanger.

*Exception No. 1\*: When the maximum pressure at the sprinkler exceeds 100 psi (6.9 bars), and a branch line above a ceiling supplies sprinklers in a pendent position below the ceiling, the hanger assembly supporting the pipe supplying an end sprinkler in a pendent position shall be of a type that prevents upward movement of the pipe.*

*Exception No. 2\*: When the maximum pressure at the sprinkler exceeds 100 psi (6.9 bars), the unsupported length between the end sprinkler in a pendent position or drop nipple and the last hanger on the branch line shall not be greater than 12 in. (305 mm) for steel pipe or 6 in. (152 mm) for copper pipe. When this limit is exceeded, the pipe shall be extended beyond the end sprinkler and supported by an additional hanger. The hanger closest to the sprinkler shall be of a type that clamps to and prevents upward movement of the piping.*

**4-5.2.3.4\*** The length of an unsupported armover to a sprinkler shall not exceed 24 in. (610 mm) for steel pipe or 12 in. (305 mm) for copper tube.

*Exception\*: When the maximum pressure at the sprinkler exceeds 100 psi (6.9 bars) and a branch line above a ceiling supplies sprinklers in a pendent position below the ceiling, the length of an unsupported armover to a sprinkler and drop nipple shall not exceed 12 in. (305 mm) for steel pipe and 6 in. (152 mm) for copper tube.*

*When the limits of the unsupported armover lengths of 4-5.2.3.4 or this Exception are exceeded, the hanger closest to the sprinkler shall be of a type that prevents upward movement of the piping.*

**4-5.2.3.5** Wall mounted sidewall sprinklers shall be restrained to prevent movement.

**4-5.2.4 Location of Hangers on Cross Mains.** This subsection applies to the support of steel pipe only as specified in 4-5.2.3, subject to the provisions of 4-5.2.2.

**4-5.2.4.1** On cross mains there shall be at least one hanger between each two branch lines.

*Exception No. 1: In bays having two branch lines, the intermediate hanger shall be permitted to be omitted provided that a hanger attached to a purlin is installed on each branch line located as near to the cross main as the location of the purlin permits. Remaining branch line hangers shall be installed in accordance with 4-5.2.3.*

*Exception No. 2: In bays having three branch lines, either side or center feed, one (only) intermediate hanger shall be permitted to be omitted provided that a hanger attached to a purlin is installed on each branch line located as near to the cross main as the location of the purlin permits. Remaining branch line hangers shall be installed in accordance with 4-5.2.3.*

*Exception No. 3: In bays having four or more branch lines, either side or center feed, two intermediate hangers shall be permitted to be omitted provided the maximum distance between hangers does not exceed the distances specified in 4-5.2.2.1 and a hanger attached to a purlin on each branch line is located as near to the cross main as the purlin permits.*

**4-5.2.4.2** Intermediate hangers shall not be omitted for copper tube.

**4-5.2.4.3** At the end of the cross main, intermediate trapeze hangers shall be installed unless the cross main is extended to the next framing member with a hanger installed at this point, in which event an intermediate hanger shall be permitted to be omitted in accordance with 4-5.2.4.1, Exceptions No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3.

#### 4-5.2.5 Support of Risers.

**4-5.2.5.1** Risers shall be supported by pipe clamps or by hangers located on the horizontal connections close to the riser.

**4-5.2.5.2** Clamps supporting pipe by means of setscrews shall not be used.

**4-5.2.5.3** In multistory buildings, riser supports shall be provided at the lowest level, at each alternate level above, above and below offsets, and at the top of the riser. Supports above the lowest level shall also restrain the pipe to prevent movement by an upward thrust when flexible fittings are used. Where risers are supported from the ground, the ground support constitutes the first level of riser support. Where risers are offset or do not rise from the ground, the first ceiling level above the offset constitutes the first level of riser support.

**4-5.2.5.4** Risers in vertical shafts, or in buildings with ceilings over 25 ft (7.6 m) high, shall have at least one support for each riser pipe section.

#### 4-5.3 Drainage.

**4-5.3.1\*** All sprinkler pipe and fittings shall be so installed that the system can be drained.

**4-5.3.2** On wet pipe systems, sprinkler pipes shall be permitted to be installed level. Trapped piping shall be drained in accordance with 4-5.3.5.

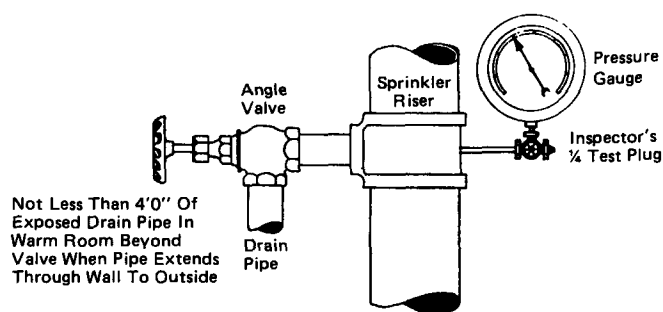
**4-5.3.3** In dry pipe systems and portions of preaction systems subject to freezing, branch lines shall be pitched at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. per 10 ft (4 mm/m) and mains shall be pitched at least  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. per 10 ft (2 mm/m).

*Exception:* Mains shall be pitched at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. per 10 ft (4 mm/m) in refrigerated areas.

**4-5.3.4 System, Main Drain, or Sectional Drain Connections.** [See Figures 4-5.3.4 and A-4-6.4.2(b).]

**4-5.3.4.1** Provisions shall be made to properly drain all parts of the system.

**4-5.3.4.2** Drain connections for systems supply risers and mains shall be sized as shown in Table 4-5.3.4.2.



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Figure 4-5.3.4 Drain connection for system riser.

Table 4-5.3.4.2

| Riser or Main Size    | Size of Drain Connection    |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Up to 2 in.           | $\frac{3}{4}$ in. or larger |
| 2½ in., 3 in., 3½ in. | 1¼ in. or larger            |
| 4 in. and larger      | 2 in. only                  |

**4-5.3.4.3** When interior sectional or floor control valve(s) are provided, they shall be provided with a drain connection sized as shown in Table 4-5.3.4.2 to drain that portion of the system controlled by the sectional valve. Drains shall discharge outside or to a drain connection. [See Figure A-4-6.4.2(b).]

**4-5.3.4.4** The test connections required by 4-6.4.1 shall be permitted to be used as main drain connections.

*Exception:* When drain connections for floor control valves are tied into a common drain riser, the drain riser shall be one pipe size larger than the largest size drain connection tying into it.

#### 4-5.3.5 Auxiliary Drains.

**4-5.3.5.1** Auxiliary drains shall be provided when a change in piping direction prevents drainage of system piping through the main drain valve.

**4-5.3.5.2 Auxiliary Drains for Wet Pipe Systems and Preaction Systems in Areas Not Subject to Freezing.**

**4-5.3.5.2.1** When the capacity of trapped sections of pipes in wet systems is less than 5 gal (18.9 L), the auxiliary drain shall consist of a nipple and cap or plug not less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (12 mm) in size.

*Exception:* Auxiliary drains are not required for system piping that can be drained by removing a single pendent sprinkler.

**4-5.3.5.2.2** When the capacity of isolated trapped sections of pipe is more than 5 gal (18.9 L) and less than 50 gal (189 L), the auxiliary drain shall consist of a valve  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. or larger and a plug or a nipple and cap.

**4-5.3.5.2.3\*** When the capacity of isolated trapped sections of pipe is 50 gal (18.9 L) or more, the auxiliary drain shall consist of a valve not smaller than 1 in. (25.4 mm), piped to an accessible location.

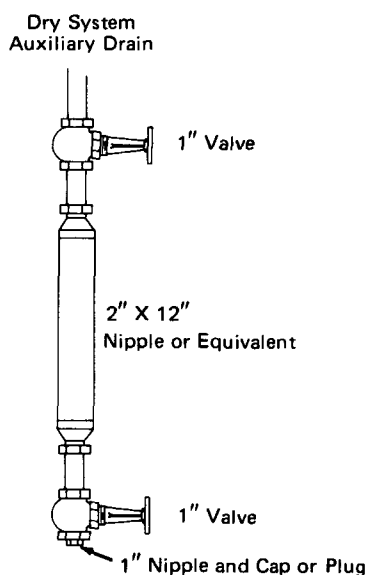
**4-5.3.5.2.4** Tie-in drains are not required on wet pipe and preaction systems.

**4-5.3.5.3 Auxiliary Drains for Dry Pipe Systems and Preaction Systems in Areas Subject to Freezing.**

**4-5.3.5.3.1** When capacity of trapped sections of pipe is less than 5 gal (18.9 L), the auxiliary drain shall consist of a valve not smaller than 1/2 in. (12 mm) and a plug or a nipple and cap.

*Exception:* Auxiliary drains are not required for pipe drops supplying dry-pendent sprinklers installed in accordance with 3-2.2.

**4-5.3.5.3.2** When the capacity of isolated trapped sections of system piping is more than 5 gal (18.9 L), the auxiliary drain shall consist of two 1-in. (25-mm) valves and one 2-in. by 12-in. (51-mm by 305-mm) condensate nipple or equivalent, accessibly located. (See Figure 4-5.3.5.3.2.)



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure 4-5.3.5.3.2** Dry system auxiliary drain.

**4-5.3.5.3.3** Tie-in drains shall be provided for multiple adjacent trapped branch pipes and shall only be 1 in. (25.4 mm). Tie-in drain lines shall be pitched a minimum of 1/2 in. per 10 ft (4 mm/m).

**4-5.3.6 Discharge of Drain Valves.**

**4-5.3.6.1\*** Direct interconnections shall not be made between sprinkler drains and sewers. The drain discharge shall conform to any health or water department regulations.

**4-5.3.6.2** When drain pipes are buried underground, approved corrosion-resistant pipe shall be used.

**4-5.3.6.3** Drain pipes shall not terminate in blind spaces under the building.

**4-5.3.6.4** When exposed to the atmosphere, drain pipes shall be fitted with a turned down elbow.

**4-5.3.6.5** Drain pipes shall be arranged to avoid exposing any part of the sprinkler system to freezing conditions.

**4-5.4 Protection of Piping.**

**4-5.4.1 Protection of Piping against Freezing.**

**4-5.4.1.1** When portions of systems are subject to freezing and temperatures cannot reliably be maintained at or above 40°F (4°C), sprinklers shall be installed as a dry pipe or preaction system.

*Exception:* Small unheated areas are permitted to be protected by antifreeze systems or by other systems specifically listed for this purpose. (See 3-5.2.)

**4-5.4.1.2** When water-filled supply pipes, risers, system risers, or feed mains pass through open areas, cold rooms, passageways, or other areas exposed to freezing, the pipe shall be protected against freezing by insulating coverings, frostproof casings, or other reliable means capable of maintaining a minimum temperature of 40°F (4°C).

**4-5.4.2 Protection of Piping against Corrosion.**

**4-5.4.2.1\*** When corrosive conditions are known to exist due to moisture or fumes from corrosive chemicals or both, special types of fittings, pipes, and hangers that resist corrosion shall be used or a protective coating shall be applied to all unprotected exposed surfaces of the sprinkler system. (See 2-2.4.)

**4-5.4.2.2** When water supplies are known to have unusual corrosive properties and threaded or cut groove steel pipe is to be used, wall thickness shall be in accordance with Schedule 30 [in sizes 8 in. (203 mm) or larger] or Schedule 40 [in sizes less than 8 in. (203 mm)].

**4-5.4.2.3** Steel pipe, when exposed to weather, shall be externally galvanized or otherwise protected against corrosion.

**4-5.4.2.4** When steel pipe is used underground the pipe shall be protected against corrosion.

**4-5.4.3 Protection of Piping against Damage Where Subject to Earthquakes.**

**4-5.4.3.1\* General.** Sprinkler systems shall be protected to prevent pipe breakage where subject to earthquakes in accordance with the requirements of 4-5.4.3.

*Exception:* Alternative methods of providing earthquake protection of sprinkler systems based on a dynamic seismic analysis certified by a registered professional engineer such that system performance will be at least equal to that of the building structure under expected seismic forces.

**4-5.4.3.2\* Couplings.** Listed flexible pipe couplings joining grooved end pipe shall be provided as flexure joints to allow individual sections of piping 3½ in. (89 mm) or larger to move differentially with the individual sections of the building to which it is attached. Couplings shall be arranged to coincide with structural separations within a building. They shall be installed:

(a) Within 24 in. (610 mm) of the top and bottom of all risers.

*Exception No. 1: In risers less than 3 ft (0.9 m) in length flexible couplings are permitted to be omitted.*

*Exception No. 2: In risers 3 to 7 ft (0.9 to 2.1 m) in length, one flexible coupling is adequate.*

(b) Within 12 in. (305 mm) above or below the floor in multistory buildings.

(c) On one side of concrete or masonry walls within 3 ft (0.9 m) of the wall surface.

(d)\* At or near building expansion joints.

(e) Within 24 in. of the ceiling at the top of drops to hose lines, rack sprinklers, and mezzanines, regardless of pipe size.

(f) Within 24 in. of the ceiling at the top of drops exceeding 15 ft (4.6 m) in length to portions of systems supplying more than one sprinkler, regardless of pipe size.

**4-5.4.3.3\* Seismic Separation Assembly.** Seismic separation assemblies with flexible fittings shall be installed where sprinkler piping, regardless of size, crosses building seismic separation joints above ground level.

**4-5.4.3.4\* Clearance.** Clearance shall be provided around all piping extending through walls, floors, platforms, and foundations, including drains, fire department connections, and other auxiliary piping.

(a) Minimum clearance on all sides shall be not less than 1 in. (25 mm) for pipes 1 in. (25 mm) through 3½ in. (89 mm), and 2 in. (51 mm) for pipe sizes 4 in. (102 mm) and larger.

*Exception No. 1: When clearance is provided by a pipe sleeve, a nominal diameter 2 in. (51 mm) larger than the nominal diameter of the pipe is acceptable for pipe sizes 1 in. (25 mm) through 3½ in. (89 mm), and the clearance provided by a pipe sleeve of nominal diameter 4 in. (102 mm) larger than the nominal diameter of the pipe is acceptable for pipe sizes 4 in. (102 mm) and larger.*

*Exception No. 2: No clearance is necessary for piping passing through gypsum board or equally frangible construction that is not required to have a fire-resistance rating.*

*Exception No. 3: No clearance is necessary if flexible couplings or swing joints are located within 1 ft (0.3 m) of each side of a wall.*

(b) When required the clearance shall be filled with a flexible material such as mastic.

#### 4-5.4.3.5 Sway Bracing.

**4-5.4.3.5.1\*** Both lateral and longitudinal sway braces shall be sized and fastened to the structure such that the horizontal loads assigned to the braces in Table 4-5.4.3.5.1(a) do not exceed the allowable loads on the braces as shown in Table 4-5.4.3.5.1(b) and the allowable loads on fasteners as shown in Table 4-5.4.3.5.1(c). Sway bracing shall be tight and concentric. All parts and fittings of a brace shall lie in a straight line to avoid eccentric loadings on fittings and fasteners. For longitudinal braces only, the brace shall be permitted to be connected to a tab welded to the pipe in conformance with 2-5.2. The structural component shall be capable of carrying the added applied loads.

*Exception: In lieu of using Table 4-5.4.3.5.1(a), horizontal loads for braces shall be permitted to be determined by analysis. Sway braces shall be designed to withstand a force in tension or compression equivalent to not less than half the weight of water-filled piping. For lateral braces, the load shall include all branch lines and mains within the zone of influence of the brace. For longitudinal braces, the load shall include all mains within the zone of influence of the brace. For individual braces the slenderness ratio  $l/r$  shall not exceed 200, where  $l$  is the length of the brace and  $r$  is the least radius of gyration, both in inches.*

Table 4-5.4.3.5.1(a) Assigned Load Table (Based on half the weight of the water-filled pipe)

| Spacing of Lateral Braces (ft) | Spacing of Longitudinal Braces** (ft) | Assigned Load for Pipe Size to Be Braced (lb) |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                                |                                       | 2   | 2½   | 3    | 4    | 5    | 6    | 8    |
| 10                             | 20                                    | 380   | 395  | 410  | 435  | 470  | 655  | 915  |
| 20                             | 40                                    | 760   | 785  | 815  | 870  | 940  | 1305 | 1830 |
| 25                             | 50                                    | 950   | 980  | 1020 | 1090 | 1175 | 1630 | 2290 |
| 30                             | 60                                    | 1140  | 1180 | 1225 | 1305 | 1410 | 1960 | 2745 |
| 40                             | 80                                    | 1515  | 1570 | 1630 | 1740 | 1880 | 2610 | 3660 |
| 50*                            |                                       | 1895  | 1965 | 2035 | 2175 | 2350 | 3260 | 4575 |

\*Permitted only under Exception No. 4 to 4-5.4.3.5.4.

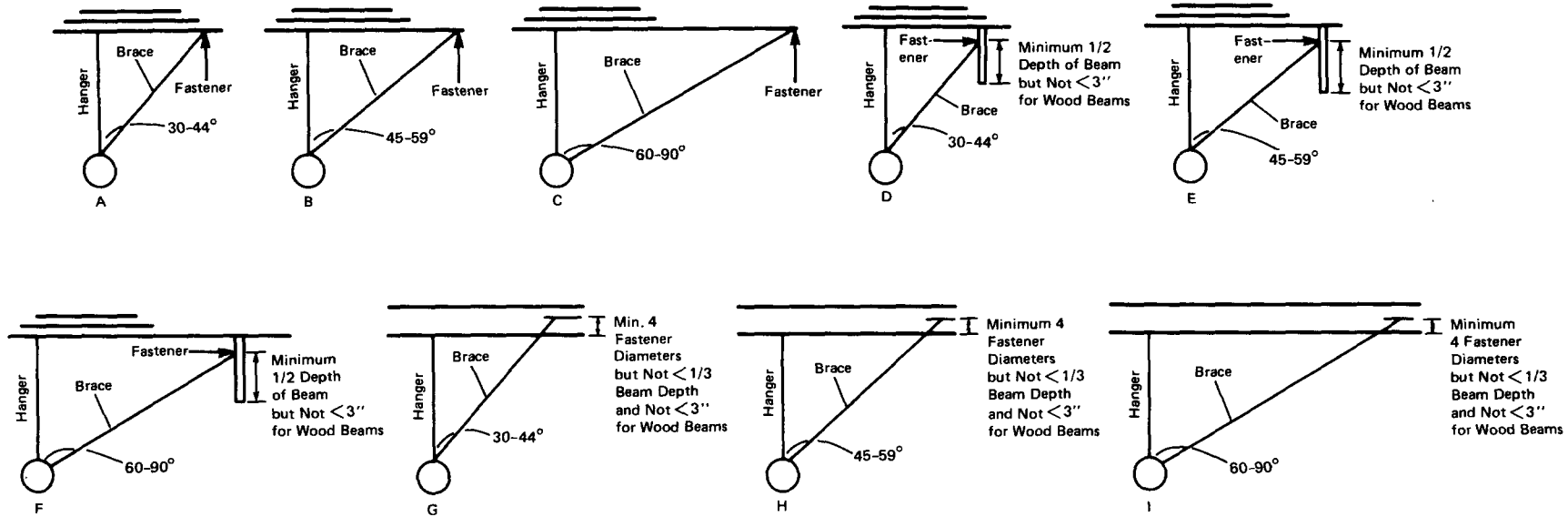
\*\*If branch lines are provided with lateral bracing or hung with U-hooks bent out at least 30 degrees from vertical, half the assigned load may be used for longitudinal braces.

Table 4-5.4.3.5.1(b)

| Shape and Size            | Least Radius of Gyration                               | Maximum Length for $l/r = 200$ | Maximum Horizontal Load (lb) |                         |                         |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|                           |  |                                | 30° Angle from Vertical      | 45° Angle from Vertical | 60° Angle from Vertical |
| <b>Pipe (Schedule 40)</b> | $= \frac{\sqrt{r_o^2 + r_i^2}}{2}$                     |                                |                              |                         |                         |
| 1 in.                     | .42  | 7 ft 0 in.                     | 1767                         | 2500                    | 3061                    |
| 1 1/4 in.                 | .54  | 9 ft 0 in.                     | 2393                         | 3385                    | 4145                    |
| 1 1/2 in.                 | .623   | 10 ft 4 in.                    | 2858                         | 4043                    | 4955                    |
| 2 in.                     | .787   | 13 ft 1 in.                    | 3828                         | 5414                    | 6630                    |
| <b>Pipe (Schedule 10)</b> | $= \frac{\sqrt{r_o^2 + r_i^2}}{2}$                     |                                |                              |                         |                         |
| 1 in.                     | .43  | 7 ft 2 in.                     | 1477                         | 2090                    | 2559                    |
| 1 1/4 in.                 | .55  | 9 ft 2 in.                     | 1900                         | 2687                    | 3291                    |
| 1 1/2 in.                 | .634   | 10 ft 7 in.                    | 2194                         | 3103                    | 3800                    |
| 2 in.                     | .802   | 13 ft 4 in.                    | 2771                         | 3926                    | 4803                    |
| <b>Angles</b>             |  |                                |                              |                         |                         |
| 1 1/2 × 1 1/2 × 1/4       | .292   | 4 ft 10 in.                    | 2461                         | 3481                    | 4263                    |
| 2 × 2 × 1/4               | .391   | 6 ft 6 in.                     | 3356                         | 4746                    | 5813                    |
| 2 1/2 × 2 × 1/4           | .424   | 7 ft 0 in.                     | 3792                         | 5363                    | 6569                    |
| 2 1/2 × 2 1/2 × 1/4       | .491   | 8 ft 2 in.                     | 4257                         | 6021                    | 7374                    |
| 3 × 2 1/2 × 1/4           | .528   | 8 ft 10 in.                    | 4687                         | 6628                    | 8118                    |
| 3 × 3 × 1/4               | .592   | 9 ft 10 in.                    | 5152                         | 7286                    | 8923                    |
| <b>Rods</b>               | $= \frac{r}{2}$  |                                |                              |                         |                         |
| 3/8                       | .094   | 1 ft 6 in.                     | 395                          | 559                     | 685                     |
| 1/2                       | .125   | 2 ft 6 in.                     | 702                          | 993                     | 1217                    |
| 5/8                       | .156   | 2 ft 7 in.                     | 1087                         | 1537                    | 1883                    |
| 3/4                       | .188   | 3 ft 1 in.                     | 1580                         | 2235                    | 2737                    |
| 7/8                       | .219   | 3 ft 7 in.                     | 2151                         | 3043                    | 3726                    |
| <b>Flats</b>              | $= 0.29 h$ (where h is smaller of two side dimensions) |                                |                              |                         |                         |
| 1 1/2 × 1/4               | .0725  | 1 ft 2 in.                     | 1118                         | 1581                    | 1936                    |
| 2 × 1/4 in.               | .0725  | 1 ft 2 in.                     | 1789                         | 2530                    | 3098                    |
| 2 × 3/8                   | .109   | 1 ft 9 in.                     | 2683                         | 3795                    | 4648                    |

**Table 4-5.4.3.5.1(c) Maximum Loads for Various Types of Structure****Maximum Loads for Various Types of Fasteners to Structure**

NOTE: Loads (given in pounds) are keyed to vertical angles of braces and orientation of connecting surface. These values are based on concentric loadings of the fastener. Use figures to determine proper reference within table. For angles between those shown, use most restrictive case. Braces should not be attached to light structure members.



**Lag Screws in Wood (load perpendicular to grain—holes predrilled using good practice)**  
**Shank Diameter of Lag (in.)**

| 3/8                     |   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 1/2 |     |     |     |     |     |      |     |     |     | 5/8  |     |     |     |     |      |     |     |     |      | 7/8  |      |     |      |      |     |      |      |  |  |
|-------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|--|--|
| Length Under Head (in.) | 3 | A   | B   | C   | D   | E   | F   | G   | H   | I   | A   | B   | C   | D   | E   | F    | G   | H   | I   | A    | B   | C   | D   | E   | F    | G   | H   | I   | A    | B    | C    | D   | E    | F    | G   | H    | I    |  |  |
|                         | 4 | 304 | 325 | 292 | 168 | 325 | 526 | 230 | 324 | 400 | 366 | —   | —   | —   | —   | 834  | —   | —   | —   | 410  | —   | —   | —   | —   | 716  | —   | —   | —   | 487  | —    | —    | —   | —    | 843  | —   | —    | —    |  |  |
|                         | 5 | 392 | 354 | 317 | 183 | 354 | 678 | 250 | 352 | 435 | 473 | 509 | 456 | 264 | 509 | 818  | 360 | 507 | 626 | 538  | —   | —   | —   | —   | 532  | —   | —   | —   | 548  | —    | —    | —   | —    | 1122 | —   | —    | —    |  |  |
|                         | 6 | 476 | 375 | 336 | 194 | 375 | 824 | 265 | 373 | 461 | 582 | 545 | 488 | 282 | 545 | 1008 | 385 | 542 | 670 | 687  | 728 | 653 | 277 | 728 | 1154 | 515 | 725 | 896 | 813  | —    | —    | —   | —    | 1407 | —   | —    | —    |  |  |
|                         | 8 | 564 | 382 | 342 | 196 | 382 | 976 | 270 | 380 | 470 | 689 | 559 | 501 | 209 | 559 | 1192 | 395 | 556 | 687 | 791  | 778 | 697 | 403 | 778 | 1360 | 550 | 775 | 957 | 971  | —    | —    | —   | —    | 1630 | —   | —    | —    |  |  |
|                         |   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | 905 | 573 | 513 | 296 | 573 | 1586 | 405 | 570 | 704 | 1044 | 806 | 723 | 416 | 806 | 1807 | 570 | 803 | 991 | 1297 | 1365 | 1223 | 685 | 1365 | 2244 | 965 | 1359 | 1678 |  |  |

Table 4-5.4.3.5.1(c) Maximum Loads for Various Types of Structure (cont.)

Through Bolts in wood (load perpendicular to grain)  
Diameter of Bolt (in.)

|                                |       | 3/8  |     |     |     |     |     | 1/2  |     |      |     |     |     | 5/8  |     |      |     |     |     | 7/8  |     |      |     |      |      |
|--------------------------------|-------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|------|
| Length of Bolt in Timber (in.) | 1 1/2 | ABCE | D   | F   | G   | H   | I   | ABCE | D   | F    | G   | H   | I   | ABCE | D   | F    | G   | H   | I   | ABCE | D   | F    | G   | H    | I    |
|                                | 2     | 300  | 173 | 519 | 150 | 211 | 261 | 340  | 197 | 589  | 170 | 239 | 296 | 390  | 225 | 675  | 195 | 275 | 339 | 470  | 272 | 614  | 235 | 331  | 409  |
|                                | 2 1/2 | 370  | 214 | 641 | 185 | 261 | 322 | 420  | 243 | 727  | 210 | 296 | 365 | 470  | 272 | 814  | 235 | 331 | 409 | 580  | 335 | 1004 | 290 | 408  | 504  |
|                                | 3     | 460  | 266 | 796 | 230 | 324 | 400 | 550  | 318 | 952  | 275 | 387 | 478 | 620  | 358 | 1074 | 310 | 437 | 539 | 760  | 439 | 1316 | 380 | 535  | 661  |
|                                | 3 3/8 | 480  | 277 | 831 | 240 | 338 | 417 | 630  | 364 | 1091 | 315 | 444 | 548 | 710  | 410 | 1229 | 355 | 500 | 617 | 870  | 503 | 1506 | 435 | 613  | 757  |
|                                | 5 1/2 | 460  | 268 | 797 | 230 | 324 | 400 | 720  | 416 | 1247 | 360 | 507 | 626 | 850  | 491 | 1472 | 425 | 599 | 739 | 1050 | 607 | 1818 | 525 | 739  | 913  |
|                                | 5 1/2 | —    | —   | —   | —   | —   | —   | 680  | 393 | 1177 | 340 | 479 | 591 | 1020 | 590 | 1766 | 510 | 718 | 887 | 1580 | 913 | 2736 | 790 | 1113 | 1374 |

Expansion Shields in Concrete  
Diameter of Bolt (in.)

| 3/8                      |       |     |     |      |     |     |     |     |      | 1/2  |     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 5/8  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 7/8  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |
|--------------------------|-------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
| Min. Depth of Hole (in.) |       | A   | B   | C    | D   | E   | F   | G   | H    | I    | A   | B    | C    | D    | E    | F    | G    | H    | I    | A    | B    | C    | D    | E    | F    | G    | H    | I    | A    | B    | C    | D    | E    | F    | G    | H    | I    |      |  |
|                          | 2 1/2 | 498 | 962 | 1173 | 678 | 962 | 962 | 925 | 1303 | 1609 | -   | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 1638 | 2306 | 2848 | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 2080 | 2930 | 3617 | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 2470 | 4113 | 5078 |  |
|                          | 3 1/4 | -   | -   | -    | -   | -   | -   | 925 | 1303 | 1609 | 923 | 1782 | 2076 | 1200 | 1782 | 1597 | 1638 | 2306 | 2848 | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 2080 | 2930 | 3617 | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 2970 | 4113 | 5078 |  |
|                          | 3 3/4 | -   | -   | -    | -   | -   | -   | 925 | 1303 | 1609 | -   | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 1638 | 2306 | 2848 | 1480 | 2857 | 2637 | 1524 | 2857 | 2581 | 2080 | 2930 | 3617 | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 2970 | 4113 | 5078 |  |
|                          | 4 1/2 | -   | -   | -    | -   | -   | -   | 925 | 1303 | 1609 | -   | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 1638 | 2306 | 2848 | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 2080 | 2930 | 3617 | 3070 | 4130 | 3702 | 2139 | 4130 | 5312 | 2970 | 4113 | 5078 |  |

Connections to Steel (values assume bolt perpendicular to mounting surface)  
Diameter of Unfinished Steel Bolt (in.)

| 1/4 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 3/8 |      |      |     |      |      |     |      |      | 1/2  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 5/8  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| A   | B   | C   | D   | E   | F   | G   | H   | I   | A   | B    | C    | D   | E    | F    | G   | H    | I    | A    | B    | C    | D    | E    | F    | G    | H    | I    | A    | B    | C    | D    | E    | F    | G    | H    | I    |
| 400 | 500 | 600 | 300 | 500 | 650 | 325 | 458 | 565 | 900 | 1200 | 1400 | 800 | 1200 | 1550 | 735 | 1035 | 1278 | 1600 | 2050 | 2550 | 1450 | 2050 | 2850 | 1300 | 1830 | 2260 | 2500 | 3300 | 3950 | 2250 | 3300 | 4400 | 2045 | 2880 | 3557 |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**4-5.4.3.5.2** Longitudinal sway bracing spaced at a maximum of 80 ft (24 m) on center shall be provided for feed and cross mains.

**4-5.4.3.5.3\*** Tops of risers shall be secured against drifting in any direction, utilizing a four-way sway brace.

**4-5.4.3.5.4** Lateral sway bracing spaced at a maximum of 40 ft (12 m) on center shall be provided for feed and cross mains.

*Exception No. 1: Lateral sway bracing shall be permitted to be omitted on pipes individually supported by rods less than 6 in. (152 mm) long.*

*Exception No. 2: Wraparound U-type hangers used to support the mains shall be permitted to be used to satisfy the requirements for lateral sway bracing provided the legs are bent out at least 30 degrees from the vertical and the maximum length of each leg satisfies the conditions of Table 4-5.4.3.5.1(b).*

*Exception No. 3: When flexible couplings are installed on mains other than as required in 4-5.4.3.2, a lateral brace shall be provided within 24 in. (610 mm) of every other coupling, but not more than 40 ft (12 m) on center.*

*Exception No. 4: When building primary structural members exceed 40 ft (12 m) on center, lateral braces shall be permitted to be spaced up to 50 ft (15.2 m) on center.*

**4-5.4.3.5.5** Bracing shall be attached directly to feed and cross mains.

**4-5.4.3.5.6** A length of pipe shall not be braced to sections of the building that will move differentially.

**4-5.4.3.5.7** The last length of pipe at the end of a feed or cross main shall be provided with a lateral brace. Lateral braces may also act as longitudinal braces if they are within 24 in. (610 mm) of the center line of the piping braced longitudinally.

**4-5.4.3.5.8\*** Sway bracing is not required for branch lines.

*Exception No. 1: The end sprinkler on a line shall be restrained against excessive movement by use of a wraparound U-hook (see Figure A-2-6.1) or by other approved means.*

*Exception No. 2: Branch lines 2½ in. (64 mm) or larger shall be provided with lateral bracing in accordance with 4-5.4.3.5.4.*

*Exception No. 3: Where upward or lateral movement of sprinklers would result in an impact against the building structure, equipment, or finish materials, branch lines shall be provided at intervals not exceeding 30 ft (9 m) with a wraparound U-hook, lateral sway brace, or #12, 440 lb (200 kg) splayed seismic brace wire installed at least 45 degrees from the vertical plane and anchored on both sides of the pipe. This bracing shall be located within 2 ft (610 mm) of a hanger. The hanger closest to a splayed wire restraint shall be of a type that resists upward movement of a branch line.*

**4-5.4.3.5.9** C-type clamps (including beam and large flange clamps) used to attach hangers to the building structure in areas subject to earthquakes shall be equipped with a retaining strap or other approved means to prevent movement. (See Figure A-2-6.1.)

**4-5.4.3.5.10** C-type clamps (including beam and large flange clamps), with or without retaining straps, shall not be used to attach braces to the building structure.

## **4-6 System Attachments.**

### **4-6.1 Sprinkler Alarms.**

#### **4-6.1.1\* Waterflow Alarms.**

**4-6.1.1.1** Local waterflow alarms shall be provided on all sprinkler systems having more than 20 sprinklers.

**4-6.1.1.2** On each alarm check valve used under conditions of variable water pressure, a retarding device shall be installed. Valves shall be provided in the connections to retarding devices to permit repair or removal without shutting off sprinklers; these valves shall be so arranged that they may be locked or sealed in the open position.

**4-6.1.1.3** Alarm, dry pipe, preaction, and deluge valves shall be fitted with an alarm bypass test connection for an electric alarm switch, water motor gong, or both. This pipe connection shall be made on the water supply side of the system and provided with a control valve and drain for the alarm piping. A check valve shall be installed in the pipe connection from the intermediate chamber of a dry pipe valve.

**4-6.1.1.4** An indicating control valve shall be installed in the connection to pressure-type contactors or water-motor-operated alarm devices. Such valves shall be locked or sealed in the open position. The control valve for the retarding chamber on alarm check valves shall be accepted as complying with this paragraph.

**4-6.1.1.5\* Attachments — Mechanically Operated.** For all types of sprinkler systems employing water-motor-operated alarms, a listed ¾-in. (19-mm) strainer shall be installed at the alarm outlet of the waterflow detecting device.

*Exception: When a retarding chamber is used in connection with an alarm valve, the strainer shall be located at the outlet of the retarding chamber unless the retarding chamber is provided with an approved integral strainer in its outlet.*

**4-6.1.1.6\* Alarm Attachments — High-Rise Buildings.** When a fire must be fought internally due to the height of a building, the following additional alarm apparatus shall be provided:

(a) When each sprinkler system on each floor is equipped with a separate waterflow device, it shall be connected to an alarm system in such a manner that operation of one sprinkler will actuate the alarm system and the location of the operated flow device shall be indicated on an annunciator and/or register. The annunciator or register shall be located at grade level at the normal point of fire department access, at a constantly attended building security control center, or at both locations.

*Exception: When the location within the protected buildings where supervisory or alarm signals are received is not under constant supervision by qualified personnel in the employ of the owner, a connection shall be provided to transmit a signal to a remote central station.*



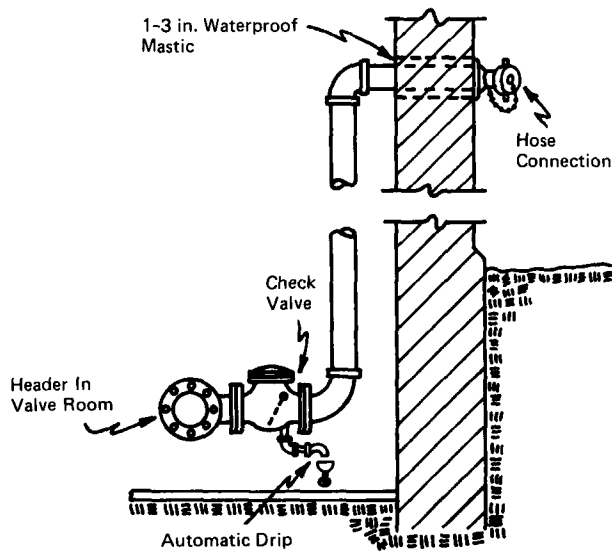
(b) A distinct trouble signal shall be provided to indicate a condition that will impair the satisfactory operation of the sprinkler system.

#### 4-6.2\* Fire Department Connections.

**4-6.2.1\*** A fire department connection shall be provided as described in this section. (See Figure 4-6.2.1.)

*Exception No. 1: Omission of the fire department connection shall be permitted for systems having 20 sprinklers or less.*

*Exception No. 2: Omission of the fire department connection shall be permitted when approved by the authority having jurisdiction.*



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

Figure 4-6.2.1 Fire department connection.

**4-6.2.2 Size.** Pipe size shall be 4 in. (102 mm) for fire engine connections and 6 in. (152 mm) for fire boat connections.

*Exception No. 1: For hydraulically calculated systems, fire department connection pipe as small as the system riser shall be permitted when serving one system riser.*

*Exception No. 2: A single outlet fire department connection shall be acceptable when piped to a 3-in. (76-mm) or smaller riser.*

**4-6.2.3\* Arrangement.** (See Figure 4-6.2.1.)

**4-6.2.3.1** The fire department connection shall be on the system side of the water supply check valve.

**4-6.2.3.2** For single systems, the fire department connection shall be installed as follows:

(a) *Wet System.* On the system side of system control, check, and alarm valves. (See Figure A-4-5.1.1.)

(b) *Dry System.* Between the system control valve and the dry pipe valve.

(c) *Preaction System.* Between the preaction valve and the check valve on the system side of the preaction valve.

(d) *Deluge System.* On the system side of the deluge valve.

*Exception: Connection of the fire department connection to underground piping is acceptable.*

**4-6.2.3.3** For multiple systems, the fire department connection shall be connected between the supply control valves and the system control valves.

*Exception: Connection of the fire department connection to underground piping is acceptable.*

**4-6.2.3.4** Fire department connections shall be located and arranged so that hose can be readily and conveniently attached.

Each fire department connection to sprinkler systems shall be designated by a sign having raised letters at least 1 in. (25.4 mm) in height cast on plate or fitting reading service design, e.g., "AUTOSPKR.," "OPEN SPKR. AND STANDPIPE."

**4-6.2.3.5** Fire department connections shall not be connected on the suction side of fire pumps.

#### 4-6.2.4 Valves.

**4-6.2.4.1** A listed check valve shall be installed in each fire department connection.

**4-6.2.4.2** There shall be no shutoff valve in the fire department connection piping.

**4-6.2.5 Drainage.** The piping between the check valve and the outside hose coupling shall be equipped with an approved automatic drip.

*Exception: An automatic drip is not required in areas not subject to freezing.*

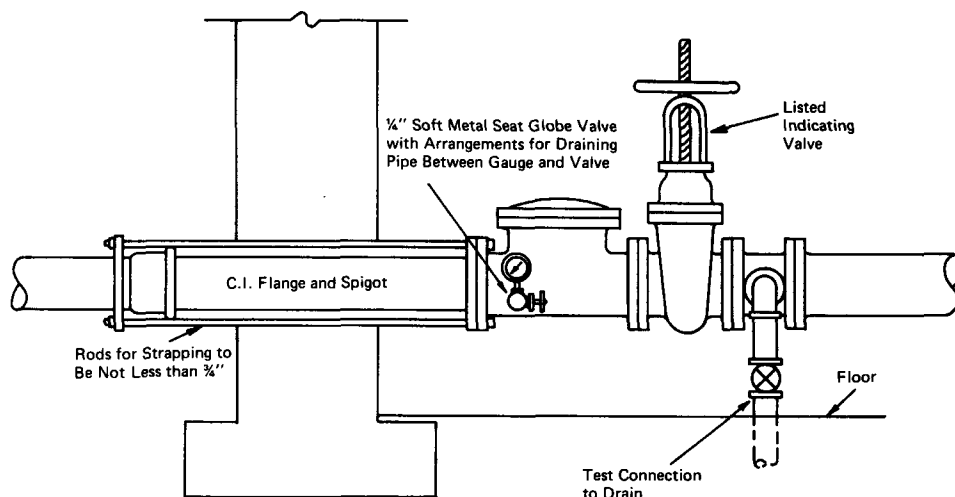
#### 4-6.3 Gauges.

**4-6.3.1** A pressure gauge with a connection not smaller than 1/4 in. (6.4 mm) shall be installed at the system main drain, at each main drain associated with a floor control valve, and on the inlet and outlet side of each pressure reducing valve. Each gauge connection shall be equipped with a shutoff valve and provisions for draining.

**4-6.3.2** The required pressure gauges shall be listed and shall have a maximum limit not less than twice the normal working pressure at the point where installed. They shall be installed to permit removal and shall be located where they will not be subject to freezing.

#### 4-6.4 System Test Connections.

**4-6.4.1 Waterflow Test Connections.** Waterflow test connections shall be provided at locations that will permit flow tests of water supplies and connections. They shall be so



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**Figure 4-6.4.1** Water supply connection with test connection.

installed that the valve may be opened wide for a sufficient time to assure a proper test without causing water damage. (See 4-5.3.4 and 4-5.3.6.)

**4-6.4.2\* Wet Pipe Systems.** A test connection not less than 1 in. (25 mm) in diameter, terminating in a smooth bore corrosion-resistant orifice, giving a flow equivalent to one sprinkler of a type having the smallest orifice installed on the particular system, shall be provided to test each waterflow alarm device for each system. The test connection valve shall be readily accessible. The discharge shall be to the outside, to a drain connection capable of accepting full flow under system pressure, or to another location where water damage will not result.

**4-6.4.3\* Dry Pipe Systems.** A test connection not less than 1 in. (25 mm) in diameter, terminating in a smooth bore corrosion-resistant orifice, to provide a flow equivalent to one sprinkler of a type installed on the particular system, shall be installed on the end of the most distant sprinkler pipe in the upper story and be equipped with a readily accessible 1-in. (22-mm) shutoff valve and plug, at least one of which shall be brass. In lieu of a plug, a nipple and cap shall be acceptable.

**4-6.4.4 Preaction Systems.** A test connection shall be provided on a preaction system using supervisory air. The connection used to control the level of priming water is adequate to test the operation of the alarms monitoring the supervisory air pressure.

**4-6.4.5 Deluge Systems.** A test connection is not required on a deluge system.

## Chapter 5 Design Approaches

**5-1 General.** Water demand requirements shall be determined from the occupancy hazard fire control approach of Section 5-2.

*Exception: Special design approaches shall be permitted for specific hazards in Section 5-3.*

## 5-2 Occupancy Hazard Fire Control Approach.

### 5-2.1 Occupancy Classifications.

**5-2.1.1** Occupancy classifications for this standard relate to sprinkler installations and their water supplies only. They shall not be used as a general classification of occupancy hazards.

**5-2.1.2** Occupancies or portions of occupancies shall be classified according to the quantity and combustibility of contents, the expected rates of heat release, the total potential for energy release, the heights of stockpiles, and the presence of flammable and combustible liquids, using the definitions contained in 1-4.7. Classifications are as follows:

- Light Hazard
- Ordinary Hazard (Groups 1 and 2)
- Extra Hazard (Groups 1 and 2)
- Special Occupancy Hazard

### 5-2.2 Water Demand Requirements—Pipe Schedule Method.

**5-2.2.1** Table 5-2.2 shall be used in determining the minimum water supply requirements for Light and Ordinary Hazard Occupancies protected by systems with pipe sized according to the pipe schedules of Section 6-5. Pressure and flow requirements for Extra Hazard Occupancies shall be based on the hydraulic calculation methods of 5-2.3. The pipe schedule method shall be permitted only for new installations of 5000 sq ft (465 m<sup>2</sup>) or less or for additions or modifications to existing pipe schedule systems.

**Exception No. 1:** The pipe schedule design method shall be permitted for use in systems exceeding 5000 sq ft (465 m<sup>2</sup>) when the flows required in Table 5-2.2 are available at a minimum residual pressure of 50 psi (3.4 bar) at the elevation of the highest sprinkler.

**Exception No. 2:** The pipe schedule method shall be permitted for additions or modifications to existing extra hazard pipe schedule systems if the pressures and flows are determined to be acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

**5-2.2.2** The lower duration value of Table 5-2.2 shall be acceptable only where remote station or central station waterflow alarm service is provided.

**5-2.2.3\*** The residual pressure requirement of Table 5-2.2 shall be met at the elevation of the highest sprinkler. (See the Exceptions to 5-2.2.1.)

**5-2.2.4** The lower flow figure of Table 5-2.2 shall be permitted only where the building is of noncombustible construction or the potential areas of fire are limited by building size or compartmentation such that no open areas exceed 3000 sq ft (279 m<sup>2</sup>) for Light Hazard or 4000 sq ft (372 m<sup>2</sup>) for Ordinary Hazard.

**Table 5-2.2 Water Supply Requirements for Pipe Schedule Sprinkler Systems**

| Occupancy Classification | Minimum Residual Pressure Required | Acceptable Flow at Base of Riser | Duration in Minutes |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Light Hazard             | 15 psi                             | 500-750 gpm                      | 30-60               |
| Ordinary Hazard          | 20 psi                             | 850-1500 gpm                     | 60-90               |

For SI Units: 1 gpm = 3.785 L/min; 1 psi = 0.0689 bar.

## 5-2.3 Water Demand Requirements—Hydraulic Calculation Methods.

### 5-2.3.1 General.

**5-2.3.1.1\*** The minimum water supply requirements for a hydraulically designed occupancy hazard fire control sprinkler system shall be determined by adding the hose stream demand from Table 5-2.3 to the water supply for sprinklers determined in 5-2.3.1.2. This supply shall be available for the minimum duration specified in Table 5-2.3.

**Exception No. 1:** Where other NFPA standards have developed sprinkler system area/density or other design criteria and water supply requirements appropriate for fire control or suppression of Special Occupancy Hazards, they shall take precedence.

**Exception No. 2:** An allowance for inside and outside hose shall not be required when tanks supply sprinklers only.

**Exception No. 3:** When pumps taking suction from a private fire service main supply sprinklers only, the pump need not be sized to accommodate inside and outside hose. Such hose allowance shall be considered in evaluating the available water supplies.

**5-2.3.1.2** The water supply for sprinklers only shall be determined either from the area/density curves of Figure 5-2.3 (see following page) in accordance with the method of 5-2.3.2 or be based upon the room design method in accordance with 5-2.3.3, at the discretion of the designer. For special areas under consideration, as described in 5-2.3.4, separate hydraulic calculations shall be required in addition to those required by 5-2.3.2 or 5-2.3.3.

**Table 5-2.3 Hose Stream Demand and Water Supply Duration Requirements**

| Hazard Classification | Inside Hose (gpm) | Total Combined Inside and Outside Hose (gpm) | Duration in Minutes |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--|---------------------|
| Light                 | 0, 50, or 100     | 100  | 30                  |
| Ordinary              | 0, 50, or 100     | 250  | 60-90               |
| Extra Hazard          | 0, 50, or 100     | 500  | 90-120              |

For SI Units: 1 gpm = 3.785 L/min.

**5-2.3.1.3** Regardless of which of the two methods is used, the following restrictions apply:

(a) For areas of sprinkler operation less than 1500 sq ft (139 m<sup>2</sup>) used for Light and Ordinary Hazard Occupancies, the density for 1500 sq ft (139 m<sup>2</sup>) shall be used. For areas of sprinkler operation less than 2500 sq ft (232 m<sup>2</sup>) for Extra Hazard Occupancies, the density for 2500 sq ft (232 m<sup>2</sup>) shall be used.

(b)\* For buildings having unsprinklered combustible concealed spaces (as described in 4-4.1.7.1.1) the minimum area of sprinkler operation shall be 3000 sq ft (279 m<sup>2</sup>).

**Exception No. 1:** Combustible concealed spaces filled entirely with noncombustible insulation.

**Exception No. 2:** Light or Ordinary Hazard Occupancies where noncombustible or limited combustible ceilings are directly attached to the bottom of solid wood joists so as to create enclosed joist spaces 160 cu ft (4.8 m<sup>3</sup>) or less in volume.

**Exception No. 3\*:** Concealed spaces where the exposed surfaces have a flame spread rating of 25 or less and the materials have been demonstrated to not propagate fire in the form in which they are installed in the space.

(c) Water demand of sprinklers installed in racks or water curtains shall be added to the ceiling sprinkler water demand at the point of connection. Demands shall be balanced to the higher pressure. (See Chapter 6.)

Water demand of sprinklers installed in concealed spaces or under obstructions such as ducts and cutting tables need not be added to ceiling demand.

(d) When inside hose stations are planned or are required by other standards, a total water allowance of 50 gpm (189 L/min) for a single hose station installation or 100 gpm (378 L/min) for a multiple hose station installation shall be added to the sprinkler requirements. The water allowance shall be added in 50 gpm (189 L/min) increments beginning at the most remote hose station, with each increment added at the pressure required by the sprinkler system design at that point.

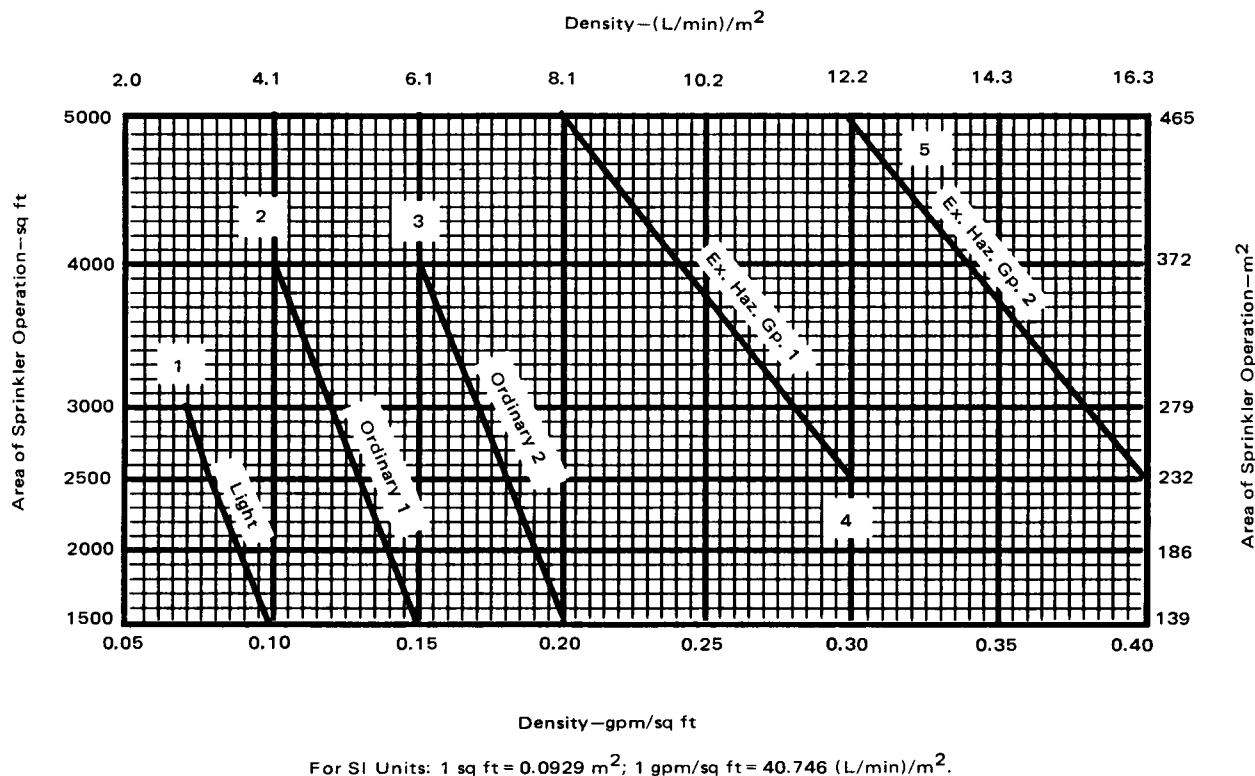


Figure 5-2.3 Area/density curves.

(e) When hose valves for fire department use are attached to wet pipe sprinkler system risers in accordance with 4-4.1.7.24, the water supply need not be added to standpipe demand as determined from NFPA 14, *Standard for the Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems*.

*Exception No. 1: When the combined sprinkler system demand and hose stream allowance of Table 5-2.3 exceeds the requirements of NFPA 14, Standard for the Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems, this higher demand shall be used.*

*Exception No. 2: For partially sprinklered buildings, the sprinkler demand, not including hose stream allowance, as indicated in Table 5-2.3 shall be added to the requirements given in NFPA 14, Standard for the Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems.*

(f) Water allowance for outside hose shall be added to the sprinkler and inside hose requirement at the connection to the city water main, or a yard hydrant, whichever is closer to the system riser.

(g) The lower duration values in Table 5-2.3 shall be permitted where remote station or central station water-flow alarm service is provided.

(h) When pumps, gravity tanks, or pressure tanks supply sprinklers only, requirements for inside and outside hose need not be considered in determining the size of such pumps or tanks.

**5-2.3.1.4** Total system water supply requirements shall be determined in accordance with the hydraulic calculation procedures of Section 6-4.

### 5-2.3.2 Area/Density Method.

**5-2.3.2.1** The water supply requirement for sprinklers only shall be calculated from the area/density curves in Figure 5-2.3. The calculations shall satisfy any single point on the appropriate area/density curve as follows:

- |                               |                      |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| (a) Light Hazard              | Area/Density Curve 1 |
| (b) Ordinary Hazard (Group 1) | Area/Density Curve 2 |
| (c) Ordinary Hazard (Group 2) | Area/Density Curve 3 |
| (d) Extra Hazard (Group 1)    | Area/Density Curve 4 |
| (e) Extra Hazard (Group 2)    | Area/Density Curve 5 |

It is not necessary to meet all points on the selected curve.

**5-2.3.2.2** The densities and areas provided in Figure 5-2.3 are for use only with spray sprinklers. For use with other types of sprinklers see Section 5-3.

*Exception No. 1: Quick-response sprinklers shall be permitted for use with Area/Density Curve 1 (Light Hazard) and Curves 2 and 3 (Ordinary Hazard) of Figure 5-2.3.*

*Exception No. 2: Sidewall spray sprinklers shall be permitted for use with Area/Density Curve 1 (Light Hazard) and, if specifically listed, with Area/Density Curves 2 or 3 (Ordinary Hazard).*

**5-2.3.2.3** For dry pipe systems, the area of sprinkler operation shall be increased by 30 percent without revising the density.

**5-2.3.2.4** When high temperature sprinklers are used for Extra Hazard Occupancies, the area of sprinkler operation shall be permitted to be reduced by 25 percent without revising the density, but to not less than 2000 sq ft (186 m<sup>2</sup>).

### 5-2.3.3 Room Design Method.

**5-2.3.3.1\*** The water supply requirements for sprinklers only shall be based upon the room that creates the greatest demand. The density selected shall be that from Figure 5-2.3 corresponding to the room size. To utilize this method, all rooms shall be enclosed with walls having a fire-resistance rating equal to the water supply duration indicated in Table 5-2.3.

**5-2.3.3.2** If the room is smaller than the smallest area shown in the applicable curve in Figure 5-2.3, the provisions of 5-2.3.1.3(a) shall apply.

**5-2.3.3.3** Minimum protection of openings shall be as follows:

- (a) Light Hazard — automatic or self-closing doors.

*Exception:* When openings are not protected, calculations shall include the sprinklers in the room plus two sprinklers in the communicating space nearest each such unprotected opening unless the communicating space has only one sprinkler, in which case calculations shall be extended to the operation of that sprinkler. The selection of the room and communicating space sprinklers to be calculated shall be that which produces the greatest hydraulic demand.

- (b) Ordinary and Extra Hazard — automatic or self-closing doors with appropriate fire resistance ratings for the enclosure.

### 5-2.3.4 Special Design Methods.

**5-2.3.4.1** When the design area consists of a building service chute supplied by a separate riser, the maximum number of sprinklers that needs to be calculated is 3.

**5-2.3.4.2** When the room design method is used, and the area under consideration is a corridor protected by one row of sprinklers, the maximum number of sprinklers that needs to be calculated is 5. (See 5-2.3.1.)

*Exception:* Where the area under consideration is a corridor protected by a single row of sprinklers and the openings are not protected, the design area shall include all sprinklers in the corridor to a maximum of 7.

## 5-3 Special Design Approaches.

**5-3.1 General.** All special design approaches utilize the hydraulic calculation procedures of Section 6-4 except as specified.

### 5-3.2 Residential Sprinklers.

**5-3.2.1** Sprinkler discharge rates shall be provided in accordance with minimum flow rates indicated in individual residential sprinkler listings, both for the single sprinkler discharge and the multiple sprinkler discharge of the design sprinklers.

**5-3.2.2\*** The design area shall be that area that includes the 4 hydraulically most demanding sprinklers.

**5-3.2.3** When areas such as attics, basements, or other types of occupancies are outside of dwelling units but within the same structure, these areas shall be protected in accordance with the provisions of this standard, including appropriate design criteria of 5-2.3.

**5-3.2.4** Hose stream demand and water supply duration requirements shall be in accordance with those for Light Hazard Occupancies in Table 5-2.3.

### 5-3.3 Quick Response Early Suppression (QRES) Sprinklers. (Reserved) (See 1-4.5.1 and A-1-4.5.1.)

### 5-3.4\* Large-Drop Sprinklers.

**5-3.4.1** Protection shall be provided as specified in Table A-5-3.4 or appropriate NFPA standards in terms of minimum operating pressure and the number of sprinklers to be included in the design area.

**5-3.4.2** Large-drop sprinkler systems shall be designed such that the minimum operating pressure is not less than 25 psi (170 kPa).

*Exception:* Lower pressures shall be permitted if proven successful by large-scale fire testing for a particular hazard.

**5-3.4.3** For design purposes, 95 psi (650 kPa) shall be the maximum discharge pressure at the hydraulically most remote sprinkler.

**5-3.4.4** The nominal diameter of branch line pipes (including riser nipples) shall be not less than 1¼ in. (33 mm) or greater than 2 in. (51 mm).

*Exception No. 1:* Starter pieces shall be permitted to be 2½ in. (64 mm).

*Exception No. 2:* When branch lines are larger than 2 in. (51 mm), the sprinkler shall be supplied by a riser nipple to elevate the sprinkler 13 in. (330 mm) for 2½-in. (64-mm) pipe and 15 in. (380 mm) for 3-in. (76-mm) pipe. These dimensions are measured from the centerline of the pipe to the deflector. In lieu of this, sprinklers may be offset horizontally a minimum of 12 in. (305 mm).

**5-3.4.5** Hose stream demand and water supply duration requirements shall be in accordance with those for extra hazard occupancies in Table 5-2.3.

### 5-3.5\* Early Suppression Fast Response (ESFR) Sprinklers.

**5-3.5.1** ESFR sprinklers are suitable for use with the hazards listed in Table A-5-3.5 and may be used in other specific hazard classifications and configurations only when proven by large-scale or other suitable fire testing.

**5-3.5.2** ESFR sprinkler systems shall be designed such that the minimum operating pressure is not less than 50 psi (340 kPa).

**5-3.5.3** The design area shall consist of the most hydraulically demanding area of 12 sprinklers, consisting of 4 sprinklers on each of 3 branch lines. Design shall include a minimum of 960 sq ft (89 m<sup>2</sup>).

**5-3.5.4** Small hose stations shall be provided. Hose stream water demand is not required to be added to total water demand.

**5-3.5.5** Water supply duration shall be at least 60 minutes.

### **5-3.6 Exposure Protection.**

**5-3.6.1\*** Piping shall be hydraulically calculated in accordance with Section 6-4 to furnish a minimum of 7 psi (48 kPa) at any sprinkler with all sprinklers facing the exposure operating.

**5-3.6.2** When the water supply feeds other fire protection systems, it shall be capable of furnishing total demand for such systems as well as the exposure system demand.

**5-3.7 Water Curtains.** Sprinklers in a water curtain as described in 4-4.1.7.3.4 shall be hydraulically designed to provide a discharge of 3 gpm per lineal foot [37 (L/min)/m] of water curtain, with no sprinklers discharging less than 15 gpm (56.8 L/min). The number of sprinklers calculated in this water curtain shall be the number in the length corresponding to the length parallel to the branch lines in the area determined by 6-4.4.1(a). The water supply for these sprinklers shall be added to the water supply required for the area of operation in hydraulically designed systems or to the water supply required as determined in accordance with Table 5-2.2. Supplies shall be balanced to the higher pressure demand in either case.

## **Chapter 6 Plans and Calculations**

### **6-1\* Working Plans.**

**6-1.1\*** Working plans shall be submitted for approval to the authority having jurisdiction before any equipment is installed or remodeled. Deviation from approved plans will require permission of the authority having jurisdiction.

**6-1.1.1** Working plans shall be drawn to an indicated scale, on sheets of uniform size, with a plan of each floor, and shall show those items from the following list that pertain to the design of the system.

- (a) Name of owner and occupant.
- (b) Location, including street address.
- (c) Point of compass.
- (d) Full height cross section, or schematic diagram, if required for clarity; including ceiling construction and method of protection for nonmetallic piping.
- (e) Location of partitions.
- (f) Location of fire walls.

- (g) Occupancy class of each area or room.

- (h) Location and size of concealed spaces, closets, attics, and bathrooms.

- (i) Any small enclosures in which no sprinklers are to be installed.

- (j) Size of city main in street and whether dead-end or circulating; and, if dead-end, direction and distance to nearest circulating main. City main test results and system elevation relative to test hydrant (*see* A-7-2.1).

- (k) Other sources of water supply, with pressure or elevation.

- (l) Make, type, and nominal orifice size of sprinklers.

- (m) Temperature rating and location of high-temperature sprinklers.

- (n) Total area protected by each system on each floor.

- (o) Number of sprinklers on each riser per floor.

- (p) Total number of sprinklers on each dry pipe system, preaction system, combined dry pipe-preaction system, or deluge system.

- (q) Approximate capacity in gallons of each dry pipe system.

- (r) Pipe type and schedule of wall thickness.

- (s) Nominal pipe size and cutting lengths of pipe (or center to center dimensions).

NOTE: Where typical branch lines prevail, it will be necessary to size only one typical line.

- (t) Location and size of riser nipples.

- (u) Type of fittings and joints and location of all welds and bends. The contractor shall specify on drawing any sections to be shop welded and the type of fittings or formations to be used.

- (v) Type and locations of hangers, sleeves, braces, and methods of securing sprinklers when applicable.

- (w) All control valves, check valves, drain pipes, and test connections.

- (x) Make, type, model, and size of alarm or dry pipe valve.

- (y) Make, type, model, and size of preaction or deluge valve.

- (z) Kind and location of alarm bells.

- (aa) Size and location of hose outlets, hand hose, and related equipment.

- (bb) Underground pipe size, length, location, weight, material, point of connection to city main; the type of valves, meters, and valve pits; and the depth that top of the pipe is laid below grade.

- (cc) Piping provisions for flushing (*see* 9-3.2).

- (dd) When the equipment is to be installed as an addition to an existing system, enough of the existing system indicated on the plans to make all conditions clear.

- (ee) For hydraulically designed systems, the information on the hydraulic data nameplate.

- (ff) A graphic representation of the scale used on all plans.

(gg) Name and address of contractor.

(hh) Hydraulic reference points shown on the plan shall correspond with comparable reference points on the hydraulic calculation sheets.

(ii) The minimum rate of water application (density), the design area of water application, in-rack sprinkler demand, and the water required for hose streams both inside and outside.

(jj) The total quantity of water and the pressure required noted at a common reference point for each system.

(kk) Relative elevations of sprinklers, junction points, and supply or reference points.

(ll) If room design method is used, all unprotected wall openings throughout the floor protected.

(mm) Calculation of loads for sizing, and details of, sway bracing.

(nn) The setting for pressure reducing valves.

(oo) Information about backflow preventers (manufacturer, size, type).

(pp) Information about antifreeze solution used (type and amount).

**6-1.1.2\*** Working plans for automatic sprinkler systems with nonfire protection connections. Special symbols shall be used and explained for auxiliary piping, pumps, heat exchangers, valves, strainers, and the like, clearly distinguishing these devices and piping runs from those of the sprinkler system. Model number, type, and manufacturer's name shall be identified for each piece of auxiliary equipment.

## 6-2 Hydraulic Calculation Forms.

**6-2.1 General.** Hydraulic calculations shall be prepared on form sheets that include a summary sheet, detailed work sheets, and a graph sheet. (*See copies of typical forms, Figures A-6-2.2(a), A-6-2.3, and A-6-2.4.*)

**6-2.2\* Summary Sheet.** The summary sheet shall contain the following information, where applicable:

- (a) Date
- (b) Location
- (c) Name of owner and occupant
- (d) Building number or other identification
- (e) Description of hazard
- (f) Name and address of contractor or designer
- (g) Name of approving agency
- (h) System design requirements

1. Design area of water application, sq ft
2. Minimum rate of water application (density), gpm per sq ft
3. Area per sprinkler, sq ft

(i) Total water requirements as calculated including allowance for inside hose, outside hydrants, and water curtain and exposure sprinklers

(j) Allowance for in-rack sprinklers, gpm

(k) Limitations (dimension, flow, and pressure) on extended coverage or other listed special sprinklers.

**6-2.3\* Detailed Work Sheets.** Detailed work sheets or computer printout sheets shall contain the following information:

- (a) Sheet number
- (b) Sprinkler description and discharge constant (K)
- (c) Hydraulic reference points
- (d) Flow in gpm
- (e) Pipe size
- (f) Pipe lengths, center to center of fittings
- (g) Equivalent pipe lengths for fittings and devices
- (h) Friction loss in psi per ft of pipe
- (i) Total friction loss between reference points
- (j) In-rack sprinkler demand balanced to ceiling demand
- (k) Elevation head in psi between reference points
- (l) Required pressure in psi at each reference point
- (m) Velocity pressure and normal pressure if included in calculations
- (n) Notes to indicate starting points, reference to other sheets, or to clarify data shown
- (o)\* Diagram to accompany gridded system calculations to indicate flow quantities and directions for lines with sprinklers operating in the remote area
- (p) Combined K-factor calculations for sprinklers on drops, armovers, or sprigs where calculations do not begin at sprinkler.

**6-2.4\* Graph Sheet.** A graphic representation of the complete hydraulic calculation shall be plotted on semi-logarithmic graph paper ( $Q^{1.85}$ ) and shall include the following:

- (a) Water supply curve
- (b) Sprinkler system demand
- (c) Hose demand (where applicable)
- (d) In-rack sprinkler demand (where applicable).

**6-3 Water Supply Information.** The following information shall be included:

- (a) Location and elevation of static and residual test gauge with relation to the riser reference point
- (b) Flow location
- (c) Static pressure, psi
- (d) Residual pressure, psi
- (e) Flow, gpm
- (f) Date
- (g) Time

- (h) Test conducted by or information supplied by
- (i) Other sources of water supply, with pressure or elevation.

#### 6-4 Hydraulic Calculation Procedures.

**6-4.1\* General.** A calculated system for a building, or a calculated addition to a system in an existing sprinklered building, supersedes the rules in the sprinkler standard governing pipe schedules, except that all systems continue to be limited by area, and pipe sizes shall be no less than 1 in. (25.4 mm) nominal for ferrous piping and 3/4 in. (19 mm) nominal for copper tubing or nonmetallic piping listed for fire sprinkler service. The size of pipe, number of sprinklers per branch line, and number of branch lines per cross main are otherwise limited only by the available water supply. However, sprinkler spacing and all other rules covered in this and other applicable standards shall be observed.

#### 6-4.2 Formulas.

**6-4.2.1 Friction Loss Formula.** Pipe friction losses shall be determined on the basis of the Hazen-Williams formula.

$$p = \frac{4.52 Q^{1.85}}{C^{1.85} d^{4.87}}$$

where p is the frictional resistance in pounds pressure per square inch per foot of pipe, Q is the gallons per minute flowing, and d is the actual internal diameter of pipe in inches with C as the friction loss coefficient.

$$\text{For SI Units: } P_m = 6.05 \times \frac{Q_m^{1.85}}{C^{1.85} d_m^{4.87}} \times 10^5$$

Where  $P_m$  is the frictional resistance in bars per meter of pipe,  $Q_m$  is the flow in L/min,  $d_m$  is the actual internal diameter in mm and C is the friction loss coefficient.

**6-4.2.2 Velocity Pressure Formula.** Velocity pressure shall be determined on the basis of the formula

$$P_v = 0.001123 Q^2 D^4$$

$P_v$  = velocity pressure in psi.

where:

Q = flow in gpm

D = the inside diameter in inches.

For SI units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 gal = 3.785 L; 1 psi = 0.0689 bar.

**6-4.2.3 Normal Pressure Formula.** Normal pressure ( $P_n$ ) shall be determined on the basis of the formula

$$P_n = P_t - P_v$$

where:

$P_t$  = total pressure in psi (bars)

$P_v$  = velocity pressure in psi (bars)

**6-4.2.4 Hydraulic Junction Points.** Pressures at hydraulic junction points shall balance within 0.5 psi (0.03 bar). The highest pressure at the junction point, and the total flows as adjusted, shall be carried into the calculations.

#### 6-4.3 Equivalent Pipe Lengths of Valves and Fittings.

**6-4.3.1** Table 6-4.3.1 shall be used to determine the equivalent length of pipe for fittings and devices unless manufacturer's test data indicate that other factors are appropriate. For saddle-type fittings having friction loss greater than that shown in Table 6-4.3.1, the increased friction loss shall be included in hydraulic calculations.

**6-4.3.2** Table 6-4.3.1 shall be used with Hazen-Williams C = 120 only. For other values of C, the values in Table 6-4.3.1 shall be multiplied by the factors indicated in Table 6-4.3.2.

Table 6-4.3.2

| Value of C         | 100   | 130  | 140  | 150  |
|--------------------|-------|------|------|------|
| Multiplying Factor | 0.713 | 1.16 | 1.33 | 1.51 |

NOTE: This is based upon the friction loss through the fitting being independent of the C factor available to the piping.

Table 6-4.3.1 Equivalent Pipe Length Chart

| Fittings and Valves            | Fittings and Valves Expressed in Equivalent Feet of Pipe |       |           |           |       |           |       |           |       |       |       |       |        |
|--------------------------------|--|-------|-----------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
|                                | 3/4 in.  | 1 in. | 1 1/4 in. | 1 1/2 in. | 2 in. | 2 1/2 in. | 3 in. | 3 1/2 in. | 4 in. | 5 in. | 6 in. | 8 in. | 10 in. |
| 45° Elbow                      | 1  | 1     | 1         | 2         | 2     | 3         | 3     | 3         | 4     | 5     | 7     | 9     | 11     |
| 90° Standard Elbow             | 2  | 2     | 3         | 4         | 5     | 6         | 7     | 8         | 10    | 12    | 14    | 18    | 22     |
| 90° Long Turn Elbow            | 1  | 2     | 2         | 2         | 3     | 4         | 5     | 5         | 6     | 8     | 9     | 13    | 16     |
| Tee or Cross (Flow Turned 90°) | 3  | 5     | 6         | 8         | 10    | 12        | 15    | 17        | 20    | 25    | 30    | 35    | 50     |
| Butterfly Valve                | -  | -     | -         | -         | 6     | 7         | 10    | -         | 12    | 9     | 10    | 12    | 19     |
| Gate Valve                     | -  | -     | -         | -         | 1     | 1         | 1     | 1         | 2     | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5      |
| Swing Check*                   | -  | 5     | 7         | 9         | 11    | 14        | 16    | 19        | 22    | 27    | 32    | 45    | 55     |

For SI Units: 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

\*Due to the variations in design of swing check valves, the pipe equivalents indicated in the above chart are considered average.

NOTE: This table applies to all types of pipe listed in Table 6-4.4.5



**6-4.3.3** Specific friction loss values or equivalent pipe lengths for alarm valves, dry pipe valves, deluge valves, strainers, and other devices shall be made available to the authority having jurisdiction.

#### **6-4.4\* Calculation Procedure.**

**6-4.4.1\*** For all systems the design area shall be the hydraulically most demanding based on the criteria of 5-2.3.

*Exception:* Special design approaches in accordance with 5-3.3.

(a) When the design is based on area/density method, the design area shall be a rectangular area having a dimension parallel to the branch lines at least 1.2 times the square root of the area of sprinkler operation (A) used. This may include sprinklers on both sides of the cross main. Any fractional sprinkler shall be carried to the next higher whole sprinkler.

*Exception:* In systems having branch lines with an insufficient number of sprinklers to fulfill the  $1.2 \sqrt{A}$  requirement, the design area shall be extended to include sprinklers on adjacent branch lines supplied by the same cross main.

(b) When the design is based on the room design method, see 5-2.3.3. The calculation shall be based on the room and communicating space, if any, that is the hydraulically most demanding.

**6-4.4.2\*** For gridded systems, the designer shall verify that the hydraulically most demanding area is being used. A minimum of two additional sets of calculations shall be submitted to demonstrate peaking of demand area friction loss when compared to areas immediately adjacent on either side along the same branch lines.

*Exception:* Computer programs that show the peaking of the demand area friction loss shall be acceptable based on a single set of calculations.

**6-4.4.3** System piping shall be hydraulically designed using design densities and areas of operation in accordance with Figure 5-2.3 as required for the occupancies involved.

(a)\* The density shall be calculated on the basis of area of sprinkler operation. The area covered by any sprinkler for use in hydraulic design and calculations shall be determined in accordance with 4-2.2.1.

(b)\* When sprinklers are installed above and below a ceiling or in a case where more than two areas are supplied from a common set of branch lines, the branch lines and supplies shall be calculated to supply the largest water demand.

**6-4.4.4\*** Each sprinkler in the design area and the remainder of the hydraulically designed system shall discharge at a flow rate at least equal to the stipulated minimum water application rate (density) multiplied by the area of sprinkler operation. Begin calculations at the

hydraulically most remote sprinkler. Discharge at each sprinkler shall be based on the calculated pressure at that sprinkler.

*Exception No. 1:* When area of application is equal to or greater than 1500 sq ft, sprinkler discharge in closets, washrooms, and similar small compartments requiring only one sprinkler shall be permitted to be omitted from hydraulic calculations within the area of application. Sprinklers in these small compartments shall, however, be capable of discharging minimum densities in accordance with Figure 5-2.3.

*Exception No. 2:* When sprinklers are provided above and below obstructions such as wide ducts or tables, the water supply for one of the levels of sprinklers shall be permitted to be omitted from the hydraulic ceiling design calculations within the area of application. In any case, the most hydraulically demanding arrangement shall be calculated.

**6-4.4.5** Calculate pipe friction loss in accordance with the Hazen-Williams formula with C values from Table 6-4.4.5.

(a) Include pipe, fittings, and devices such as valves, meters, and strainers, and calculate elevation changes that affect the sprinkler discharge.

*Exception:* Tie-in drain piping shall not be included in the hydraulic calculations.

(b) Calculate the loss for a tee or a cross where flow direction change occurs based on the equivalent pipe length of the piping segment in which the fitting is included. The tee at the top of a riser nipple shall be included in the branch line; the tee at the base of a riser nipple shall be included in the riser nipple; and the tee or cross at a cross main-feed main junction shall be included in the cross main. Do not include fitting loss for straight-through flow in a tee or cross.

(c) Calculate the loss of reducing elbows based on the equivalent feet value of the smallest outlet. Use the equivalent feet value for the standard elbow on any abrupt 90-degree turn, such as the screw-type pattern. Use the equivalent feet value for the long-turn elbow on any sweeping 90-degree turn, such as a flanged, welded, or mechanical joint-elbow type. (See Table 6-4.3.1.)

(d) Friction loss shall be excluded for the fitting directly connected to a sprinkler.

(e) Losses through a pressure-reducing valve shall be included based on the normal inlet pressure condition. Pressure loss data from the manufacturer's literature shall be used.

**Table 6-4.4.5 Hazen-Williams C Values**

| Pipe or Tube                                  | C Value* |
|---|----------|
| Unlined Cast or Ductile Iron                  | 100      |
| Black Steel (Dry Systems including Preaction) | 100      |
| Black Steel (Wet Systems including Deluge)    | 120      |
| Galvanized (all)                              | 120      |
| Plastic (listed)—All                          | 150      |
| Cement Lined Cast or Ductile Iron             | 140      |
| Copper Tube or Stainless Steel                | 150      |

\*The authority having jurisdiction may recommend other C values.

**6-4.4.6\*** Orifice plates or sprinklers of different orifice sizes shall not be used for balancing the system.

*Exception No. 1: Sprinklers with different orifice sizes shall be acceptable for special use such as exposure protection, small rooms or enclosures, or directional discharge. (See 1-4.2 for definition of small rooms.)*

*Exception No. 2: Sprinklers with different orifice sizes shall be acceptable in light hazard occupancies that utilize extended coverage sprinklers for part of the protection area.*

**6-4.4.7\*** Velocity pressure ( $P_v$ ) may or may not be included in the calculations at the discretion of the designer. If velocity pressures are used, they shall be used on both branch lines and cross mains where applicable.

**6-4.4.8** Minimum operating pressure of any sprinkler shall be 7 psi (0.5 bar).

*Exception: When different minimum operating pressure for the desired application is specified in the listing of the sprinkler.*

**6-5 Pipe Schedules.** Pipe schedules shall not be used, except in existing systems and in new systems or extensions to existing systems described in Chapter 5. Water supplies shall conform to 5-2.2.

**6-5.1\* General.** The pipe schedule sizing provisions shall not apply to hydraulically calculated systems. Sprinkler systems having sprinklers with orifices other than 1/2 in. (13 mm) nominal, listed piping material other than that covered in Table 2-3.1, Extra Hazard Groups 1 and 2 systems, and exposure protection systems shall be hydraulically calculated.

**6-5.1.1** The number of automatic sprinklers on a given pipe size on one floor shall not exceed the number given in 6-5.2, 6-5.3, or 6-5.4 for a given occupancy.

**6-5.1.2\* Size of Risers.** Each system riser shall be sized to supply all sprinklers on the riser on any one floor as determined by the standard schedules of pipe sizes in 6-5.2, 6-5.3, or 6-5.4.

**6-5.1.3 Slatted Floors, Large Floor Openings, Mezzanines, and Large Platforms.** Buildings having slatted floors, or large unprotected floor openings without approved doors, shall be treated as one area with reference to pipe sizes, and the feed mains or risers shall be of the size required for the total number of sprinklers.

**6-5.1.4 Stair Towers.** Stairs, towers, or other construction with incomplete floors, if piped on independent risers, shall be treated as one area with reference to pipe sizes.

## 6-5.2 Schedule for Light Hazard Occupancies.

**6-5.2.1** Branch lines shall not exceed 8 sprinklers on either side of a cross main.

*Exception: When more than 8 sprinklers on a branch line are necessary, lines may be increased to 9 sprinklers by making the two end lengths 1 in. (25.4 mm) and 1 1/4 in. (33 mm), respectively, and the sizes thereafter standard. Ten sprinklers may be placed on a branch line making the two end lengths 1 in. (25.4 mm) and 1 1/4 in. (33 mm), respectively, and feeding the tenth sprinkler by a 2 1/2-in. (64-mm) pipe.*

**6-5.2.2** Pipe sizes shall be in accordance with Table 6-5.2.2.

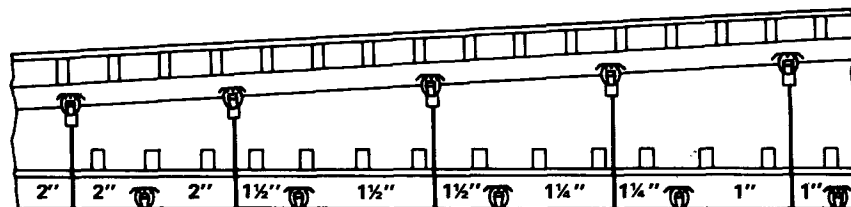
*Exception: Each area requiring more sprinklers than the number specified for 3 1/2-in. (89-mm) pipe in Table 6-5.2.2 and without subdividing partitions (not necessarily fire walls) shall be supplied by mains or risers sized for Ordinary Hazard Occupancies.*

**Table 6-5.2.2 Light Hazard Pipe Schedules**

| Steel          |                | Copper         |                |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1 in. ....     | 2 sprinklers   | 1 in. ....     | 2 sprinklers   |
| 1 1/4 in. .... | 3 sprinklers   | 1 1/4 in. .... | 3 sprinklers   |
| 1 1/2 in. .... | 5 sprinklers   | 1 1/2 in. .... | 5 sprinklers   |
| 2 in. ....     | 10 sprinklers  | 2 in. ....     | 12 sprinklers  |
| 2 1/2 in. .... | 30 sprinklers  | 2 1/2 in. .... | 40 sprinklers  |
| 3 in. ....     | 60 sprinklers  | 3 in. ....     | 65 sprinklers  |
| 3 1/2 in. .... | 100 sprinklers | 3 1/2 in. .... | 115 sprinklers |
| 4 in. ....     | See 4-2.1      | 4 in. ....     | See 4-2.1      |

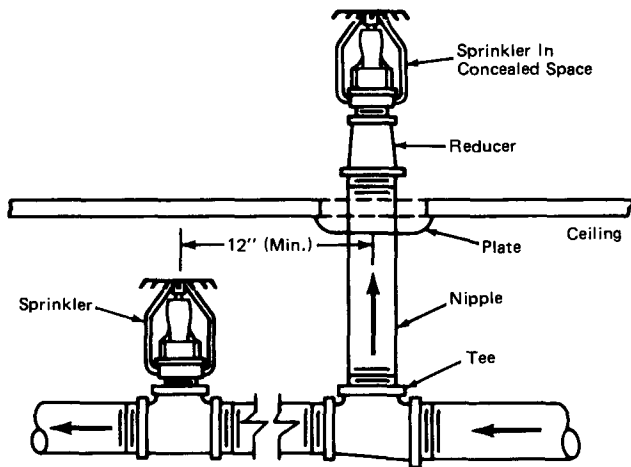
For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**6-5.2.3** When sprinklers are installed above and below ceilings [see Figures 6-5.2.3(a), (b), and (c)] and such sprinklers are supplied from a common set of branch lines or separate branch lines from a common cross main, such branch lines shall not exceed 8 sprinklers above and 8 sprinklers below any ceiling on either side of the cross main. Pipe sizing up to and including 2 1/2 in. (64 mm) shall be as shown in Table 6-5.2.3 utilizing the greatest number of sprinklers to be found on any two adjacent levels.



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**Figure 6-5.2.3(a) Arrangement of branch lines supplying sprinklers above and below a ceiling.**



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

Figure 6-5.2.3(b) Sprinkler on riser nipple from branch line in lower fire area.

**6-5.2.3.1\*** When the total number of sprinklers above and below a ceiling exceeds the number specified in Table 6-5.2.3 for 2½-in. (64-mm) pipe, the pipe supplying such sprinklers shall be increased to 3 in. (76 mm) and sized thereafter according to the schedule shown in Table 6-5.2.2 for the number of sprinklers above or below a ceiling, whichever is larger.

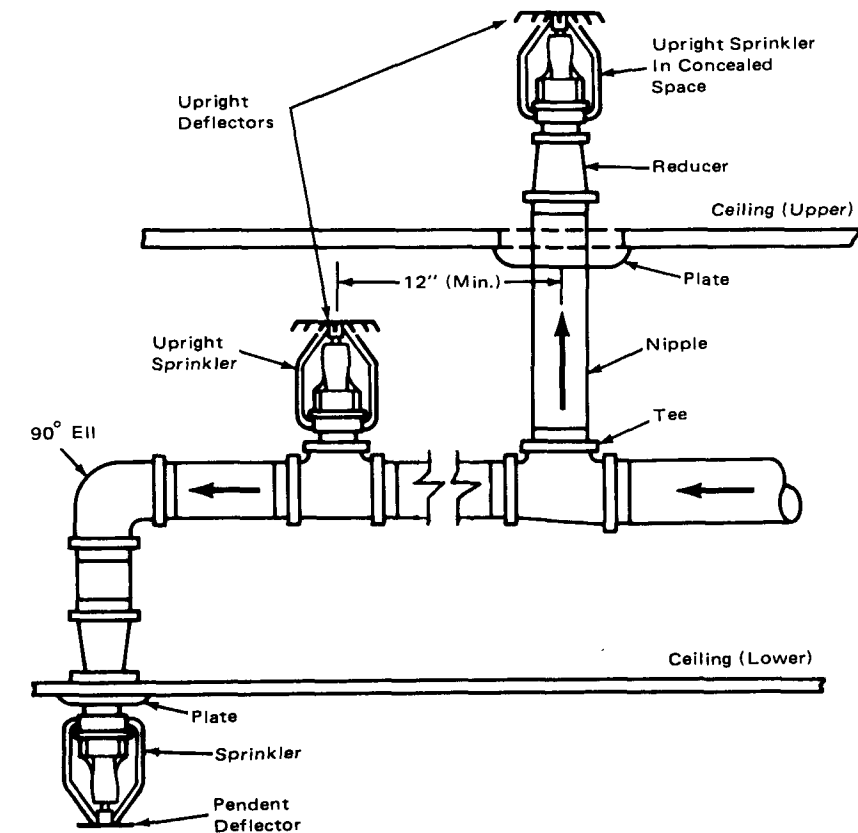
Table 6-5.2.3 Number of Sprinklers above and below a Ceiling

| Steel       |               | Copper      |               |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1 in. ....  | 2 sprinklers  | 1 in. ....  | 2 sprinklers  |
| 1¼ in. .... | 4 sprinklers  | 1¼ in. .... | 4 sprinklers  |
| 1½ in. .... | 7 sprinklers  | 1½ in. .... | 7 sprinklers  |
| 2 in. ....  | 15 sprinklers | 2 in. ....  | 18 sprinklers |
| 2½ in. .... | 50 sprinklers | 2½ in. .... | 65 sprinklers |

### 6-5.3 Schedule for Ordinary Hazard Occupancies.

**6-5.3.1** Branch lines shall not exceed 8 sprinklers on either side of a cross main.

*Exception:* When more than 8 sprinklers on a branch line are necessary, lines may be increased to 9 sprinklers by making the two end lengths 1 in. (25.4 mm) and 1¼ in. (33 mm), respectively, and the sizes thereafter standard. Ten sprinklers may be placed on



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

Figure 6-5.2.3(c) Arrangement of branch lines supplying sprinklers above and below ceilings.

a branch line making the two end lengths 1 in. (25.4 mm) and 1 1/4 in. (33 mm), respectively, and feeding the tenth sprinkler by a 2 1/2-in. (64-mm) pipe.

**6-5.3.2** Pipe sizes shall be in accordance with Table 6-5.3.2(a).

**Table 6-5.3.2(a) Ordinary Hazard Pipe Schedule**

| Steel          |                | Copper         |                |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1 in. ....     | 2 sprinklers   | 1 in. ....     | 2 sprinklers   |
| 1 1/4 in. .... | 3 sprinklers   | 1 1/4 in. .... | 3 sprinklers   |
| 1 1/2 in. .... | 5 sprinklers   | 1 1/2 in. .... | 5 sprinklers   |
| 2 in. ....     | 10 sprinklers  | 2 in. ....     | 12 sprinklers  |
| 2 1/2 in. .... | 20 sprinklers  | 2 1/2 in. .... | 25 sprinklers  |
| 3 in. ....     | 40 sprinklers  | 3 in. ....     | 45 sprinklers  |
| 3 1/2 in. .... | 65 sprinklers  | 3 1/2 in. .... | 75 sprinklers  |
| 4 in. ....     | 100 sprinklers | 4 in. ....     | 115 sprinklers |
| 5 in. ....     | 160 sprinklers | 5 in. ....     | 180 sprinklers |
| 6 in. ....     | 275 sprinklers | 6 in. ....     | 300 sprinklers |
| 8 in. ....     | See 4-2.1      | 8 in. ....     | See 4-2.1      |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

*Exception:* When the distance between sprinklers on the branch line exceeds 12 ft (3.7 m), or the distance between the branch lines exceeds 12 ft (3.7 m), the number of sprinklers for a given pipe size shall be in accordance with Table 6-5.3.2(b).

**Table 6-5.3.2(b) Number of Sprinklers—Greater than 12 ft Separations**

| Steel          |               | Copper         |               |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 2 1/2 in. .... | 15 sprinklers | 2 1/2 in. .... | 20 sprinklers |
| 3 in. ....     | 30 sprinklers | 3 in. ....     | 35 sprinklers |
| 3 1/2 in. .... | 60 sprinklers | 3 1/2 in. .... | 65 sprinklers |

For other pipe and tube sizes, see Table 6-5.3.2(a)

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**6-5.3.3** When sprinklers are installed above and below ceilings and such sprinklers are supplied from a common set of branch lines or separate branch lines supplied by a common cross main, such branch lines shall not exceed 8 sprinklers above and 8 sprinklers below any ceiling on either side of the cross main. Pipe sizing up to and including 3 in. (76 mm) shall be as shown in Table 6-5.3.3 [see Figures 6-5.2.3(a), (b), and (c)] utilizing the greatest number of sprinklers to be found on any two adjacent levels.

**Table 6-5.3.3 Number of Sprinklers above and below a Ceiling**

| Steel          |               | Copper         |               |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 in. ....     | 2 sprinklers  | 1 in. ....     | 2 sprinklers  |
| 1 1/4 in. .... | 4 sprinklers  | 1 1/4 in. .... | 4 sprinklers  |
| 1 1/2 in. .... | 7 sprinklers  | 1 1/2 in. .... | 7 sprinklers  |
| 2 in. ....     | 15 sprinklers | 2 in. ....     | 18 sprinklers |
| 2 1/2 in. .... | 30 sprinklers | 2 1/2 in. .... | 40 sprinklers |
| 3 in. ....     | 60 sprinklers | 3 in. ....     | 65 sprinklers |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**6-5.3.3.1\*** When the total number of sprinklers above and below a ceiling exceeds the number specified in Table 6-5.3.3 for 3-in. (76-mm) pipe, the pipe supplying such sprinklers shall be increased to 3 1/2 in. (89 mm) and sized thereafter according to the schedule shown in Table 6-5.2.2 or Table 6-5.3.2(a) for the number of sprinklers above or below ceiling, whichever is larger.

*Exception:* When the distance between the sprinklers protecting the occupied area exceeds 12 ft (3.7 m) or the distance between the branch lines exceeds 12 ft (3.7 m), the branch lines shall be sized in accordance with either Table 6-5.3.2(b), taking into consideration the sprinklers protecting the occupied area only, or paragraph 6-5.3.3, whichever requires the greater size of pipe.

**6-5.4\*** Extra Hazard Occupancies shall be hydraulically calculated.

*Exception:* For existing systems, see A-6-5.4.

**6-5.5 Deluge Systems.** Open sprinkler and deluge systems shall be hydraulically calculated according to applicable standards.

**6-5.6\* Exposure Systems.** Exposure sprinklers shall be hydraulically calculated using Table 6-5.6 and a relative classification of exposures Guide Number.

## Chapter 7 Water Supplies

**7-1 General.** Every automatic sprinkler system shall have at least one automatic water supply.

**7-1.1 Capacity.** Water supplies shall be reliable and be capable of providing the required flow and pressure for the recommended duration as specified in Chapter 5 (Design Approaches).

### 7-1.2 Arrangement.

**7-1.2.1 Underground Supply Pipe.** For pipe schedule systems, the underground supply pipe shall be at least as large as the system riser.

**7-1.2.2 Connection between Underground and Above-ground Piping.** The connection between the system piping and underground piping shall be made with a suitable transition piece and shall be properly strapped or fastened by approved devices. The transition piece shall be protected against possible damage from corrosive agents, solvent attack, or mechanical damage.

**7-1.2.3\* Connection Passing through or under Foundation Walls.** When system piping pierces a foundation wall below grade or is located under the foundation wall, clearance shall be provided to prevent breakage of the piping due to building settlement.

**7-1.3 Meters.** Where meters are required by other authorities, they shall be listed.

Table 6-5.6 Exposure Protection

| SECTION A—WINDOW SPRINKLERS  |                                |                               |                                  |               |   |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|---|
| Guide Number                 | Level of Window Sprinkler      | Window Sprinkler Orifice Size | Discharge Coefficient (K Factor) | Flow Rate (Q) | Application Rate over 25 ft <sup>2</sup> of Window Area |
| 1.50 or less                 | Top 2 levels                   | 3/8 in.                       | 2.8                              | 7.4 gpm       | 0.30 gpm/ft <sup>2</sup>                                |
|                              | Next lower 2 levels            | 3/16 in.                      | 1.9                              | 5.0 gpm       | 0.20 gpm/ft <sup>2</sup>                                |
|                              | Next lower 2 levels            | 1/4 in.                       | 1.4                              | 3.7 gpm       | 0.15 gpm/ft <sup>2</sup>                                |
| 1.51 to 2.20                 | Top 2 levels                   | 1/2 in.                       | 5.6                              | 14.8 gpm      | 0.59 gpm/ft <sup>2</sup>                                |
|                              | Next lower 2 levels            | 7/16 in.                      | 4.2                              | 11.1 gpm      | 0.44 gpm/ft <sup>2</sup>                                |
|                              | Next lower 2 levels            | 3/8 in.                       | 2.8                              | 7.4 gpm       | 0.30 gpm/ft <sup>2</sup>                                |
| 2.21 to 13.15                | Top 2 levels                   | 5/8 in.                       | 11.2                             | 29.6 gpm      | 1.18 gpm/ft <sup>2</sup>                                |
|                              | Next lower 2 levels            | 17/32 in.                     | 8.0                              | 21.2 gpm      | 0.85 gpm/ft <sup>2</sup>                                |
|                              | Next lower 2 levels            | 1/2 in.                       | 5.6                              | 14.8 gpm      | 0.59 gpm/ft <sup>2</sup>                                |
| SECTION B—CORNICE SPRINKLERS |                                |                               |                                  |               |   |
| Guide Number                 | Cornice Sprinkler Orifice Size |                               | Application Rate per Lineal Foot |               |   |
| 1.50 or less                 | 3/8 in.                        |                               | 0.75 gpm                         |               |   |
| 1.51 to 2.20                 | 1/2 in.                        |                               | 1.50 gpm                         |               |   |
| 2.21 to 13.15                | 5/8 in.                        |                               | 3.00 gpm                         |               |   |

## 7-2 Types.

**7-2.1\* Connections to Water Works Systems.** A connection to a reliable water works system shall be an acceptable water supply source. The volume and pressure of a public water supply shall be determined from waterflow test data. (See NFPA 24, *Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances*.) The authority having jurisdiction shall be permitted to require an adjustment to the waterflow test data to account for daily and seasonal fluctuations, possible interruption by flood or ice conditions, large simultaneous industrial use, future demand on the water supply system, or any other condition that could affect the water supply.

## 7-2.2 Pumps.

**7-2.2.1\* Acceptability.** A single automatically controlled fire pump installed in accordance with NFPA 20, *Standard for the Installation of Centrifugal Fire Pumps*, shall be an acceptable water supply source.

**7-2.2.2\* Supervision.** When a single fire pump constitutes the sole sprinkler supply, it shall be provided with supervisory service from an approved central station, proprietary, or remote station system or equivalent.

## 7-2.3 Pressure Tanks.

### 7-2.3.1 Acceptability.

**7-2.3.1.1** A pressure tank installed in accordance with NFPA 22, *Standard for Water Tanks for Private Fire Protection*, shall be an acceptable water supply source.

**7-2.3.1.2** Pressure tanks shall be provided with an approved means for automatically maintaining the required air pressure. When a pressure tank is the sole water supply, there shall also be provided an approved trouble alarm to indicate low air pressure and low water level with the alarm supplied from an electrical branch circuit independent of the air compressor.

**7-2.3.1.3** Pressure tanks shall not be used to supply other than sprinklers and hand hose attached to sprinkler piping.

**7-2.3.2 Capacity.** In addition to the requirements of 7-1.1, the water capacity of a pressure tank shall include the extra capacity needed to fill dry pipe or preaction systems when installed. The total volume shall be based on the water capacity, plus the air capacity required by 7-2.3.3.

**7-2.3.3\* Water Level and Air Pressure.** Pressure tanks shall be kept two-thirds full of water, and an air pressure of at least 75 psi (5.2 bars) by the gauge shall be maintained. When the bottom of the tank is located below the highest sprinklers served, the air pressure by the gauge shall be at least 75 psi (5.2 bars) plus three times the pressure caused by the column of water in the sprinkler system above the tank bottom.

**7-2.4 Gravity Tanks.** An elevated tank installed in accordance with NFPA 22, *Standard for Water Tanks for Private Fire Protection*, shall be an acceptable water supply source.

## Chapter 8 System Acceptance

**8-1 Approval of Sprinkler Systems.** The installing contractor shall:

(a) Notify the authority having jurisdiction and owner's representative of the time and date testing will be performed.

(b) Perform all required acceptance tests. (See Section 8-2.)

(c) Complete and sign the appropriate Contractor's Material and Test Certificate(s) [see Figures 8-1(a) and 8-1(b)].

# CONTRACTOR'S MATERIAL & TEST CERTIFICATE FOR ABOVEGROUND PIPING

## PROCEDURE

Upon completion of work, inspection and tests shall be made by the contractor's representative and witnessed by an owner's representative. All defects shall be corrected and system left in service before contractor's personnel finally leave the job.

A certificate shall be filled out and signed by both representatives. Copies shall be prepared for approving authorities, owners, and contractor. It is understood the owner's representative's signature in no way prejudices any claim against contractor for faulty material, poor workmanship, or failure to comply with approving authority's requirements or local ordinances.

PROPERTY NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

PROPERTY ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

|  |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|--|---|--|-------|--|---------------------|--|---|--|----------|------|--------------------|--|
| <b>PLANS</b>   | ACCEPTED BY APPROVING AUTHORITIES (NAMES) _____   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  | ADDRESS _____   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  | INSTALLATION CONFORMS TO ACCEPTED PLANS <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</span>   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  | EQUIPMENT USED IS APPROVED <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</span>  |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
| <b>INSTRUCTIONS</b>  | IF NO, EXPLAIN DEVIATIONS _____   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  | HAS PERSON IN CHARGE OF FIRE EQUIPMENT BEEN INSTRUCTED AS TO LOCATION OF CONTROL VALVES AND CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF THIS NEW EQUIPMENT? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</span> |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  | IF NO, EXPLAIN _____  |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  | HAVE COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING BEEN LEFT ON THE PREMISES: <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</span>   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
| 1. SYSTEM COMPONENTS INSTRUCTIONS <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</span>    |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
| 2. CARE AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</span> |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
| 3. NFPA 13A <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</span>                          |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
| <b>LOCATION OF SYSTEM</b>  | SUPPLIES BUILDINGS _____  |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
| <b>SPRINKLERS</b>  | MAKE  |  | MODEL |  | YEAR OF MANUFACTURE |  | ORIFICE SIZE                                    |  | QUANTITY |      | TEMPERATURE RATING |  |
|  |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
| <b>PIPE AND FITTINGS</b>   | Type of Pipe _____  |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  | Type of Fittings _____  |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
| <b>ALARM VALVE OR FLOW INDICATOR</b>   | ALARM DEVICE  |  |       |  |                     |  | MAXIMUM TIME TO OPERATE THROUGH TEST CONNECTION |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  | TYPE  |  | MAKE  |  | MODEL               |  | MIN.  |  |          | SEC. |                    |  |
|  |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
| <b>DRY PIPE OPERATING TEST</b>   | DRY VALVE   |  |       |  |                     |  | O.O.D.  |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  | MAKE  |  | MODEL |  | SERIAL NO.          |  | MAKE  |  | MODEL    |      | SERIAL NO.         |  |
|  |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
|  |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |
| IF NO, EXPLAIN _____   |   |  |       |  |                     |  |   |  |          |      |                    |  |

\* MEASURED FROM TIME INSPECTOR'S TEST CONNECTION IS OPENED.  
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Figure 8-1(a).

**ADDITIONAL EXPLANATION AND NOTES**

## CONTRACTOR'S MATERIAL & TEST CERTIFICATE FOR UNDERGROUND PIPING

**PROCEDURE**

Upon completion of work, inspection and tests shall be made by the contractor's representative and witnessed by an owner's representative. All defects shall be corrected and system left in service before contractor's personnel finally leave the job.

A certificate shall be filled out and signed by both representatives. Copies shall be prepared for approving authorities, owners, and contractor. It is understood the owner's representative's signature in no way prejudices any claim against contractor for faulty material, poor workmanship, or failure to comply with approving authority's requirements or local ordinances.

|  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| PROPERTY NAME  |  | DATE   |   |
| PROPERTY ADDRESS   |  |  |   |
| PLANS  | ACCEPTED BY APPROVING AUTHORITIES (NAMES)  |  |   |
|  | ADDRESS  |  |   |
|  | INSTALLATION CONFORMS TO ACCEPTED PLANS <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</span>  |  |   |
|  | EQUIPMENT USED IS APPROVED <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</span>   |  |   |
| IF NO, STATE DEVIATIONS  |  |  |   |
| INSTRUCTIONS   | HAS PERSON IN CHARGE OF FIRE EQUIPMENT BEEN INSTRUCTED AS TO LOCATION OF CONTROL VALVES AND CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF THIS NEW EQUIPMENT? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</span>  |  |   |
|  | IF NO, EXPLAIN   |  |   |
|  | HAVE COPIES OF APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS AND CARE AND MAINTENANCE CHARTS BEEN LEFT ON PREMISES? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</span>   |  |   |
| IF NO, EXPLAIN   |  |  |   |
| LOCATION   | SUPPLIES BUILDINGS   |  |   |
| UNDERGROUND<br>PIPES<br>AND<br>JOINTS  | PIPE TYPES AND CLASS   |  | TYPE JOINT  |
|  | PIPE CONFORMS TO _____ STANDARD  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO                  |
|  | FITTINGS CONFORM TO _____ STANDARD   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO                  |
|  | IF NO, EXPLAIN   |  |   |
|  | JOINTS NEEDING ANCHORAGE CLAMPED, STRAPPED, OR BLOCKED IN ACCORDANCE WITH _____ STANDARD   |  |   |
| IF NO, EXPLAIN   |  |  |   |
| TEST<br>DESCRIPTION  | <b>FLUSHING.</b> Flow the required rate until water is clear as indicated by no collection of foreign material in burlap bags at outlets such as hydrants and blow-offs. Flush at flows not less than 390 GPM (1476 L/min) for 4-inch pipe, 880 GPM (3331 L/min) for 6-inch pipe, 1560 GPM (5905 L/min) for 8-inch pipe, 2440 GPM (9236 L/min) for 10-inch pipe, and 3520 GPM (13323 L/min) for 12-inch pipe. When supply cannot produce stipulated flow rates, obtain maximum available.<br><b>HYDROSTATIC.</b> Hydrostatic tests shall be made at not less than 200 psi (13.8 bars) for two hours or 50 psi (3.4 bars) above static pressure in excess of 150 psi (10.3 bars) for two hours.<br><b>LEAKAGE.</b> New pipe laid with rubber gasketed joints shall, if the workmanship is satisfactory, have little or no leakage at the joints. The amount of leakage at the joints shall not exceed 2 qts. per hr. (1.89 L/h) per 100 joints irrespective of pipe diameter. The leakage shall be distributed over all joints. If such leakage occurs at a few joints the installation shall be considered unsatisfactory and necessary repairs made. The amount of allowable leakage specified above may be increased by 1 fl oz per in. valve diameter per hr. (30 mL/25 mm/h) for each metal seated valve isolating the test section. If dry barrel hydrants are tested with the main valve open, so the hydrants are under pressure, an additional 5 oz per minute (150 mL/min) leakage is permitted for each hydrant. |  |   |
| FLUSHING<br>TESTS  | NEW UNDERGROUND PIPING FLUSHED ACCORDING TO _____ STANDARD <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</span>   |  |   |
|  | BY (COMPANY) _____   |  |   |
|  | IF NO, EXPLAIN   |  |   |
|  | HOW FLUSHING FLOW WAS OBTAINED   |  | THROUGH WHAT TYPE OPENING   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC WATER <input type="checkbox"/> TANK OR RESERVOIR <input type="checkbox"/> FIRE PUMP  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> HYDRANT BUTT. <input type="checkbox"/> OPEN PIPE |
| LEAD-INS FLUSHED ACCORDING TO _____ STANDARD <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</span> |  |  |   |
| BY (COMPANY) _____   |  |  |   |
| IF NO, EXPLAIN   |  |  |   |
| HOW FLUSHING FLOW WAS OBTAINED   |  | THROUGH WHAT TYPE OPENING  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC WATER <input type="checkbox"/> TANK OR RESERVOIR <input type="checkbox"/> FIRE PUMP                      |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Y CONN. TO FLANGE & SPIGOT <input type="checkbox"/> OPEN PIPE |   |

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Figure 8-1(b).



|                         |  |               |  |  |
|-------------------------|--|---------------|--|--|
| <b>HYDROSTATIC TEST</b> | ALL NEW UNDERGROUND PIPING HYDROSTATICALLY TESTED AT   |               | JOINTS COVERED   |  |
|                         | _____ PSI FOR _____ HOURS  |               | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |  |
| <b>LEAKAGE TEST</b>     | TOTAL AMOUNT OF LEAKAGE MEASURED   |               |  |  |
|                         | _____ GALS. _____ HOURS  |               |  |  |
| <b>HYDRANTS</b>         | ALLOWABLE LEAKAGE  |               |  |  |
|                         | _____ GALS. _____ HOURS  |               |  |  |
| <b>CONTROL VALVES</b>   | NUMBER INSTALLED   | TYPE AND MAKE | ALL OPERATE SATISFACTORILY                               |  |
|                         |  |               | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |  |
| <b>REMARKS</b>          | WATER CONTROL VALVES LEFT WIDE OPEN IF NO, STATE REASON  |               | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |  |
|                         | HOSE THREADS OF FIRE DEPARTMENT CONNECTIONS AND HYDRANTS INTERCHANGEABLE WITH THOSE OF FIRE DEPARTMENT ANSWERING ALARM |               | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO |  |
| <b>SIGNATURES</b>       | DATE LEFT IN SERVICE   |               |  |  |
|                         |  |               |  |  |
| <b>SIGNATURES</b>       | NAME OF INSTALLING CONTRACTOR  |               |  |  |
|                         | TESTS WITNESSED BY   |               |  |  |
|                         | FOR PROPERTY OWNER (SIGNED)  | TITLE         | DATE   |  |
|                         | FOR INSTALLING CONTRACTOR (SIGNED)   | TITLE         | DATE   |  |

ADDITIONAL EXPLANATION AND NOTES

Figure 8-1(b) (cont.).

## 8-2 Acceptance Requirements.

**8-2.1\* Flushing of Piping.** Underground mains and lead-in connections to system risers shall be completely flushed before connection is made to sprinkler piping. The flushing operation shall be continued for a sufficient time to ensure thorough cleaning. The minimum rate of flow shall be not less than:

- (a) The hydraulically calculated water demand rate of the system including any hose requirements, or
- (b) That flow necessary to provide a velocity of 10 ft per second (3 m/s), or
- (c) The maximum flow rate available to the system under fire conditions.

**Table 8-2.1 Flow Required to Produce a Velocity of 10 ft per second (3 m/s) in Pipes**

| Pipe Size<br>(in.) | Flow Rate<br>(gpm) | Flow Rate<br>(L/min) |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 4                  | 390                | 1476                 |
| 6                  | 880                | 3331                 |
| 8                  | 1560               | 5905                 |
| 10                 | 2440               | 9235                 |
| 12                 | 3520               | 13323                |

## 8-2.2 Hydrostatic Tests.

**8-2.2.1\*** All interior piping and attached appurtenances subjected to system working pressure shall be hydrostatically tested at 200 psi (13.8 bars) and shall maintain that pressure without loss for 2 hours. Loss shall be determined by a drop in gauge pressure or visual leakage.

*Exception No. 1: Portions of systems normally subjected to working pressures in excess of 150 psi (10.4 bars) shall be tested as described above at a pressure of 50 psi (3.5 bars) in excess of normal working pressure.*

*Exception No. 2: When cold weather will not permit testing with water, an interim air test may be conducted as described in 8-2.3.*

The test pressure shall be read from a gauge located at the low elevation point of the system or portion being tested.

**8-2.2.2 Additives.** Additives, corrosive chemicals such as sodium silicate or derivatives of sodium silicate, brine, or other chemicals shall not be used while hydrostatically testing systems or for stopping leaks.

**8-2.2.3** Piping between the exterior fire department connection and the check valve in the fire department inlet pipe shall be hydrostatically tested in the same manner as the balance of the system.

**8-2.2.4** When hydrostatically testing deluge systems, plugs shall be installed in fittings and replaced with open sprinklers after the test is completed, or the operating elements of automatic sprinklers shall be removed after the test is completed.

**8-2.2.5** All underground piping shall be hydrostatically tested in accordance with NFPA 24, *Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances*. The allowable leakage shall be within the limits prescribed by NFPA 24 and shall be recorded on the test certificate.

**8-2.2.6** Provision shall be made for proper disposal of water used for flushing or testing.

**8-2.2.7\*** Test blanks shall have painted lugs protruding in such a way as to clearly indicate their presence. The test blanks shall be numbered, and the installing contractor shall have a record-keeping method ensuring their removal after work is completed.

**8-2.2.8 Differential Type Valves.** The clapper of a differential type valve when subject to hydrostatic test pressures shall be held off its seat to prevent damaging the valve.

**8-2.3 Dry System Air Test.** In addition to the standard hydrostatic test, an air pressure leakage test at 40 psi (2.8 bars) shall be conducted for 24 hours. Any leakage that results in a loss of pressure in excess of 1½ psi (0.1 bar) for the 24 hours shall be corrected.

#### **8-2.4 System Operational Tests**

**8-2.4.1** Waterflow detecting devices including the associated alarm circuits shall be flow tested through the inspector's test connection to result in an alarm on the premises within 5 minutes after such flow begins.

**8-2.4.2** A working test of the dry pipe valve alone, and with a quick-opening device, if installed, shall be made by opening the inspector's test connection. The test shall measure the time to trip the valve and the time for water to be discharged from the inspector's test connection. All times shall be measured from the time the inspector's test connection is completely opened. The results shall be recorded using the Contractor's Material and Test Certificate for Aboveground Piping.

**8-2.4.3** The automatic operation of a deluge or preaction valve shall be tested in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. The manual and remote control operation, when present, shall also be tested.

**8-2.4.4 Main Drain Flow Test.** The main drain valve shall be opened and remain open until the system pressure stabilizes. The static and residual pressures shall be recorded on the contractor's test certificate.

**8-2.5** Each pressure reducing valve shall be tested upon completion of the installation to ensure proper pressure reduction at both maximum and normal inlet pressures.

**8-2.6** Operating tests shall be made of exposure protection systems upon completion of the installation, when such tests do not risk water damage to the building on which it is installed or to adjacent buildings.

**8-3 Circulating Closed Loop Systems.** For sprinkler systems with nonfire protection connections, additional information shall be appended to the Contractor's Material and Test Certificate shown in Figure 8-1(a) as follows:

(a) Certification that all auxiliary devices, such as heat pumps, circulating pumps, heat exchangers, radiators, and luminaries, if a part of the system, have a pressure rating of at least 175 psi or 300 psi if exposed to pressures greater than 175 psi (12.1 or 20.7 bars).

(b) All components of sprinkler system and auxiliary system have been pressure tested as a composite system in accordance with 8-2.2.

(c) Waterflow tests have been conducted and waterflow alarms have operated while auxiliary equipment is in each of the possible modes of operation.

(d) With auxiliary equipment tested in each possible mode of operation and with no flow from sprinklers or test connection, waterflow alarm signals did not operate.

(e) Excess temperature controls for shutting down the auxiliary system have been properly field tested.

#### **8-4 Instructions.**

**8-4.1** The installing contractor shall provide the owner with:

(a) All literature and instructions provided by the manufacturer describing proper operation and maintenance of any equipment and devices installed.

(b) Publication titled NFPA 13A, *Recommended Practice for the Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Sprinkler Systems*.

**8-5\* Hydraulic Design Information Sign.** The installing contractor shall identify a hydraulically designed sprinkler system with a permanently marked weatherproof metal or rigid plastic sign secured with corrosion resistant wire, chain, or other approved means. Such signs shall be placed at the alarm valve, dry pipe valve, preaction valve, or deluge valve supplying the corresponding hydraulically designed area. The sign shall include the following information:

(a) Location of the design area or areas.

(b) Discharge densities over the design area or areas.

(c) Required flow and residual pressure demand at the base of riser.

(d) Hose stream demand included in addition to the sprinkler demand.

**8-6 Circulating Closed Loop Systems.** Discharge tests of sprinkler systems with nonfire protection connections shall be conducted using system test connections described in 2-7.2. Pressure gauges shall be installed at critical points and readings taken under various modes of auxiliary equipment operation. Waterflow alarm signals shall be responsive to discharge of water through system test pipes while auxiliary equipment is in each of the possible modes of operation.

## **Chapter 9 System Maintenance**

### **9-1 General.**

**9-1.1\*** A sprinkler system installed in accordance with this standard shall be properly maintained to provide at least the same level of performance and protection as designed. The owner shall be responsible for maintaining

the system and keeping the system in good operating condition. (Guidance for maintaining the system is provided in NFPA 13A, *Recommended Practice for Inspection and Maintenance of Sprinkler Systems*.)

**9-1.2** When the sprinkler system has been subjected to adverse conditions such as freezing conditions in wet sprinkler systems, structural damage, severe earthquakes, or fire exposure, the sprinkler system, including hangers, piping, alarms, and sprinklers, shall be inspected and repaired or replaced if damaged. Sprinklers in the fire area shall be replaced.

**9-1.3\*** When the sprinkler piping is given any kind of coating, such as whitewash or paint, care shall be exercised to see that no automatic sprinklers are coated.

## **9-2 Replacement of Sprinklers.**

**9-2.1** When sprinklers are replaced, the replacement sprinkler shall be of the same type, orifice, and temperature rating unless conditions require a different type sprinkler be installed. The replacement sprinkler shall then be of a type, orifice, and temperature rating to suit the new conditions.

**9-2.2** Old-style sprinklers may be replaced with old-style sprinklers or with the appropriate pendent or upright sprinkler.

**9-2.3** Old-style sprinklers shall not be used to replace pendent or upright sprinklers.

**9-2.4** Extreme care shall be exercised when replacing horizontal sidewall and extended coverage sprinklers to assure the correct replacement sprinkler is installed.

**9-2.5** Sprinklers that have been painted or coated, except by the manufacturer, shall be replaced and shall not be cleaned by use of chemicals, abrasives, or other means. (See 2-2.4.3.)

**9-2.6** Sprinkler or spray nozzles used in commercial cooking equipment shall be replaced as specified in 3-9.12.

## **9-3 Obstruction in Piping.**

**9-3.1** Screens located in the inlet piping directly connected to rivers, lakes, ponds, reservoirs, uncovered tanks, and similar sources shall be cleaned annually and after work has been performed on fire protection water supplies. (See NFPA 24, *Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances*.)

**9-3.2** Visual or flushing investigation shall be conducted of all systems for presence of foreign material at intervals not exceeding 5 years.

**9-3.3\*** The main drain shall be tested quarterly.

**9-4 Testing of Antifreeze Systems.** Before freezing weather each year, the solution in the entire system shall be emptied into convenient containers and brought to the proper specific gravity by adding concentrated liquid as needed. The resulting solution may be used to refill the system.

## **Chapter 10 Referenced Publications**

**10-1** The following documents or portions thereof are referenced within this standard and shall be considered part of the requirements of this document. The edition indicated for each reference is the current edition as of the date of the NFPA issuance of this document.

**10-1.1 NFPA Publications.** National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269-9101.

NFPA 13D, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Mobile Homes*, 1991 edition

NFPA 13R, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Residential Occupancies up to and Including Four Stories in Height*, 1991 edition

NFPA 14, *Standard for the Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems*, 1990 edition

NFPA 20, *Standard for the Installation of Centrifugal Fire Pumps*, 1990 edition

NFPA 22, *Standard for Water Tanks for Private Fire Protection*, 1987 edition

NFPA 24, *Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances*, 1987 edition

NFPA 51B, *Standard for Fire Prevention in Use of Cutting and Welding Processes*, 1989 edition

NFPA 70, *National Electrical Code*, 1990 edition

NFPA 71, *Standard for the Installation, Maintenance, and Use of Signaling Systems for Central Station Service*, 1989 edition

NFPA 72, *Standard for the Installation, Maintenance, and Use of Protective Signaling Systems*, 1990 edition

NFPA 96, *Standard for the Installation of Equipment for the Removal of Smoke and Grease-Laden Vapors from Commercial Cooking Equipment*, 1991 edition

NFPA 231, *Standard for General Storage*, 1990 edition

NFPA 231C, *Standard for Rack Storage of Materials*, 1991 edition

NFPA 251, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials*, 1990 edition

**10-1.2** The following NFPA codes and standards contain specific sprinkler design criteria.

NFPA 15, *Standard for Water Spray Fixed Systems for Fire Protection*, 1990 edition

NFPA 16, *Standard on Deluge Foam-Water Sprinkler and Foam-Water Spray Systems*, 1991 edition

NFPA 30, *Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code*, 1990 edition

NFPA 30B, *Code for the Manufacture and Storage of Aerosol Products*, 1990 edition

NFPA 40, *Standard for the Storage and Handling of Cellulose Nitrate Motion Picture Film*, 1988 edition

NFPA 43A, *Code for the Storage of Liquid and Solid Oxidizers*, 1990 edition

NFPA 45, *Standard on Fire Protection for Laboratories Using Chemicals*, 1991 edition

NFPA 58, *Standard for the Storage and Handling of Liquefied Petroleum Gases*, 1989 edition

NFPA 81, *Standard for Fire Storage, Fumigation and Cleaning*, 1986 edition

NFPA 101,<sup>®</sup> *Life Safety Code*,<sup>®</sup> 1991 edition

NFPA 214, *Standard on Water-Cooling Towers*, 1988 edition

NFPA 231, *Standard for General Storage*, 1990 edition

NFPA 231C, *Standard for Rack Storage of Materials*, 1991 edition

NFPA 231D, *Standard for Storage of Rubber Tires*, 1989 edition

NFPA 231E, *Recommended Practice for the Storage of Baled Cotton*, 1989 edition

NFPA 231F, *Standard for Storage of Roll Paper*, 1987 edition

NFPA 232, *Standard for the Protection of Records*, 1991 edition

NFPA 307, *Standard for the Construction and Fire Protection of Marine Terminals, Piers, and Wharves*, 1990 edition

NFPA 409, *Standard on Aircraft Hangars*, 1990 edition

NFPA 423, *Standard for Construction and Protection of Aircraft Engine Test Facilities*, 1989 edition

### 10-1.3 Other Publications.

**10-1.3.1 ANSI Publications.** American National Standards Institute, Inc., 1450 Broadway, New York, New York 10018.

ANSI B1.20.1-1983, *Pipe Threads, General Purpose*

ANSI B16.1-1989, *Cast Iron Pipe Flanges and Flanged Fittings, Class 25, 125, 250 and 800*

ANSI B16.3-1985, *Malleable Iron Threaded Fittings, Class 150 and 300*

ANSI B16.4-1985, *Cast Iron Threaded Fittings, Classes 125 and 250*

ANSI B16.5-1988, *Pipe Flanges and Flanged Fittings*

ANSI B16.9-1986, *Factory-Made Wrought Steel Butt Welding Fittings*

ANSI B16.11-1980, *Forged Steel Fittings, Socket-Welding and Threaded*

ANSI B16.18-1984, *Cast Copper Alloy Solder Joint Pressure Fittings*

ANSI B16.22-1989, *Wrought Copper and Copper Alloy Solder Joint Pressure Fittings*

ANSI B16.25-1986, *Butt Welding Ends*

ANSI B36.10M-1985, *Welded and Seamless Wrought Steel Pipe*

**10-1.3.2 ASTM Publications.** American Society for Testing and Materials, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19105.

ASTM A53-1990, *Standard Specification for Welded Pipe, Steel, Black and Hot-Dipped, Zinc-Coated and Seamless Steel Pipe*

ASTM A135-1989, *Specifications for Electric-Resistance Welded Steel Pipe*

ASTM A234-1990, *Standard Specification for Piping Fittings of Wrought-Carbon Steel and Alloy Steel for Moderate and Elevated Temperatures*

ASTM A795-1990, *Specification for Black and Hot-Dipped Zinc-Coated (Galvanized) Welded and Seamless Steel Pipe for Fire Protection Use*

ASTM B32-1989, *Standard Specification for Solder Metal, 95-5 (Tin-Antimony-Grade 95TA)*

ASTM B75-1986, *Standard Specification for Seamless Copper Tube*

ASTM B88-1989, *Standard Specification for Seamless Copper Water Tube*

ASTM B251-1988, *Standard Specification for General Requirements for Wrought Seamless Copper and Copper-Alloy Tube*

ASTM E136-1982, *Standard Test Method for Behavior of Materials in a Vertical Tube Furnace at 750°C*

ASTM E380-1989, *Standard for Metric Practice*

**10-1.3.3 AWS Publications.** American Welding Society, 2501 N.W. 7th Street, Miami, FL 33125.

AWS A5.8-1989, *Specification for Brazing Filler Metal*

AWS D10.9-1980, *Specification for Qualification of Welding Procedures and Welders for Piping and Tubing*

## Appendix A

*This Appendix is not a part of the requirements of this NFPA document, but is included for information purposes only.*

**A-1-4.2 Miscellaneous Storage.** The sprinkler system design criteria for miscellaneous storage at heights below 12 ft (3.7 m) is covered by this standard in Chapters 4 and 5. Section 5-2.3.1.1 describes design criteria and 4-2.2 (Table 4-2.2) describes installation requirements (area limits). These apply to all storage of 12 feet or less in height.

**A-1-4.2 Sprinkler System.** A sprinkler system is considered to have a single system riser control valve.

**A-1-4.4** See Figure A-1-4.4.

**A-1-4.5.1 QRES Sprinkler.** Research into the development of QRES sprinklers is continuing under the auspices of the National Fire Protection Research Foundation. It is expected that the proposed design criteria will be added to the standard when a thorough analysis of the test data is completed.

**A-1-4.5.1 ESFR Sprinkler.** It is important to realize that the effectiveness of these highly tested and engineered sprinklers depends on the combination of fast response and the quality and uniformity of the sprinkler discharge. It should also be realized that ESFR sprinklers cannot be relied upon to provide fire control, let alone suppression, if they are used outside the guidelines specified in 5-3.5.

**A-1-4.5.3 Dry Sprinkler.** Under certain ambient conditions wet pipe systems having dry-pendent (or upright) sprinklers may freeze due to heat loss by conduction. Therefore, due consideration should be given to the amount of heat maintained in the heated space, the length of the nipple in the heated space, and other relevant factors.

**A-1-4.6(a)** The following are examples of obstructed construction. The definitions are provided as guidance to assist the user in determining the type of construction feature:

(i) *Beam and Girder Construction.* The term *beam and girder construction* as used in this standard includes noncombustible and combustible roof or floor decks supported by wood beams of 4 in. (102 mm) or greater nominal thickness or concrete or steel beams spaced 3 to 7½ ft (0.9 to 2.3 m) on centers and either supported on or framed into girders. [When supporting a wood plank deck, this includes semi-mill and panel construction, and when supporting (with steel framing) gypsum plank, steel deck, concrete, tile, or similar material, this would include much of the so-called noncombustible construction.]

(ii) *Composite Wood Joist Construction.* The term *composite wood joist construction* refers to wood beams of I cross section constructed of wood flanges and solid wood web, supporting a floor or roof deck. Composite wood joists may vary in depth up to 48 in. (1.2 m), may be spaced up to 48 in. (1.2 m) on centers, and may span up to 60 ft (18 m) between supports. Joist channels should be fire-stopped to the full depth of the joists with material equivalent to the web construction so that individual channel areas do not exceed 300 sq ft (27.9 m²). See Figure A-1-4.6(a)(ii) for examples of composite wood joist construction.

(iii) *Panel Construction.* The term *panel construction* as used in this standard includes ceiling panels formed by members capable of trapping heat to aid the operation of sprinklers and limited to a maximum of 300 sq ft (27.9 m²) in area. Beams spaced more than 7½ ft (2.3 m) apart and framed into girders qualify for panel construction provided the 300 sq ft (27.9 m²) area limitation is met.

(iv) *Semi-Mill Construction.* The term *semi-mill construction* as used in this standard refers to a modified standard mill construction, where greater column spacing is used and beams rest on girders.

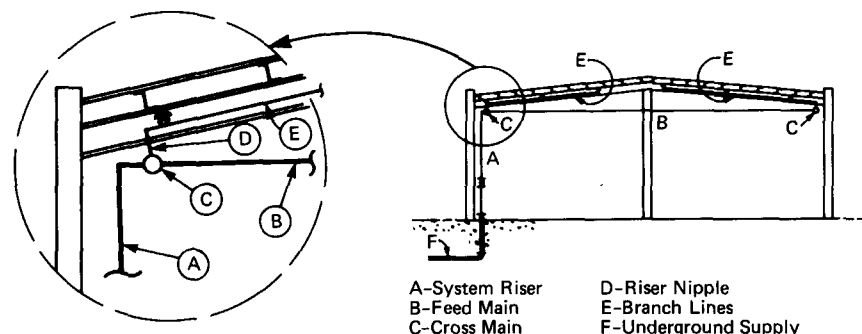


Figure A-1-4.4 Building elevation showing parts of sprinkler piping system.

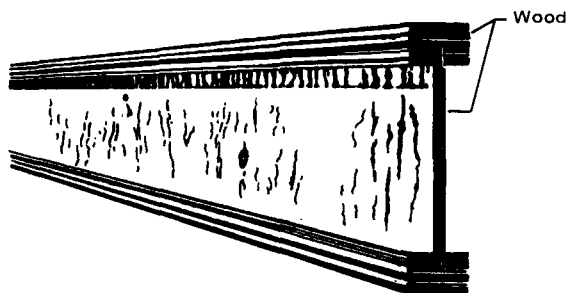


Figure A-1-4.6(a)(ii) Typical composite wood joist construction.

(v) *Wood Joist Construction.* The term *wood joist construction* refers to solid wood members of rectangular cross section, which may vary from 2 to 4 in. (51 to 102 mm) nominal width and up to 14 in. (356 mm) nominal depth spaced up to 3 ft (0.9 m) on centers, and spanning up to 40 ft (12 m) between supports, supporting a floor or roof deck. Solid wood members less than 4 in. (102 mm) nominal width and up to 14 in. (356 mm) nominal depth, spaced more than 3 ft (0.9 m) on centers are also considered as wood joist construction.

**A-1-4.6(b)** The following are examples of unobstructed construction. The definitions are provided as guidance to assist the user in determining the type of construction feature:

(i) *Bar Joist Construction.* The term *bar joist construction* refers to construction employing joists consisting of steel truss-shaped members. Wood truss-shaped members, which consist of wood top and bottom chord members not exceeding 4 in. (102 mm) in depth with steel tube or bar webs, are also defined as bar joists. Bar joist includes non-combustible or combustible roof or floor decks on bar joist construction. See Figures A-1-4.6(b)(i)1 and A-1-4.6(b)(i)2 for examples of bar joist construction.

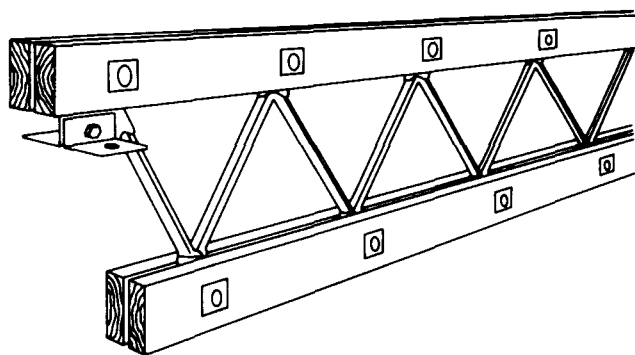


Figure A-1-4.6(b)(i)1 Wood bar joist construction.

(ii) *Open Grid Ceilings.* Open grid ceilings are ceilings in which the openings are  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. (6.4 mm) or larger in the least dimension, the thickness of the ceiling material does not exceed the least dimension of the openings, and such openings constitute at least 70 percent of the ceiling area.

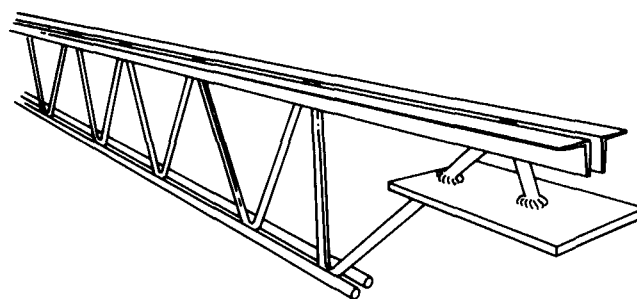


Figure A-1-4.6(b)(i)2 Open-web bar joist construction.

(iii) *Smooth Ceiling Construction.* The term *smooth ceiling construction* as used in this standard includes:

(a) Flat slab, pan-type reinforced concrete, concrete joist less than 3 ft (0.9 m) on centers.

(b) Continuous smooth bays formed by wood, concrete, or steel beams spaced more than  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ft (2.3 m) on centers — beams supported by columns, girders, or trusses.

(c) Smooth roof or floor decks supported directly on girders or trusses spaced more than  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ft (2.3 m) on centers.

(d) Smooth monolithic ceilings of at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. (19 mm) of plaster on metal lath or a combination of materials of equivalent fire-resistive rating attached to the underside of wood joists, wood trusses, and bar joists.

(e) Open web-type steel beams, regardless of spacing.

(f) Smooth shell-type roofs, such as folded plates, hyperbolic paraboloids, saddles, domes, and long barrel shells.

NOTE: In (b) through (f) above, combustible or noncombustible floor decks are permitted. Item (b) would include standard mill construction.

(g) Suspended ceilings of combustible or noncombustible construction.

(h) Smooth monolithic ceilings with fire resistance less than that specified under item (d) attached to the underside of wood joists, wood trusses, and bar joists.

(iv) *Standard Mill Construction.* The term *standard mill construction* as used in this standard refers to heavy timber construction as defined in NFPA 220, *Standard on Types of Building Construction*.

(v) *Wood Truss Construction.* The term *wood truss construction* refers to parallel or pitched wood chord members connected by open wood members (webbing) supporting a roof or floor deck. Trusses with steel webbing, similar to bar joist construction, having top and bottom wood chords exceeding 4 in. (102 mm) in depth, should also be considered wood truss construction.

**A-1-4.7** Occupancy examples in the listings as shown in the various hazard classifications are intended to represent the norm for those occupancy types. Unusual or abnormal

fuel loadings or combustible characteristics and susceptibility for changes in these characteristics, for a particular occupancy, are considerations that should be weighed in the selection and classification.

The Light Hazard classification is intended to encompass residential occupancies; however, this is not intended to preclude the use of listed residential sprinklers in residential occupancies or residential portions of other occupancies.

**A-1-4.7.1** Light Hazard Occupancies include occupancies having conditions similar to:

- Churches
- Clubs
- Eaves and overhangs, if combustible construction with no combustibles beneath
- Educational
- Hospitals
- Institutional
- Libraries, except large stack rooms
- Museums
- Nursing or convalescent homes
- Office, including data processing
- Residential
- Restaurant seating areas
- Theaters and Auditoriums excluding stages and prosceniums
- Unused attics.

**A-1-4.7.2.1** Ordinary Hazard Occupancies (Group 1) include occupancies having conditions similar to:

- Automobile parking and showrooms
- Bakeries
- Beverage manufacturing
- Canneries
- Dairy products manufacturing and processing
- Electronic plants
- Glass and glass products manufacturing
- Laundries
- Restaurant service areas.

**A-1-4.7.2.2** Ordinary Hazard Occupancies (Group 2) include occupancies having conditions similar to:

- Cereal mills
- Chemical plants — ordinary
- Confectionery products
- Distilleries
- Dry cleaners
- Feed mills
- Horse stables
- Leather goods manufacturing
- Libraries — large stack room areas
- Machine shops
- Metal working
- Mercantile
- Paper and pulp mills
- Paper process plants
- Piers and wharves
- Post offices
- Printing and publishing
- Repair garages

- Stages
- Textile manufacturing
- Tire manufacturing
- Tobacco products manufacturing
- Wood machining
- Wood product assembly.

**A-1-4.7.3.1** Extra Hazard Occupancies (Group 1) include occupancies having conditions similar to:

- Aircraft hangars
- Combustible hydraulic fluid use areas
- Die casting
- Metal extruding
- Plywood and particle board manufacturing
- Printing [using inks having flash points below 100°F (37.9°C)]
- Rubber reclaiming, compounding, drying, milling, vulcanizing
- Saw mills
- Textile picking, opening, blending, garnetting, carding, combining of cotton, synthetics, wool shoddy, or burlap
- Upholstering with plastic foams.

Extra Hazard Occupancies (Group 2) include occupancies having conditions similar to:

- Asphalt saturating
- Flammable liquids spraying
- Flow coating
- Mobile home or modular building assemblies (where finished enclosure is present and has combustible interiors)
- Open oil quenching
- Plastics processing
- Solvent cleaning
- Varnish and paint dipping.

**A-1-4.7.4.1** Other NFPA standards contain design criteria for fire control or fire suppression (*see 1-4.7.4 and Chapter 10*). While these may form the basis of design criteria, this standard describes the methods of design, installation, fabrication, calculation, and evaluation of water supplies that should be used for the specific design of the system.

**A-2-1.1** Included among items requiring listing are sprinklers, some pipe and some fittings, hangers, alarm devices, valves controlling flow of water to sprinklers, valve tamper switches, and gauges.

**A-2-2.3** Information regarding the highest temperature that may be encountered in any location in a particular installation may be obtained by use of a thermometer that will register the highest temperature encountered; it should be hung for several days in the location in question, with the plant in operation.

**A-2-2.4.1** Examples of such locations are paper mills, packing houses, tanneries, alkali plants, organic fertilizer plants, foundries, forge shops, fumigation, pickle and vinegar works, stables, storage battery rooms, electroplating rooms, galvanizing rooms, steam rooms of all descriptions including moist vapor dry kilns, salt storage rooms, locomotive sheds or houses, driveways, areas exposed to outside weather such as piers and wharves exposed to salt air, areas under sidewalks, around bleaching equipment in

flour mills, all portions of cold storage buildings where a direct ammonia expansion system is used, and portions of any plant where corrosive vapors prevail.

**A-2-2.4.2** Care should be taken in the handling and installation of wax-coated or similar sprinklers to avoid damaging the coating.

**A-2-2.4.3** Painting of sprinklers may retard the thermal response of the heat-responsive element, may interfere with the free movement of parts, and may render the sprinkler inoperative. Moreover, painting may invite the application of subsequent coatings, thus increasing the possibility of a malfunction of the sprinkler.

**A-2-2.5.2** The use of the wrong type of escutcheon with recessed or flush type sprinklers can result in severe disruption of the spray pattern, which can destroy the effectiveness of the sprinkler.

**A-2-2.6** Sprinklers under open gratings should be provided with shields. Shields over automatic sprinklers should not be less, in least dimension, than four times the distance between the shield and fusible element, except special sprinklers incorporating a built-in shield need not comply with this recommendation if listed for the particular application.

**A-2-3.2** See Table A-2-3.2.

**A-2-3.4** See Table A-2-3.4.

**A-2-3.5** Other types of pipe and tube that have been investigated and listed for sprinkler applications include lightweight steel pipe and thermoplastic pipe and fittings. While these products may offer advantages, such as ease of handling and installation, cost effectiveness, reduction of

friction losses, and improved corrosion resistance, it is important to recognize that they also have limitations that are to be considered by those contemplating their use or acceptance.

With respect to lightweight steel pipe, corrosion studies have shown that, in comparison to Schedule 40 pipe, its effective life may be reduced, the level of reduction being related to its wall thickness. Further information with respect to corrosion resistance is contained in the individual listings of such products.

With respect to thermoplastic pipe and fittings, exposure of such piping to elevated temperatures in excess of that for which it has been listed may result in distortion or failure. Accordingly, care must be exercised when locating such systems to ensure that the ambient temperature, including seasonal variations, does not exceed the rated value.

Consideration must also be given to the possibility of exposure of the piping to elevated temperatures during a fire. The survival of thermoplastic piping under fire conditions derives primarily from the cooling effect of the discharge from the sprinklers it serves. As this discharge may not occur simultaneously with the rise in ambient temperature and, under some circumstances, may be delayed for periods beyond the tolerance of the piping, protection in the form of a fire resistant membrane is generally required. (Some listings do provide for the use of exposed piping in conjunction with residential or quick-response sprinklers, but only under specific, limited installation criteria.) When protection is required, it is described in the listing information for each individual product, and the requirements given must be followed. Equally important, such protection must be maintained. Removal of, for example, one or more panels in a lay-in ceiling can expose piping in the concealed space to the possibility of failure in the event of a fire. Similarly the relocation of openings through protective ceilings that expose the pipe to heat, inconsistent with the listing, would place the system in jeopardy. The potential for loss of the protective membrane under earthquake conditions should also be considered.

Table A-2-3.2 Steel Pipe Dimensions

| Nominal<br>Pipe Size | Outside<br>Diameter | Schedule 10 <sup>1</sup> |                          | Schedule 30        |                   | Schedule 40        |                   |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
|                      |                     | Inside<br>Diameter       | Wall<br>Thickness        | Inside<br>Diameter | Wall<br>Thickness | Inside<br>Diameter | Wall<br>Thickness |
| in.                  | in. (mm)            | in. (mm)                 | in. (mm)                 | in. (mm)           | in. (mm)          | in. (mm)           | in. (mm)          |
| 1                    | 1.315 (33.4)        | 1.097 (27.9)             | 0.109 (2.8)              | —                  | —                 | 1.049 (26.6)       | 0.133 (3.4)       |
| 1¼                   | 1.660 (42.2)        | 1.442 (36.6)             | 0.109 (2.8)              | —                  | —                 | 1.380 (35.1)       | 0.140 (3.6)       |
| 1½                   | 1.900 (48.3)        | 1.682 (42.7)             | 0.109 (2.8)              | —                  | —                 | 1.610 (40.9)       | 0.145 (3.7)       |
| 2                    | 2.375 (60.3)        | 2.157 (54.8)             | 0.109 (2.8)              | —                  | —                 | 2.067 (52.5)       | 0.154 (3.9)       |
| 2½                   | 2.875 (73.0)        | 2.635 (66.9)             | 0.120 (3.0)              | —                  | —                 | 2.469 (62.7)       | 0.203 (5.2)       |
| 3                    | 3.500 (88.9)        | 3.260 (82.8)             | 0.120 (3.0)              | —                  | —                 | 3.068 (77.9)       | 0.216 (5.5)       |
| 3½                   | 4.000 (101.6)       | 3.760 (95.5)             | 0.120 (3.0)              | —                  | —                 | 3.548 (90.1)       | 0.226 (5.7)       |
| 4                    | 4.500 (114.3)       | 4.260 (108.2)            | 0.120 (3.0)              | —                  | —                 | 4.026 (102.3)      | 0.237 (6.0)       |
| 5                    | 5.563 (141.3)       | 5.295 (134.5)            | 0.134 (3.4)              | —                  | —                 | 5.047 (128.2)      | 0.258 (6.6)       |
| 6                    | 6.625 (168.3)       | 6.357 (161.5)            | 0.134 <sup>2</sup> (3.4) | —                  | —                 | 6.065 (154.1)      | 0.280 (7.1)       |
| 8                    | 8.625 (219.1)       | 8.249 (209.5)            | 0.188 <sup>2</sup> (4.8) | 8.071 (205.0)      | 0.277 (7.0)       | —                  | —                 |
| 10                   | 10.75 (273.1)       | 10.37 (263.4)            | 0.188 <sup>2</sup> (4.8) | 10.14 (257.6)      | 0.307 (7.8)       | —                  | —                 |

NOTE 1: Schedule 10 defined to 5 in. (127 mm) nominal pipe size by ASTM A135.

NOTE 2: Wall thickness specified in 2-3.2.



### Table A-2-3.4 Copper Tube Dimensions

| Nominal<br>Tube Size | Type K   |         |          |         |           |       | Type L   |         |           |       | Type M   |         |           |       |
|----------------------|----------|---------|----------|---------|-----------|-------|----------|---------|-----------|-------|----------|---------|-----------|-------|
|                      | Outside  |         | Inside   |         | Wall      |       | Inside   |         | Wall      |       | Inside   |         | Wall      |       |
|                      | Diameter |         | Diameter |         | Thickness |       | Diameter |         | Thickness |       | Diameter |         | Thickness |       |
| in.                  | in.      | (mm)    | in.      | (mm)    | in.       | (mm)  | in.      | (mm)    | in.       | (mm)  | in.      | (mm)    | in.       | (mm)  |
| 3/4                  | 0.875    | (22.2)  | 0.745    | (18.9)  | 0.065     | (1.7) | 0.785    | (19.9)  | 0.045     | (1.1) | 0.811    | (20.6)  | 0.032     | (0.8) |
| 1                    | 1.125    | (28.6)  | 0.995    | (25.3)  | 0.065     | (1.7) | 1.025    | (26.0)  | 0.050     | (1.3) | 1.055    | (26.8)  | 0.035     | (0.9) |
| 1 1/4                | 1.375    | (34.9)  | 1.245    | (31.6)  | 0.065     | (1.7) | 1.265    | (32.1)  | 0.055     | (1.4) | 1.291    | (32.8)  | 0.042     | (1.1) |
| 1 1/2                | 1.625    | (41.3)  | 1.481    | (37.6)  | 0.072     | (1.8) | 1.505    | (38.2)  | 0.060     | (1.5) | 1.527    | (38.8)  | 0.049     | (1.2) |
| 2                    | 2.125    | (54.0)  | 1.959    | (49.8)  | 0.083     | (2.1) | 1.985    | (50.4)  | 0.070     | (1.8) | 2.009    | (51.0)  | 0.058     | (1.5) |
| 2 1/2                | 2.625    | (66.7)  | 2.435    | (61.8)  | 0.095     | (2.4) | 2.465    | (62.6)  | 0.080     | (2.0) | 2.495    | (63.4)  | 0.065     | (1.7) |
| 3                    | 3.125    | (79.4)  | 2.907    | (73.8)  | 0.109     | (2.8) | 2.945    | (74.8)  | 0.090     | (2.3) | 2.981    | (75.7)  | 0.072     | (1.8) |
| 3 1/2                | 3.625    | (92.1)  | 3.385    | (86.0)  | 0.120     | (3.0) | 3.425    | (87.0)  | 0.100     | (2.5) | 3.459    | (87.9)  | 0.083     | (2.1) |
| 4                    | 4.125    | (104.8) | 3.857    | (98.0)  | 0.134     | (3.4) | 3.905    | (99.2)  | 0.110     | (2.8) | 3.935    | (99.9)  | 0.095     | (2.4) |
| 5                    | 5.125    | (130.2) | 4.805    | (122.0) | 0.160     | (4.1) | 4.875    | (123.8) | 0.125     | (3.2) | 4.907    | (124.6) | 0.109     | (2.8) |
| 6                    | 6.125    | (155.6) | 5.741    | (145.8) | 0.192     | (4.9) | 5.845    | (148.5) | 0.140     | (3.6) | 5.881    | (149.4) | 0.122     | (3.1) |
| 8                    | 8.125    | (206.4) | 7.583    | (192.6) | 0.271     | (6.9) | 7.725    | (196.2) | 0.200     | (5.1) | 7.785    | (197.7) | 0.170     | (4.3) |
| 10                   | 10.13    | (257.3) | 9.449    | (240.0) | 0.338     | (8.6) | 9.625    | (244.5) | 0.250     | (6.4) | 9.701    | (246.4) | 0.212     | (5.4) |

While the listings of thermoplastic piping do not prohibit its installation in combustible concealed spaces where the provision of sprinkler protection is not required, and while the statistical record of fire originating in such space is low, it should be recognized that the occurrence of a fire in such a space could result in failure of the piping system.

The investigation of pipe and tube other than described in Table 2-3.1 should involve consideration of many factors, including:

- (a) Pressure rating.
- (b) Beam strength (hangers).
- (c) Unsupported vertical stability.
- (d) Movement during sprinkler operation (affecting water distribution).
- (e) Corrosion (internal and external), chemical and electrolytic.
- (f) Resistance to failure when exposed to elevated temperatures.
- (g) Methods of joining (strength, permanence, fire hazard).
- (h) Physical characteristics related to integrity during earthquakes.

**A-2-4.2 Rubber-gasketed pipe fittings and couplings** should not be installed where ambient temperatures can be expected to exceed 150°F (66°C) unless listed for this service. If the manufacturer further limits a given gasket compound, those recommendations should be followed.

**A-2-4.4** Listed flexible connections are permissible and encouraged for sprinkler installations in racks to reduce the possibility of physical damage. When flexible tubing is used it should be located so that it will be protected against mechanical injury.

**A-2-5.1.2** Some steel piping material having lesser wall thickness than specified in 2-5.1.2 has been listed for use in sprinkler systems when joined with threaded connections. The service life of such products may be significantly less

than that of Schedule 40 steel pipe, and it should be determined if this service life will be sufficient for the application intended.

All such threads should be checked by the installer using working ring gauges conforming to the Basic Dimensions of Ring Gauges for USA (American) Standard Taper Pipe Threads, NPT, as per ANSI/ASME B1.20.1, Table 8.

**A-2-5.2** See Figure A-2-5.2(a) and Figure A-2-5.2(b) on the following page.

**A-2-5.2.2** As used in this standard, shop in the term *shop welded* means either:

- (a) At the sprinkler contractor's or fabricator's premise.
- (b) An approved welding area at the building site.

**A-2-5.2.5(a)** Listed, shaped, contoured nipples meet the definition of fabricated fittings.

**A-2-5.4** The fire hazard of the brazing and soldering processes should be suitably safeguarded.

**A-2-5.4.1** Continued corrosive action from self-cleaning fluxes after the soldering or brazing process is completed has resulted in leaks from the seats of sprinklers.

**A-2-6.1** See Figure A-2-6.1 on page 79.

**A-2-6.1.5** Table 2-6.1.5(a) assumes that the load from 15 ft (5 m) of water-filled pipe, plus 250 lb (114 kg), is located at the midpoint of the span of the trapeze member, with a maximum allowable bending stress of 15 KSI (111 kg). If the load is applied at other than the midpoint, for the purpose of sizing the trapeze member, an equivalent length of trapeze may be used, derived from the formula

$$L = \frac{4ab}{a+b}$$

where “L” is the equivalent length, “a” is the distance from one support to the load, and “b” is the distance from the other support to the load.

When multiple mains are to be supported or multiple trapeze hangers are provided in parallel, the required or available section modulus may be added.

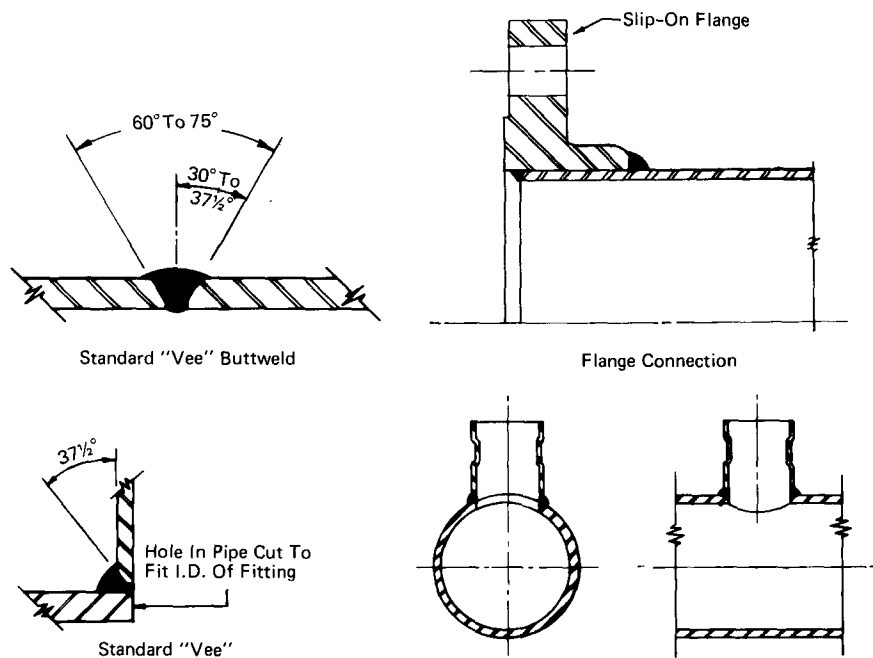


Figure A-2-5.2(a) Acceptable weld joints.

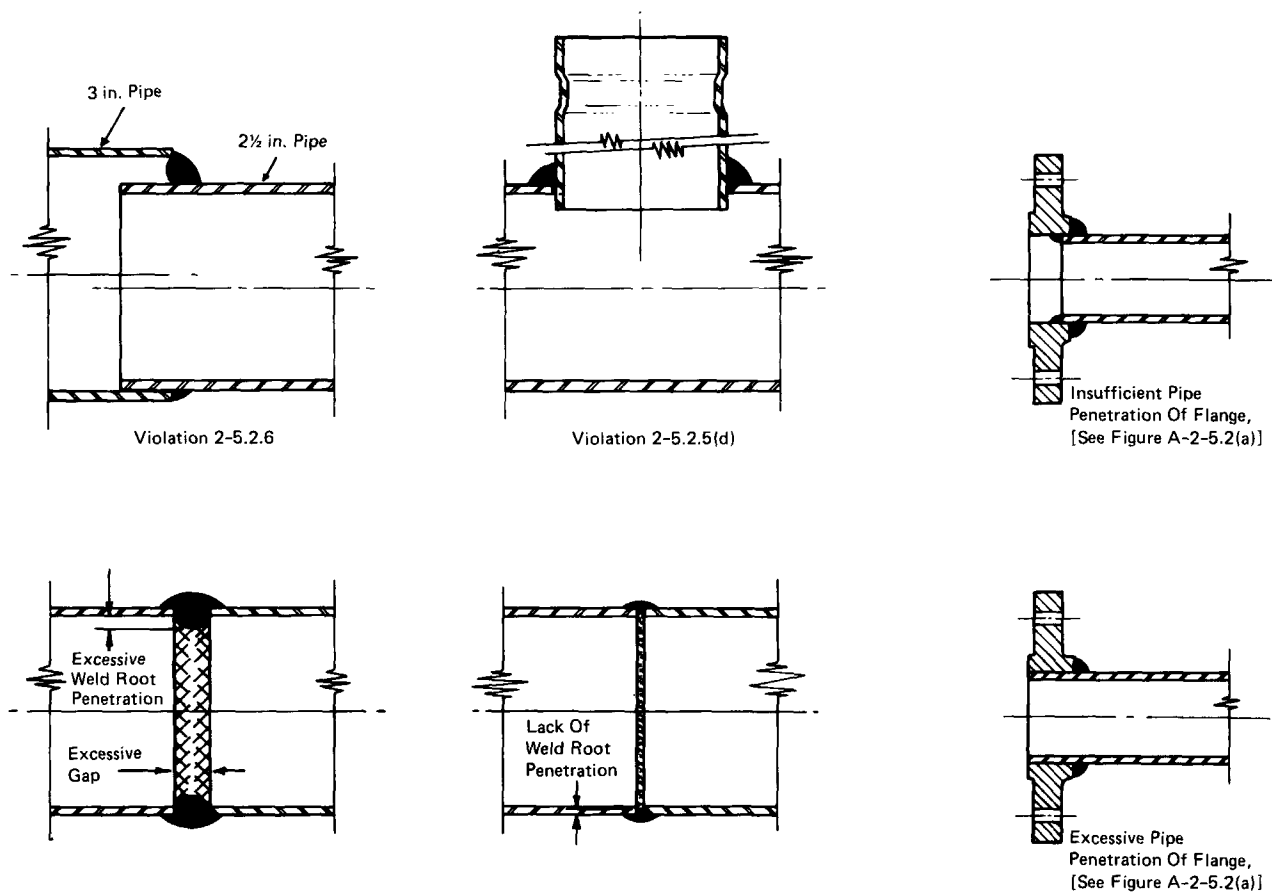


Figure A-2-5.2(b) Unacceptable weld joints.

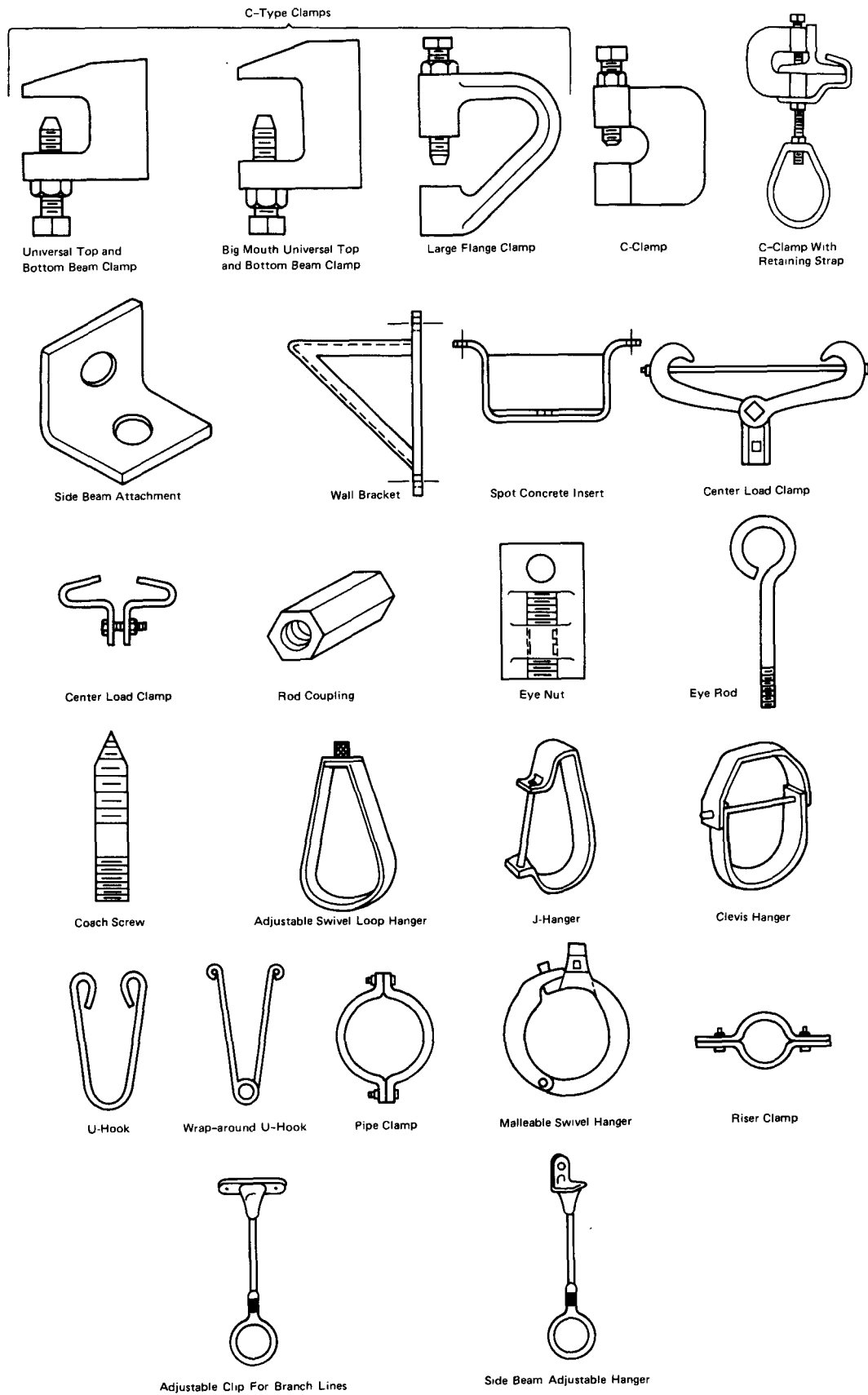


Figure A-2-6.1 Common types of acceptable hangers.

**A-2-6.1.7** The rules covering the hanging of sprinkler piping take into consideration the weight of water-filled pipe plus a safety factor. No allowance has been made for the hanging of nonsystem components from sprinkler piping.

**A-2-6.3.1** Powder-driven studs should not be used in steel of less than  $\frac{3}{16}$  in. (4.8 mm) total thickness.

**A-2-6.3.2** The ability of concrete to hold the studs varies widely according to type of aggregate, quality of concrete, and proper installation.

**A-2-9.2.4** The surge of water when the valve trips may seriously damage the device.

**A-2-9.3.1** Audible alarms are normally located on the outside of the building. Listed electric gongs, bells, horns, or sirens inside the building or a combination inside and outside are sometimes advisable.

**A-2-9.3.2** All alarm apparatus should be so located and installed that all parts are accessible for inspection, removal, and repair and should be substantially supported.

**A-2-9.5.1** Switches that will silence electric alarm sounding devices by interruption of electrical current are not desirable; however, if such means are provided, then the electrical alarm sounding device circuit should be arranged so that when the sounding device is electrically silenced, that fact should be indicated by means of a conspicuous light located in the vicinity of the riser or alarm control panel. This light should remain in operation during the entire period of the electrical circuit interruption.

**A-3-2** A dry pipe system should be installed only where heat is not adequate to prevent freezing of water in all or sections of the system. Dry pipe systems should be converted to wet pipe systems when they become unnecessary because adequate heat is provided. Sprinklers should not be shut off in cold weather.

When two or more dry pipe valves are used, systems should preferably be divided horizontally to prevent simultaneous operation of more than one system and the resultant increased time delay in filling systems and discharging water, plus receipt of more than one waterflow alarm signal.

When adequate heat is present in sections of the dry pipe system, consideration should be given to dividing the system into a separate wet pipe system and dry pipe system. Minimized use of dry pipe systems is desirable where speed of operation is of particular concern.

**A-3-2.3** The capacities of the various sizes of pipe given in Table A-3-2.3 are for convenience in calculating the capacity of a system.

**A-3-2.5** The dry pipe valve should be located in an accessible place near the sprinkler system it controls. When exposed to cold, the dry pipe valve should be located in a valve room or enclosure of adequate size to properly service equipment.

**Table A-3-2.3 Capacity of One Foot of Pipe (Based on actual internal pipe diameter)**

| Nominal<br>Diameter | Gal    |        | Nominal<br>Diameter | Gal               |                    |
|---------------------|--------|--------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
|                     | Sch 40 | Sch 10 |                     | Sch 40            | Sch 10             |
| $\frac{3}{4}$ in.   | 0.028  | —      | 3 in.               | 0.383             | 0.433              |
| 1 in.               | 0.045  | 0.049  | $3\frac{1}{2}$ in.  | 0.513             | 0.576              |
| $1\frac{1}{4}$ in.  | 0.078  | 0.085  | 4 in.               | 0.660             | 0.740              |
| $1\frac{1}{2}$ in.  | 0.106  | 0.115  | 5 in.               | 1.040             | 1.144              |
| 2 in.               | 0.174  | 0.190  | 6 in.               | 1.501             | 1.649 <sup>1</sup> |
| $2\frac{1}{2}$ in.  | 0.248  | 0.283  | 8 in.               | 2.66 <sup>3</sup> | 2.776 <sup>2</sup> |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m; 1 gal = 3.785 L.

<sup>1</sup> 0.134 Wall Pipe

<sup>2</sup> 0.188 Wall Pipe

<sup>3</sup> Schedule 30

**A-3-2.6.2** The compressor should draw its air supply from a place where the air is dry and not too warm. Moisture from condensation may cause trouble in the system.

**A-3-3.1** Conditions of occupancy or special hazards may require quick application of large quantities of water, and in such cases deluge systems may be needed.

Fire detection devices should be selected to assure operation, yet guard against premature operation of sprinklers, based on normal room temperatures and draft conditions.

In locations where ambient temperature at the ceiling is high from heat sources other than fire conditions, heat-responsive devices that operate at higher than ordinary temperature and are capable of withstanding the normal high temperature for long periods of time should be selected.

When corrosive conditions exist, materials or protective coatings that resist corrosion should be used.

To help avoid ice formation in piping due to accidental tripping of dry pipe valves in cold storage rooms, a deluge automatic water control valve may be used on the supply side of the dry pipe valve. When this combination is employed:

(a) Dry systems may be manifolded to a deluge valve, the protected area not exceeding 40,000 sq ft (3716 m<sup>2</sup>). The distance between valves should be as short as possible to minimize water hammer.

(b) The dry pipe valves should be pressurized to 50 psi (3.4 bars) to reduce the possibility of dry pipe valve operation from water hammer.

**A-3-3.2.1(c)** This is sometimes referred to as a double interlock preaction system.

**A-3-3.3** When 8-in. (203-mm) piping is employed to reduce friction losses in a system operated by fire detection devices, a 6-in. (152-mm) preaction or deluge valve and 6-in. (152-mm) gate valve between taper reducers should be permitted.

**A-3-4.1** Combined dry pipe and preaction systems may be installed when wet pipe systems are impractical. They are intended for use in, but not limited to, structures where a number of dry pipe valves would be required if a dry pipe system were installed.

**A-3-4.1.1** See Figure A-3-4.1.1.

**A-3-4.3** See Figure A-3-4.3.

**A-3-5.1** Antifreeze solutions may be used for maintaining automatic sprinkler protection in small unheated areas. Antifreeze solutions are recommended only for systems not exceeding 40 gal (151 L).

Because of the cost of refilling the system or replenishing small leaks, it is advisable to use small dry valves where more than 40 gal (151 L) are to be supplied.

**A-3-5.2** Listed CPVC sprinkler pipe and fittings should be protected from freezing with glycerine only. The use of diethylene, ethylene, or propylene glycols are specifically

prohibited. Laboratory testing shows that glycol-based antifreeze solutions present a chemical environment detrimental to CPVC.

**A-3-5.2.3** Beyond certain limits, increased proportion of antifreeze does not lower the freezing point of solution. (See Figure A-3-5.2.3 on the following page.)

Glycerine, diethylene glycol, ethylene glycol, and propylene glycol should never be used without mixing with water in proper proportions, because these materials tend to thicken near 32°F (0°C).

**A-3-5.3** All permitted antifreeze solutions are heavier than water. At the point of contact (interface) the heavier liquid will be below the lighter liquid, preventing diffusion of water into the unheated areas.

**A-3-6.1.2** Outlets should be provided at critical points on sprinkler system piping to accommodate attachment of pressure gauges for test purposes.

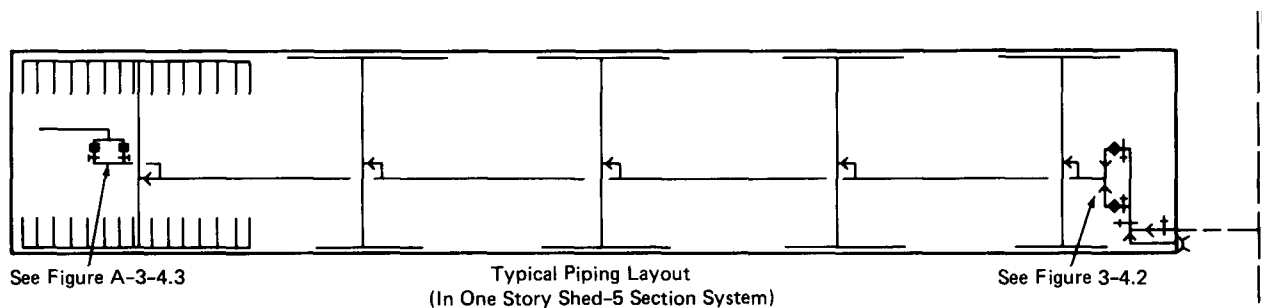


Figure A-3-4.1.1 Typical piping layout for combined dry pipe and preaction sprinkler system.

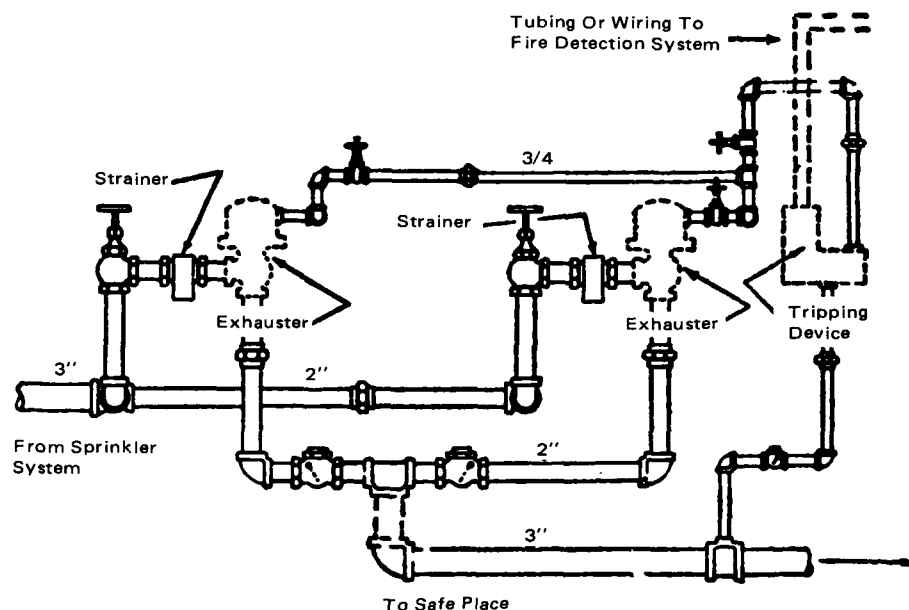


Figure A-3-4.3 Arrangement of air exhaust valves for combined dry pipe and preaction sprinkler system.

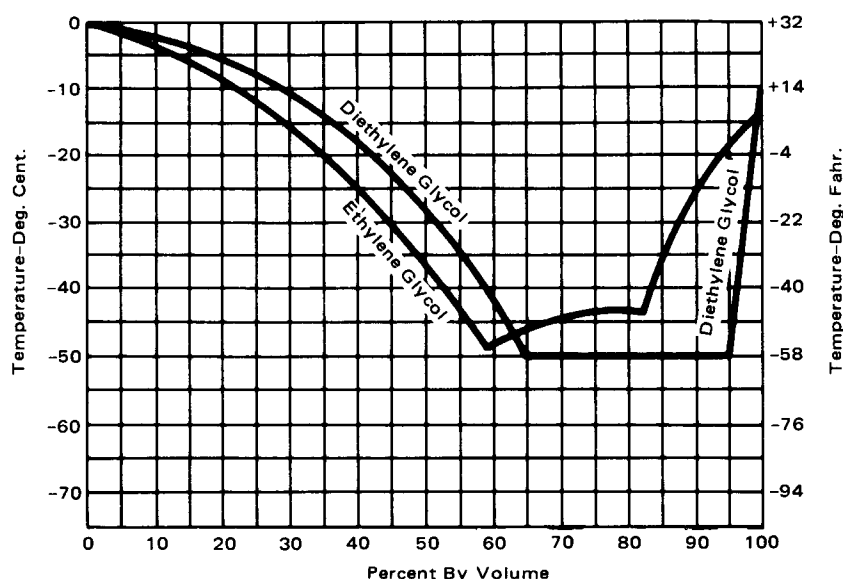


Figure A-3-5.2.3 Freezing points of water solutions of ethylene glycol and diethylene glycol.

**A-3-7.2.1** The water supply should be capable of furnishing the total demand for all exposure sprinklers operating simultaneously for protection against the exposure fire under consideration for a duration of not less than 60 minutes.

**A-3-8** Careful installation and maintenance, and some special arrangements of piping and devices as outlined in this section, are needed to avoid the formation of ice and frost inside piping in cold storage rooms that will be maintained at or below 32°F (0°C). Conditions are particularly favorable to condensation where pipes enter cold rooms from rooms having temperatures above freezing.

Whenever the opportunity offers, fittings such as those specified in 3-8.1 and illustrated in Figures A-3-8.1(a) and A-3-8.1(b), as well as flushing connections, should be provided in existing systems.

When possible, risers should be located in stair towers or other locations outside of refrigerated areas. This would reduce the probabilities of ice or frost formation within the riser (supply) pipe.

Cross mains should be connected to risers or feed mains with flanges. In general, flanged fittings should be installed at points that would allow easy dismantling of the system. Split ring or other easily removable types of hangers will facilitate the dismantling.

Because it is not practical to allow water to flow into sprinkler piping in spaces that may be constantly subject to freezing, or where temperatures must be maintained at or below 40°F (4.4°C), it is important that means be provided at the time of system installation to conduct trip tests on dry pipe valves that service such systems. NFPA 13A, *Recommended Practice for the Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Sprinkler Systems*, contains guidance in this matter.

**A-3-8.1** Joining of pipe and fittings using split housing couplings may allow separation of pipe for internal inspection.

**A-3-8.1(a)** This may be accomplished by a blind flange on a fitting (tee or cross) in the riser or cross main or a removable section 24 in. (610 mm) long in the feed main as shown in Figure A-3-8.1(a). Such fittings in conjunction with the flushing connections specified in 9-3.2 permit examination of the entire length of the cross mains. Branch lines may be examined by disconnecting them from cross mains.

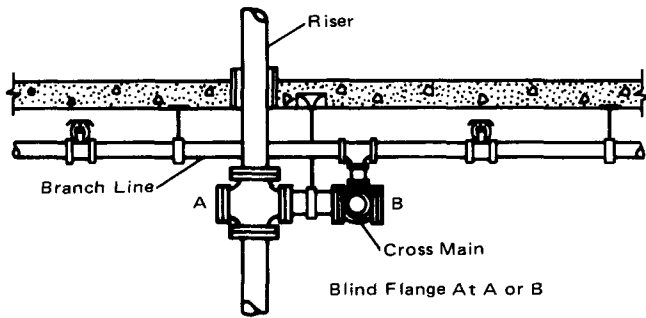
**A-3-8.1(b)** This may be accomplished by means of 2-in. (51-mm) capped nipples or blind flanges on fittings.

**A-3-8.1(c)** This can be accomplished at floor penetrations by a tee with a blind flange in the cold room and at wall penetrations by a 24-in. (610-mm) flanged removable section in the warm room as shown in Figure A-3-8.1(b).

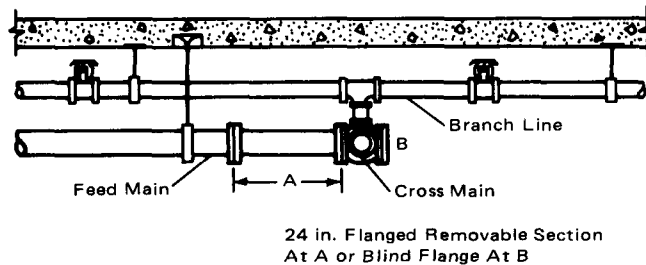
**A-3-8.4** Propylene glycol or other suitable material may be used as a substitute for priming water, to prevent evaporation of the priming fluid and thus reduce ice formation within the system, subject to state and local health regulations.

**A-3-9.2** See Figure A-3-9.2 on page 84.

**A-4-1** The installation requirements are specific for the normal arrangement of structural members. There will be arrangements of structural members not specifically detailed by the requirements. By applying the basic principles, layouts for such construction can vary from specific illustrations, provided the maximum specified for the spacing and location of sprinklers (Section 4-4) are not exceeded.

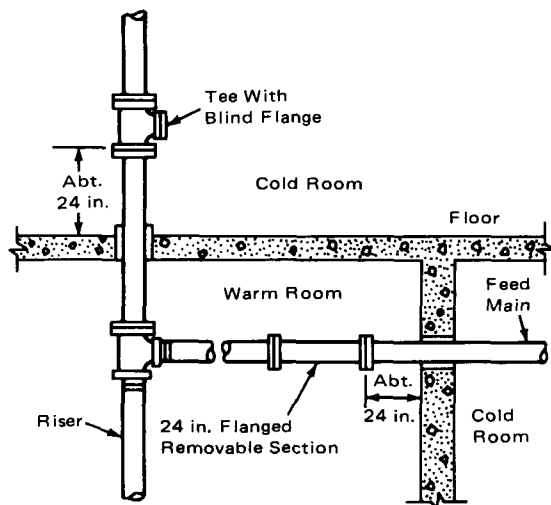


(a) Elevation At Riser And Cross Main



(b) Elevation At Feed Main And Cross Main

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**Figure A-3-8.1(a) Fittings to facilitate examination of feed mains, risers, and cross mains in freezing areas.**

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm.

**Figure A-3-8.1(b) Fittings in feed main or riser passing through wall or floor from warm room to cold room.**

**A-4-1.1** This standard contemplates full sprinkler protection for all areas. Other NFPA standards that mandate sprinkler installation may not require sprinklers in certain areas. The requirements of this standard should be used insofar as they are applicable. The authority having jurisdiction should be consulted in each case.

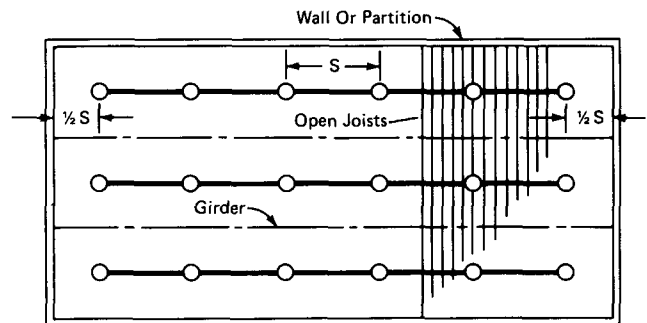
When buildings or portions of buildings are of combustible construction or contain combustible material, standard fire barriers should be provided to separate the areas that are sprinkler protected from adjoining unsprinklered areas. All openings should be protected in accordance with applicable standards, and no sprinkler piping should be placed in an unsprinklered area unless the area is permitted to be unsprinklered by this standard.

Water supplies for partial systems should be designed with consideration to the fact that in a partial system more sprinklers may be opened in a fire that originates in an unprotected area and spreads to the sprinklered area than would be the case in a completely protected building. Fire originating in a non-sprinklered area may overpower the partial sprinkler system.

When sprinklers are installed in corridors only, sprinklers should be spaced up to the maximum of 15 ft (4.5 m) along the corridor, with one sprinkler opposite the center of any door or pair of adjacent doors opening onto the corridor, and with an additional sprinkler installed inside each adjacent room above the door opening. When the sprinkler in the adjacent room provides full protection for that space, an additional sprinkler is not required in the corridor adjacent to the door.

**A-4-2.2** Tests involving areas of coverage over 100 sq ft (9.3 m<sup>2</sup>) for large-drop sprinklers are limited in number, and use of areas of coverage over 100 sq ft (9.3 m<sup>2</sup>) should be carefully considered.

**Joists above Girders or Framed into Girders;  
Branch Lines Uniformly Spaced between Girders**  
Maximum Spacing: 130 sq ft per Sprinkler  
 $L \times S = 130$  or less

**Key**

L = Distance between branch lines, limit 15 ft.

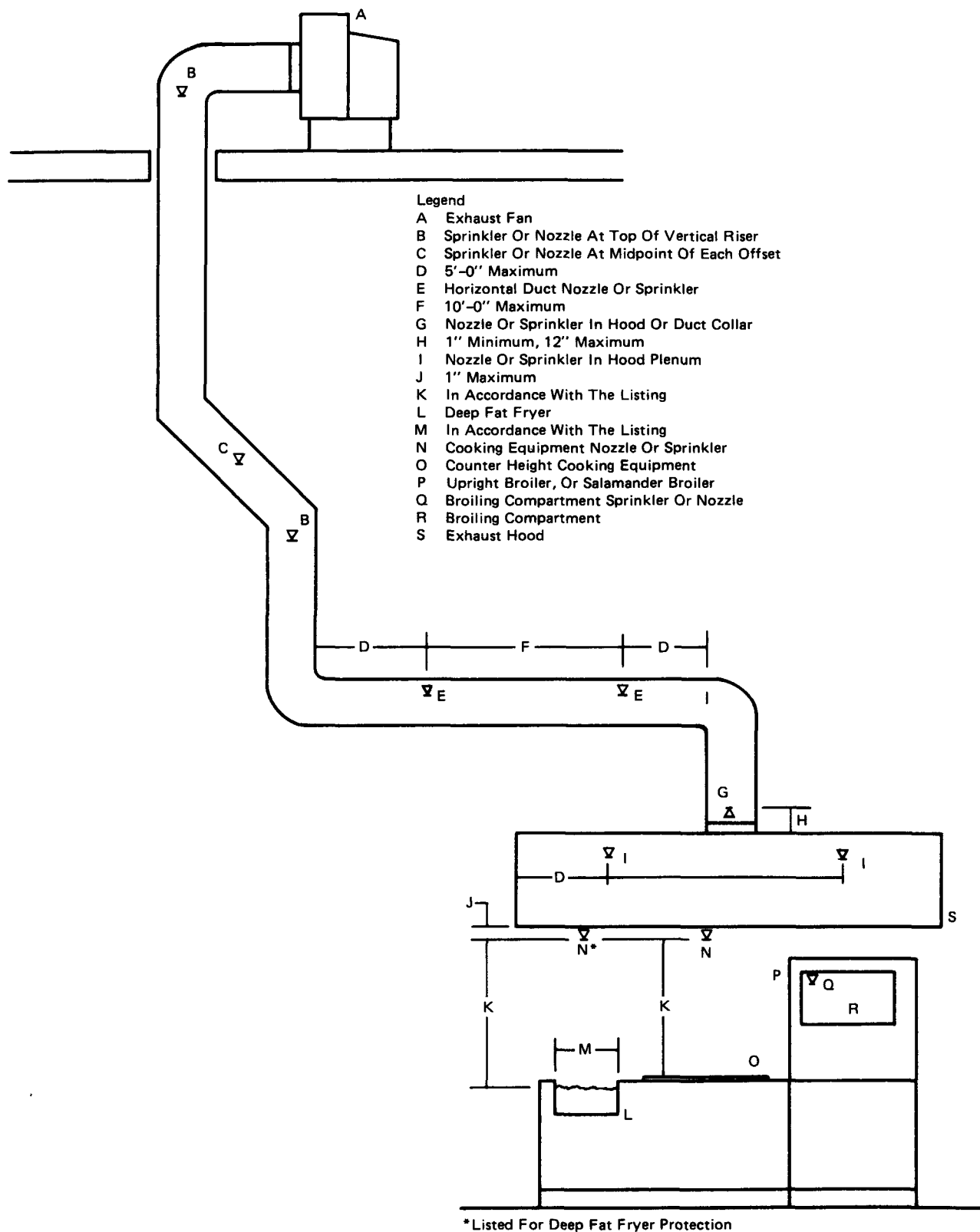
S = Distance between sprinklers on branch lines, limit 15 ft.

Y = Maximum distance between girders.

**Examples**

| Y           | L           | S (Max)     | Y            | L            | S (Max)     |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| 10 ft 9 in. | 10 ft 9 in. | 12 ft 1 in. | 10 ft 10 in. | 10 ft 10 in. | 12 ft 0 in. |
|             |             |             | 12 ft 1 in.  | 12 ft 1 in.  | 10 ft 9 in. |

For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m; 1 ft<sup>2</sup> = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>.**Figure A-4-2.2 Layout of sprinklers under open wood joist construction—Ordinary Hazard Occupancies.**



**Figure A-3-9.2 Typical installation showing automatic sprinklers or automatic nozzles being used for the protection of commercial cooking equipment and ventilation systems.**



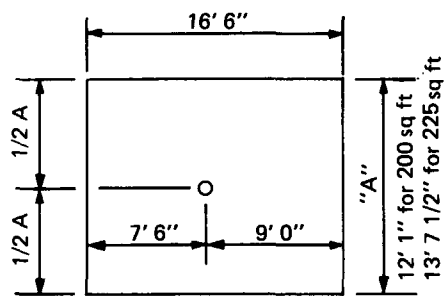
**A-4-3.1.1** The evaluation for usage should be based upon a review of available technical data.

**A-4-3.1.2** This requirement is to minimize the obstruction of the discharge pattern.

**A-4-3.6.1** The response and water distribution pattern of listed residential sprinklers have been shown by extensive fire testing to provide better control than spray sprinklers in residential occupancies. These sprinklers are intended to prevent flashover in the room of fire origin, thus improving the chance for occupants to escape or be evacuated.

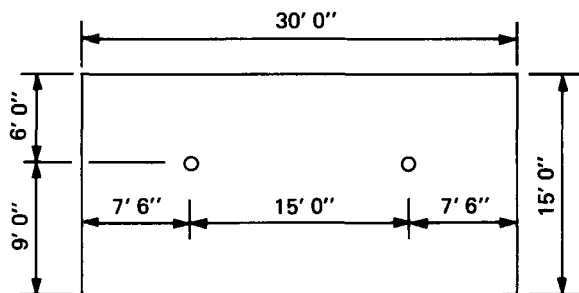
**A-4-3.8.2** This requirement is to avoid scale accumulation.

**A-4-4.1.2.1 Exception** An example of sprinklers in small rooms for hydraulically designed and pipe schedule systems is shown in Figure A-4-4.1.2.1(a), and examples for hydraulically designed systems only are shown in Figures A-4-4.1.2.1(b), (c), and (d).



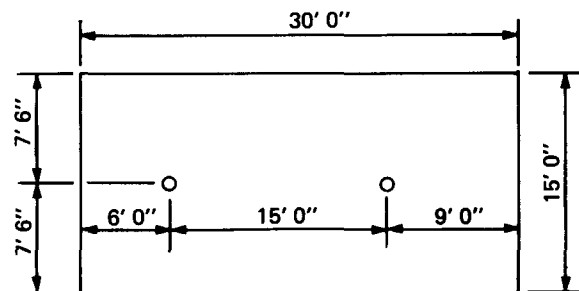
For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Figure A-4-4.1.2.1(a).



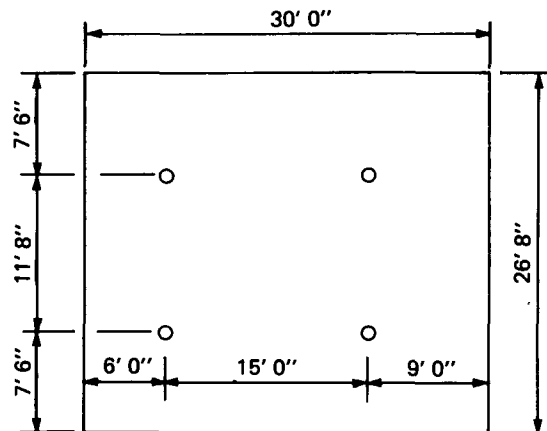
For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Figure A-4-4.1.2.1(b).



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Figure A-4-4.1.2.1(c).



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Figure A-4-4.1.2.1(d).

**A-4-4.1.3.1** When of a depth that will obstruct the spray discharge pattern, girders, beams or trusses forming narrow pockets of combustible construction along walls may require additional sprinklers.

**A-4-4.1.3.2.1** Frequently, additional sprinkler equipment can be avoided by reducing the width of decks or galleries and providing proper clearances. Slating of decks or walkways or the use of open grating as a substitute for automatic sprinklers thereunder is not acceptable. The use of cloth or paper dust tops for rooms forms obstruction to water distribution. If employed, the area below should be sprinklered.

**A-4-4.1.3.3** The distances given in Table 4-4.1.3.3 were determined through tests in which privacy curtains with either a solid fabric or close mesh [ $\frac{1}{4}$  in. (6.4 mm)] top panel were installed. For broader-mesh top panels, e.g.,  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (13 mm), the obstruction of the sprinkler spray is not likely to be severe and the authority having jurisdiction may not need to apply the requirements in 4-4.1.3.3.

**A-4-4.1.5** On sprinkler lines larger than 2 in. (51 mm), consideration should be given to the distribution interference caused by the pipe, which can be minimized by installing sprinklers on riser nipples or installing sprinklers in the pendent position.

**A-4-4.1.6** The 18 in. (457 mm) dimension is not intended to limit the height of shelving on a wall or shelving against a wall in accordance with 4-4.1.6. When shelving is installed on a wall and is not directly below sprinklers, the shelves, including storage thereon, may extend above the level of a plane located 18 in. (457 mm) below ceiling sprinkler deflectors. Shelving, and any storage thereon, directly below the sprinklers may not extend above a plane located 18 in. (457 mm) below the ceiling sprinkler deflectors.

**A-4-4.1.7.1.1** Exceptions No. 1, 2, and 3 do not require sprinkler protection because it is not physically practical to install sprinklers in these spaces. To reduce the possibility of uncontrolled fire spread, consideration should be given in these unsprinklered concealed space situations to using Exceptions No. 5, 8, and 9.

**A-4-4.1.7.2.2** When practicable, sprinklers should be staggered at the alternate floor levels, particularly when only one sprinkler is installed at each floor level.

**A-4-4.1.7.3.3** See Figures A-4-4.1.7.3.3(a) and (b).

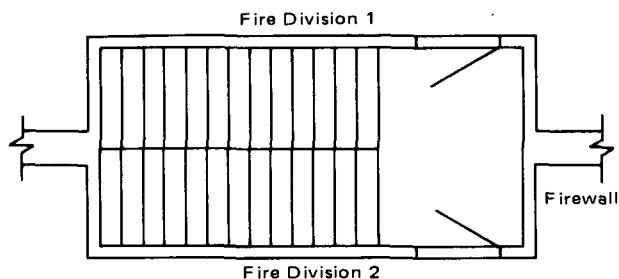


Figure A-4-4.1.7.3.3(a) Noncombustible stair shaft serving two fire sections.

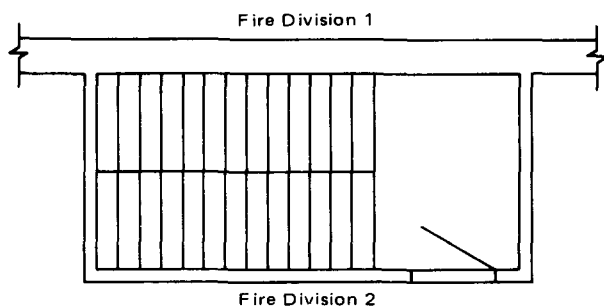


Figure A-4-4.1.7.3.3(b) Noncombustible stair shaft serving one fire section.

**A-4-4.1.7.3.4** When sprinklers in the normal ceiling pattern are closer than 6 ft (1.8 m) from the water curtain, it may be preferable to locate the water curtain sprinklers in recessed baffle pockets. (See Figure A-4-4.1.7.3.4.)

**A-4-4.1.7.4** The installation of sprinklers at floor levels should be arranged so as to protect the sprinklers from mechanical injury and from falling materials and not cause obstruction within the chute. This can usually be accomplished by recessing the sprinkler in the wall of the chute or by providing a protective deflector canopy over the sprinkler. Sprinklers should be placed so that there will be minimum interference of the discharge therefrom. (See also 1-6.2.) Sprinklers with special directional discharge characteristics may be advantageous. (See Figure A-4-4.1.7.4.)

**A-4-4.1.7.6** Small loading docks, covered platforms, ducts, or similar small unheated areas may be protected by dry-pendent sprinklers extending through the wall from wet sprinkler piping in an adjacent heated area. When protecting covered platforms, loading docks, and similar areas, a dry-pendent sprinkler should extend down at a 45 degree angle. The width of the area to be protected should not exceed 7½ ft (2.3 m). Sprinklers should be spaced not over 12 ft (3.7 m) apart. (See Figure A-4-4.1.7.6.)

**A-4-4.1.7.9.2** Saw-toothed roofs have regularly spaced monitors of saw tooth shape, with the nearly vertical side glazed and usually arranged for venting. Sprinkler placement is limited to a maximum of 3 ft down the slope from the peak because of the effect of venting on sprinkler sensitivity.

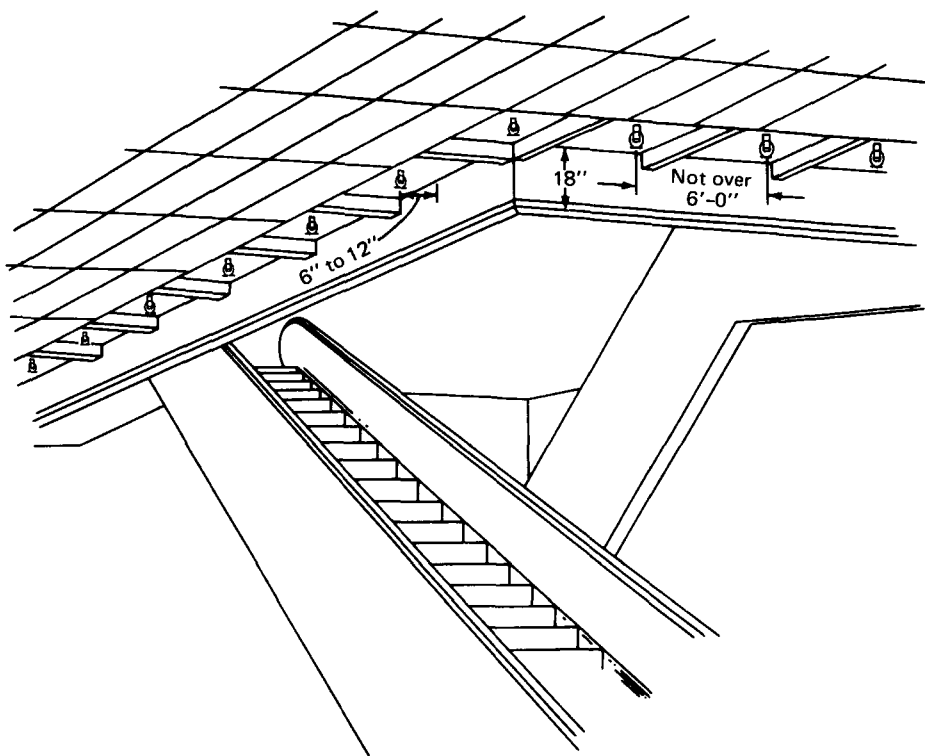


Figure A-4-4.1.7.3.4 Sprinklers around escalators.

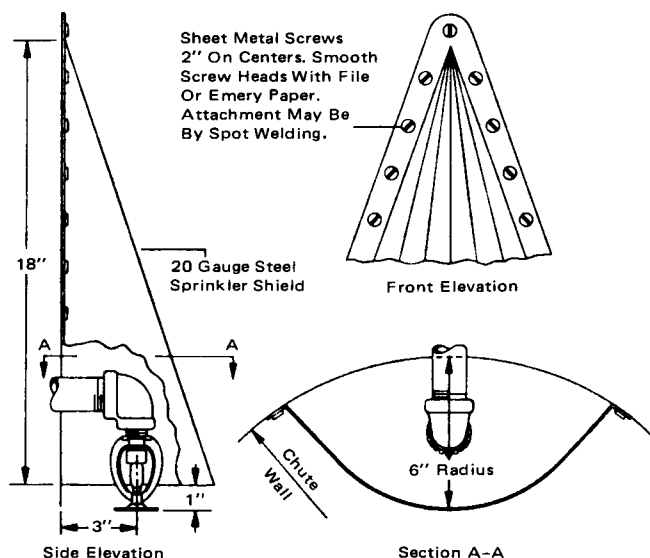


Figure A-4-4.1.7.4 Canopy for protecting sprinklers in building service chutes.

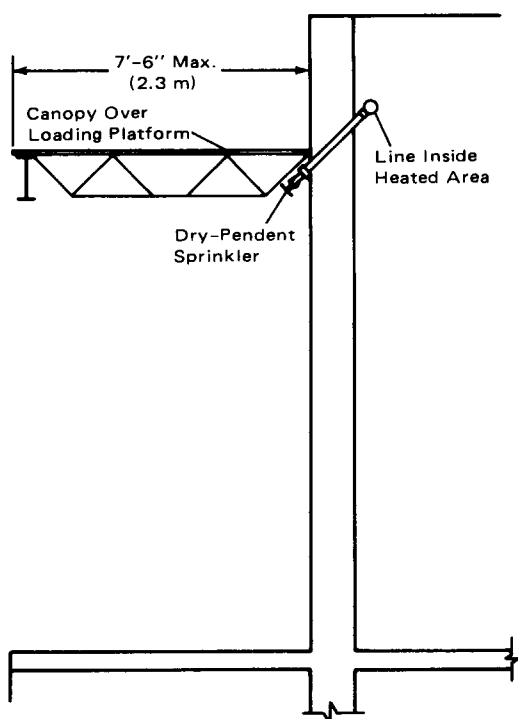


Figure A-4-4.1.7.6 Dry-pendent sprinklers for protection of covered platforms, loading docks, and similar areas.

**A-4-4.1.7.13** The installation of open-grid egg crate, lou-ver, or honeycomb ceilings beneath sprinklers restricts the sideways travel of the sprinkler discharge and may change the character of discharge.

**A-4-4.1.7.14.3** Drop-out ceilings do not provide the required protection for soft-soldered copper joints or other piping that requires protection.

**A-4-4.1.7.14.4** The ceiling tiles may drop before sprinkler operation. Delayed operation may occur because heat must then bank down from the deck above before sprinklers will operate.

**A-4-4.1.7.15** See NFPA 81, *Standard on Fur Storage, Fumigation and Cleaning*. For tests of sprinkler performance in fur vaults see Fact Finding Report on Automatic Sprinkler Protection for Fur Storage Vaults of Underwriters Laboratories Inc., dated November 25, 1947.

**A-4-4.1.7.23** One and one-half (1½) in. hose connections for use in storage occupancies and other locations where standpipe systems are not required are covered by this standard. When Class II standpipe systems are required, see the appropriate provisions of NFPA 14, *Standard for the Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems*, with respect to hose stations and water supply for hose connections from sprinkler systems.

**A-4-4.1.7.24** Combined automatic sprinkler and standpipe risers should not be interconnected by sprinkler system piping.

**A-4-4.1.7.25** See Figure A-4-4.1.7.25.

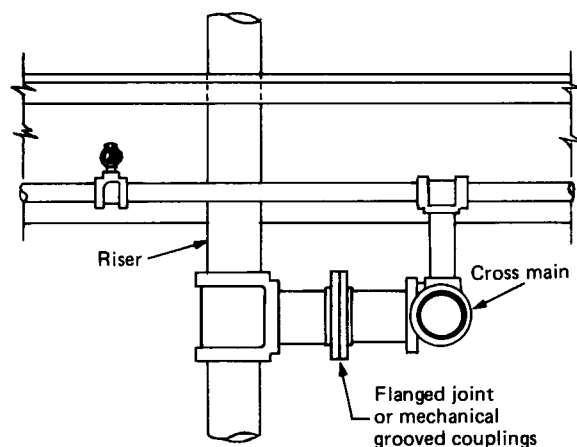


Figure A-4-4.1.7.25 One arrangement of flanged joint at sprinkler riser.

**A-4-4.2.2.1** The protection area per sprinkler should be determined using the  $S \times L = \text{Protection Area}$  rule as follows:

1. "S" — Determine distance to the next sprinkler (or to the wall, in case of an end sprinkler on a branch line) upstream and downstream. Choose the larger of either twice the distance to the wall or the distance to the next sprinkler.
2. "L" — The distance to the opposite side of the room will be "L." Where sprinklers are provided on both sides of the room, "L" should be half the distance between the walls.

**A-4-4.3.1** It is important that sprinklers in the immediate vicinity of the fire center not skip, and this requirement imposes certain restrictions on the spacing.

**A-4-4.3.3** If all other factors are held constant, the operating time of the first sprinkler will vary exponentially with the distance between the ceiling and deflector. At distances greater than 7 in. (178 mm), for other than open wood joist construction, the delayed operating time will permit the fire to gain headway, with the result that substantially more sprinklers operate. At distances less than 7 in. (178 mm), other effects come into play. Changes in distribution, penetration, and cooling nullify the advantage gained by faster operation. The net result is again increased fire damage accompanied by an increase in the number of sprinklers operated. The optimum clearance between deflectors and ceiling is, therefore, 7 in. (178 mm). For open wood joist construction the optimum clearance between deflectors and the bottom of joists is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in. (89 mm).

**A-4-4.3.4** To a great extent, large-drop sprinklers rely on direct attack to gain rapid control of both the burning fuel and ceiling temperatures. Therefore, interference with the discharge pattern and obstructions to the distribution should be avoided.

**A-4-5.1.1** See Figure A-4-5.1.1.

**A-4-5.1.1.1** A water supply connection should not extend into a building or through a building wall unless such connection is under the control of an outside listed indicating valve or an inside listed indicating valve located near the outside wall of the building.

All valves controlling water supplies for sprinkler systems or portions thereof, including floor control valves, should be accessible to authorized persons during emergencies. Permanent ladders, clamped treads on risers, chain-operated hand wheels, or other accepted means should be provided when necessary.

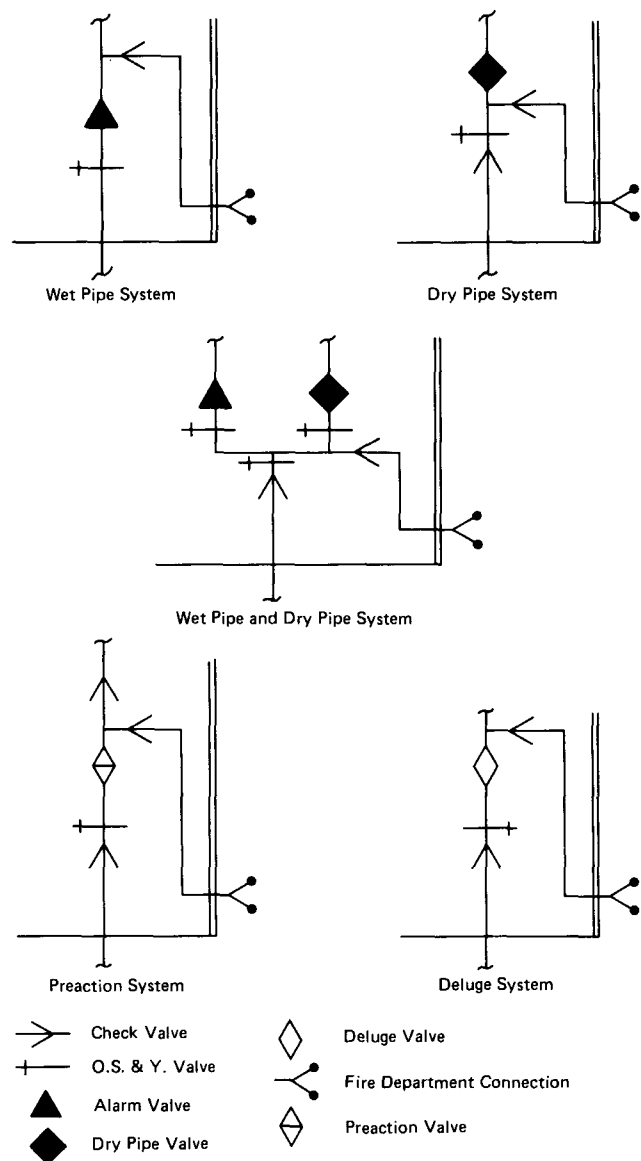
Outside control valves are suggested in the following order of preference:

- (a) Listed indicating valves at each connection into the building at least 40 ft (12.2 m) from buildings if space permits.
- (b) Control valves installed in a cutoff stair tower or valve room accessible from outside.
- (c) Valves located in risers with indicating posts arranged for outside operation.
- (d) Key-operated valves in each connection into the building.

**A-4-5.1.1.6** When a system having only one dry pipe valve is supplied with city water and fire department connection it will be satisfactory to install the main check valve in water supply connection immediately inside of the building. In instances where there is no outside control valve, the system indicating valve should be placed at the service flange, on the supply side of all fittings.

**A-4-5.1.1.7** See Figure A-4-5.1.1.7.

**A-4-5.1.2.3** When the relief valve operation would result in water being discharged onto interior walking or working surfaces, consideration should be given to piping the discharge from the valve to a drain connection or other safe location.



**Figure A-4-5.1.1** Examples of acceptable valve arrangements.

**A-4-5.2.2.1** When copper tube is to be installed in moist areas or other environments conducive to galvanic corrosion, copper hangers or ferrous hangers with an insulating material should be used.

**A-4-5.2.3.1 Exception No. 1** See Figure A-4-5.2.3.1.

**A-4-5.2.3.3** Sprinkler piping should be adequately secured to restrict the movement of piping upon sprinkler operation. The reaction forces caused by the flow of water through the sprinkler could result in displacement of the sprinkler, thereby adversely affecting sprinkler discharge. Listed CPVC pipe and listed polybutylene pipe have specific requirements for piping support to include additional pipe bracing of sprinklers. (See Figure A-4-5.2.3.3.)

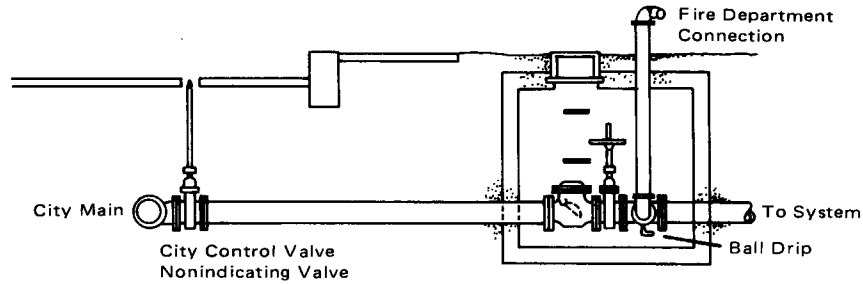
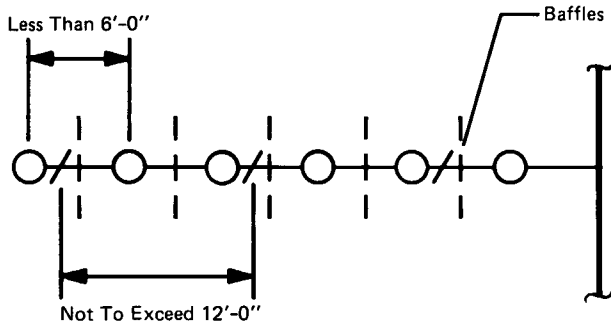


Figure A-4-5.1.1.7 Pit for gate valve, check valve, and fire department connection.



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Figure A-4-5.2.3.1 Distance between hangers.

**A-4-5.2.3.3 Exception No. 1** See Figure A-4-5.2.3.3 Exception No. 1.

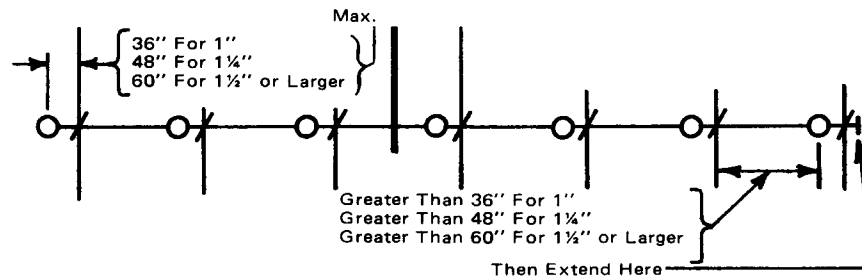
**A-4-5.2.3.3 Exception No. 2** See Figure A-4-5.2.3.3 Exception No. 2 on the following page.

**A-4-5.2.3.4** See Figure A-4-5.2.3.4 on the following page.

**A-4-5.2.3.4 Exception** See Figure A-4-5.2.3.4 Exception on the following page.

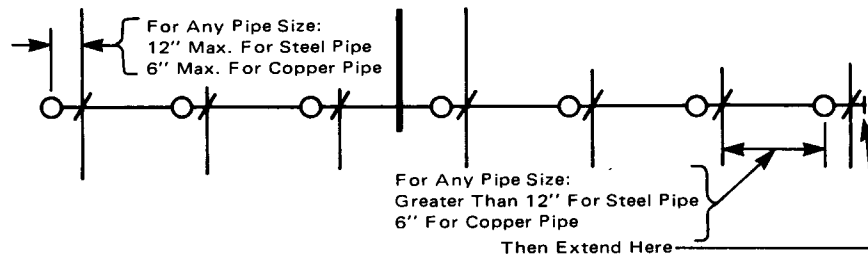
**A-4-5.3.1** All piping should be arranged where practicable to drain to the main drain valve.

**A-4-5.3.5.2.3** An example of an accessible location would be a valve located approximately 7 ft (2 m) above the floor level to which a hose could be connected to discharge the water in an acceptable manner.



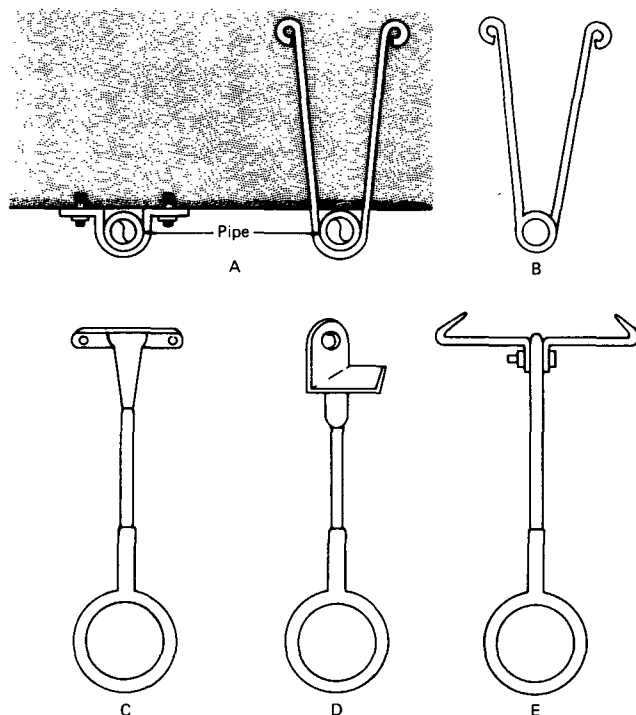
For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Figure A-4-5.2.3.3 Distance from sprinkler to hanger.



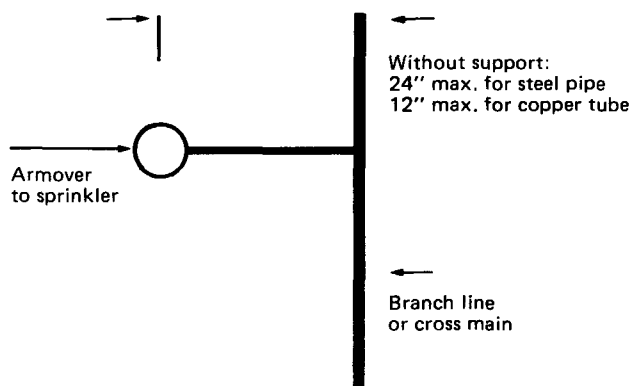
For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

Figure A-4-5.2.3.3 Exception No. 1 Distance from sprinkler to hanger where maximum pressure exceeds 100 psi (6.9 bars) and a branch line above a ceiling supplies pendant sprinklers below the ceiling.



A U-type hangers for branch lines  
 B Wraparound U-hook  
 C Adjustable clip for branch lines  
 D Side beam adjustable hanger  
 E Adjustable coach screw clip for branch lines

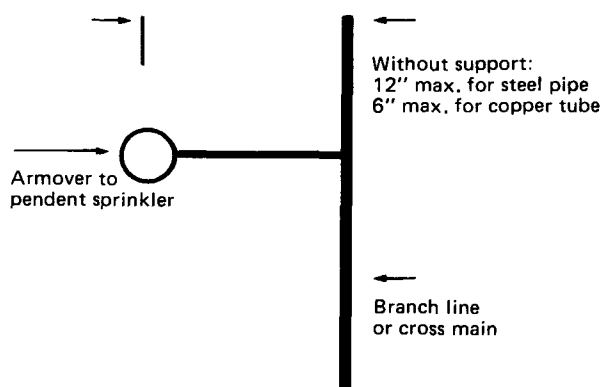
**Figure A-4-5.2.3.3 Exception No. 2** Examples of acceptable hangers for end of line (or armover) pendent sprinklers.



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**Figure A-4-5.2.3.4** Maximum length for unsupported armover.

**A-4-5.3.6.1** When possible, the main sprinkler riser drain should discharge outside the building at a point free from the possibility of causing water damage. When it is not possible to discharge outside the building wall, the drain should be piped to a sump, which in turn should discharge by gravity or be pumped to a waste water drain or sewer. The main sprinkler riser drain connection should be of a size sufficient to carry off water from the fully open drain valve while it is discharging under normal water system pressures. When this is not possible, a supplementary



For SI Units: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

**NOTE:** The pendent sprinkler may be installed either directly in the fitting at the end of the armover or in a fitting at the bottom of a drop nipple.

**Figure A-4-5.2.3.4 Exception** Maximum length of unsupported armover when the maximum pressure exceeds 100 psi (6.9 bars) and a branch line above a ceiling supplies pendent sprinklers below the ceiling.

drain of equal size should be provided for test purposes with free discharge, located at or above grade.

**A-4-5.4.2.1** Types of locations where corrosive conditions may exist include bleacheries, dye houses, metal plating processes, animal pens, and certain chemical plants.

If corrosive conditions are not of great intensity and humidity is not abnormally high, good results can be obtained by a protective coating of red lead and varnish or by a good grade of commercial acid-resisting paint. The paint manufacturer's instructions should be followed in the preparation of the surface and in the method of application.

Where moisture conditions are severe but corrosive conditions are not of great intensity, copper tube or galvanized steel pipe, fittings, and hangers may be suitable. The exposed threads of steel pipe should be painted.

In instances where the piping is not readily accessible and where the exposure to corrosive fumes is severe, either a protective coating of high quality may be employed or some form of corrosion-resistant material used.

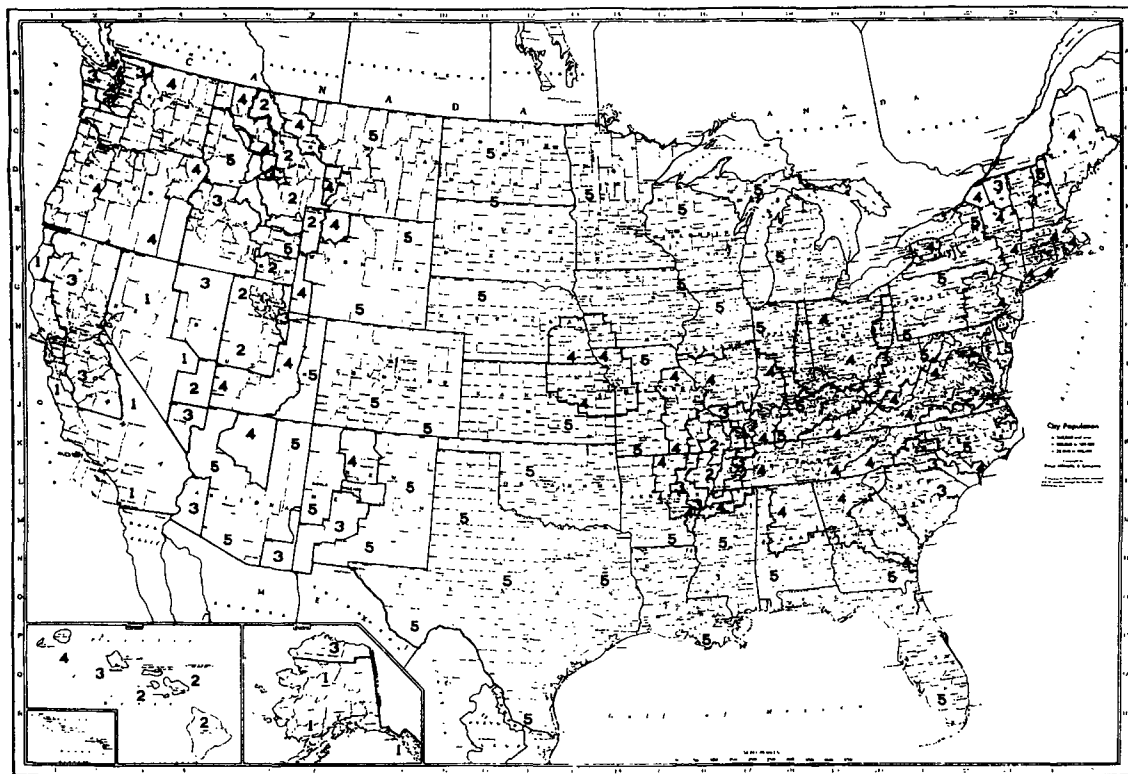
**A-4-5.4.3.1** Sprinkler systems are protected against earthquake damage by means of the following:

(a) Stresses that would develop in the piping due to differential building movement are minimized through the use of flexible joints or clearances.

(b) Bracing is used to keep the piping fairly rigid when supported from a building component expected to move as a unit, such as a ceiling.

Areas known to have a potential for earthquakes have been identified in building code and insurance maps. An example of such a map is shown in Figure A-4-5.4.3.1.

**A-4-5.4.3.2** Strains on sprinkler piping can be greatly lessened and, in many cases, damage prevented by increasing the flexibility between major parts of the sprinkler system. One part of the piping should never be held rigidly and another part allowed to move freely without provision for relieving the strain. Flexibility can be provided by using listed flexible couplings, by joining grooved end pipe at critical points, and by allowing clearances at walls and floors.



Source—Insurance Services Office

**Earthquake Zones**

1—Maximum potential for earthquake damage  
2—Reasonable potential

3—Slight potential  
4 and 5—Earthquake protection not required

**Figure A-4-5.4.3.1** Example of seismic map.

Tank or pump risers should be treated the same as sprinkler risers for their portion within a building. The discharge pipe of tanks on buildings should have a control valve above the roof line so any pipe break within the building can be controlled.

Piping 3 in. (76 mm) or smaller in size is pliable enough so that flexible couplings are not usually necessary. A flexible coupling is a mechanical coupling or fitting that permits some angular displacement, axial displacement, and rotation of the piping without failure of the pipe or fitting. "Rigid-type" mechanical couplings that do not permit movement at the grooved connections are not considered flexible couplings [See Figures A-4-5.4.3.2(a) and (b) on the following page.]

**A-4-5.4.3.2(d)** A building expansion joint is usually a bituminous fiber strip used to separate blocks or units of concrete to prevent cracking due to expansion as a result of temperature changes. In this case, the flexible coupling required on one side by 4-5.4.3.2(d) will suffice.

For seismic separation joints, considerably more flexibility is needed, particularly for piping above the first floor. Figure A-4-5.4.3.3 on page 93 shows a method of providing additional flexibility through the use of swing joints.

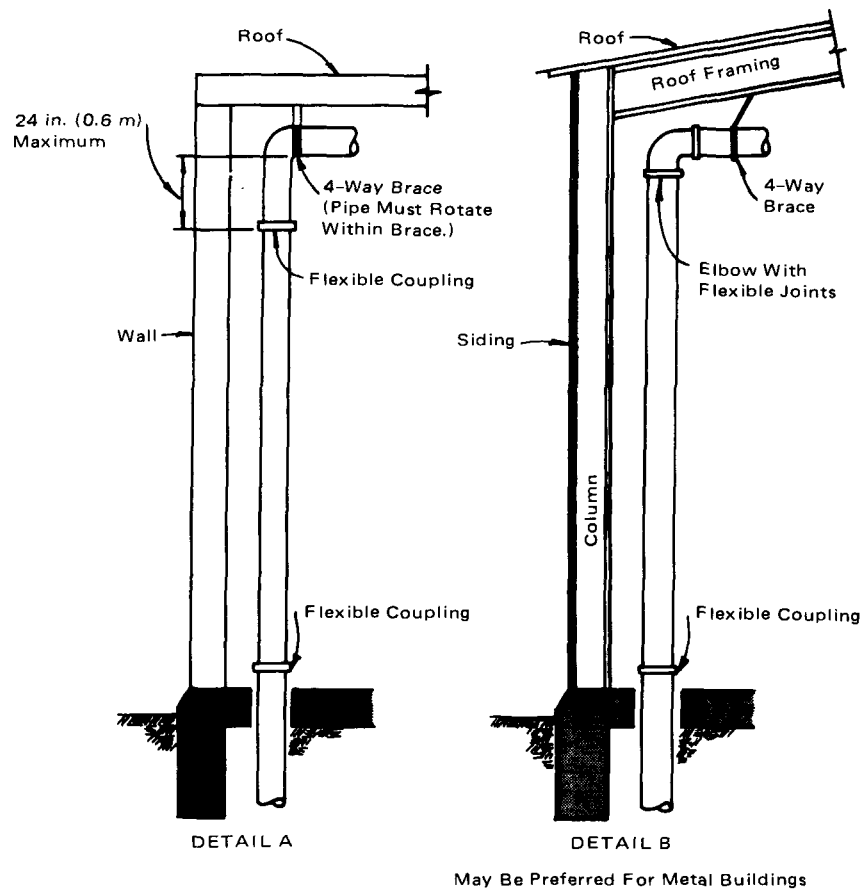
**A-4-5.4.3.3** Plan and elevation views of a seismic separation assembly assembled with flexible elbows are shown in Figure A-4-5.4.3.3.

A seismic separation assembly is considered to be an assembly of fittings, pipe, and couplings or an assembly of pipe and couplings that permits movement in all directions. The extent of permitted movement should be sufficient to accommodate calculated differential motions during earthquakes. In lieu of calculations, permitted movement can be made at least twice the actual separations, at right angles to the separation as well as parallel to it.

**A-4-5.4.3.4** While clearances are necessary around the sprinkler piping to prevent breakage due to building movement, suitable provision should also be made to prevent passage of water, smoke, or fire.

Drains, fire department connections, and other auxiliary piping connected to risers should not be cemented into walls or floors; similarly, pipes that pass horizontally through walls or foundations should not be cemented solidly or strains will accumulate at such points.

When risers or lengths of pipe extend through suspended ceilings, they should not be fastened to the ceiling framing members.



May Be Preferred For Metal Buildings

Note to Detail A: The four-way brace should be attached above the upper flexible coupling required for the riser and preferably to the roof structure if suitable. The brace should not be attached directly to a plywood or metal deck.

Figure A-4-5.4.3.2(a) Riser details.

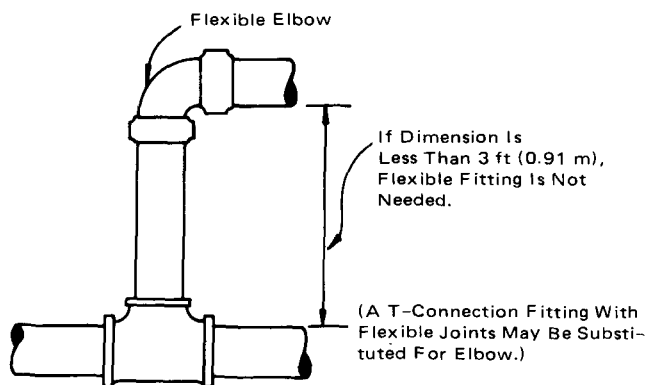


Figure A-4-5.4.3.2(b) Detail at short riser.

**A-4-5.4.3.5.1 Location of Sway Bracing.** Two-way braces are either longitudinal or lateral depending on their orientation with the axis of the piping. [See Figures A-4-5.4.3.5.1(a), (b), (c), and (d) on the following pages.] The simplest form of two-way brace is a piece of steel pipe or angle. Because the

brace must act in both compression and tension, it is necessary to size the brace to prevent buckling.

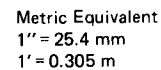
An important aspect of sway bracing is its location. In Building 1 of Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.1(a), the relatively heavy main will pull on the branch lines when shaking occurs. If the branch lines are held rigidly to the roof or floor above, the fittings can fracture due to the induced stresses.

Bracing should be on the main as indicated at Location B. With shaking in the direction of the arrows, the light branch lines will be held at the fittings. Where necessary, a lateral brace or other restraint should be installed to prevent a branch line from striking against building components or equipment.

A four-way brace is indicated at Location A. This keeps the riser and main lined up and also prevents the main from shifting.

In Building 1, the branch lines are flexible in a direction parallel to the main, regardless of building movement. The heavy main cannot shift under the roof or floor, and it also steadies the branch lines. While the main is braced, the flexible couplings on the riser allow the sprinkler system to move with the floor or roof above, relative to the floor below.





**Figure A-4-5.4.3.3 Seismic separation assembly.**



The brace can be attached to the structural system directly through a leg of an angle or a flattened portion of pipe. Where dimensions are tight or some play must be allowed, a special fitting can be used. [See *Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.1(b)*.] This threads on an end of pipe. Rotation of the flat around the bolt allows play in the angle of the brace without sacrificing snugness.

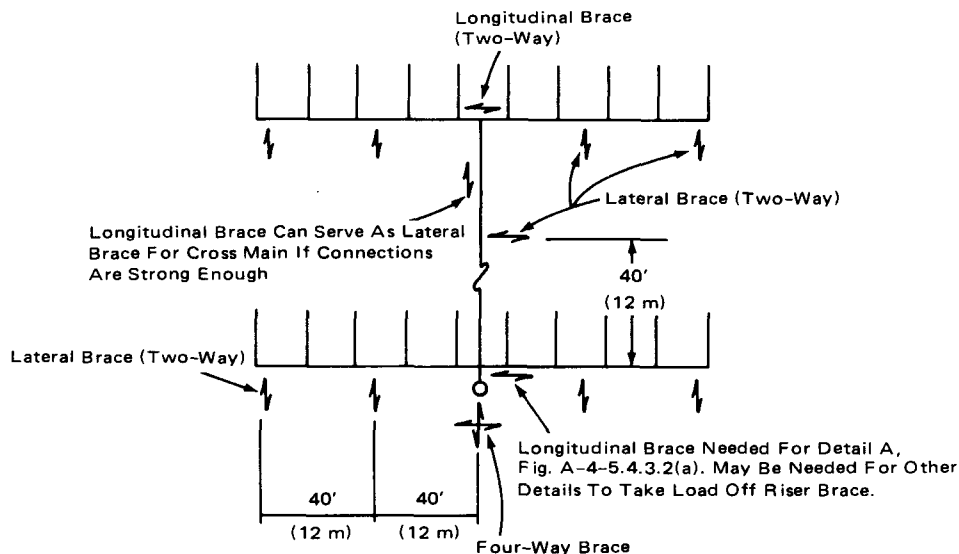


Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.1(b) Typical location of bracing on a tree system.

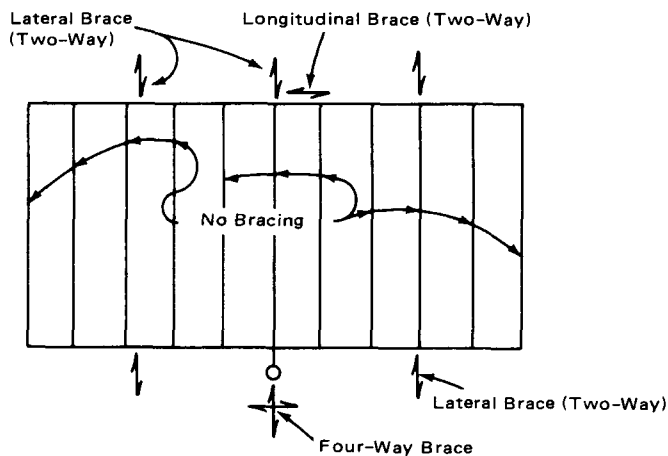


Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.1(c) Typical location of bracing on a gridded system.

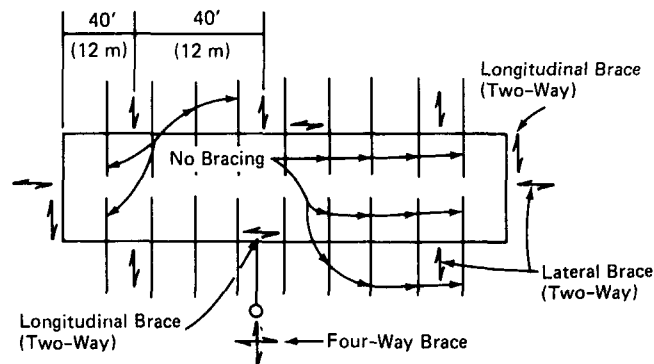


Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.1(d) Typical location of bracing on a looped system.

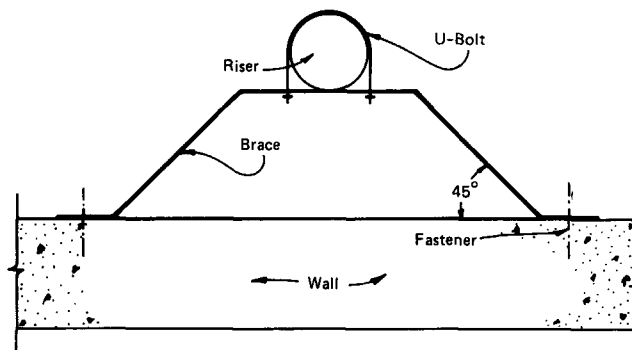


Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.1(e) Detail of four-way brace at riser.

Some adjustment can be provided in a pipe brace by use of a left-hand/right-hand coupling. For all threaded connections, sight holes or other means should be provided to permit indication that sufficient thread is engaged.

To properly size and space braces, it is necessary to employ the following steps:

(a) Based on the distance of mains from the structural members that will support the braces, choose brace shapes and sizes from Table 4-5.4.3.5.1(b) such that the maximum slenderness ratios  $l/r$  do not exceed 200. The angle of the braces from the vertical should be at least 30 degrees and preferably 45 degrees or more.

(b) Tentatively space lateral braces at 40 ft (12 m) maximum distances along mains and tentatively space longitudinal braces at 80 ft (24 m) maximum distances along mains. Lateral braces should meet the piping at right angles, and longitudinal braces should be aligned with the piping.

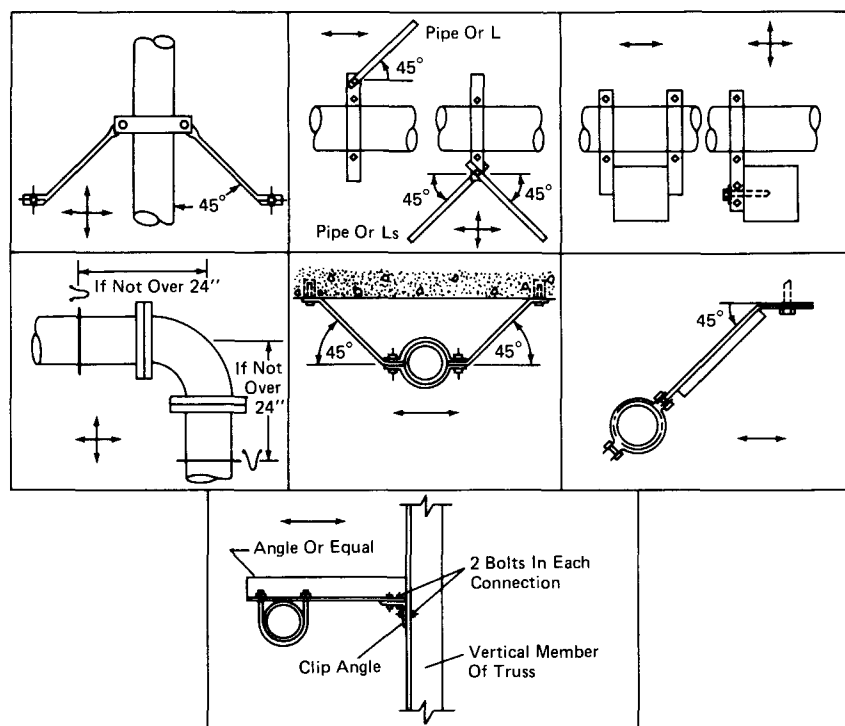


Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.1(f) Acceptable types of sway bracing.

(c) Determine the total load tentatively applied to each brace in accordance with the examples shown in Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.1(h) and the following:

1. For the loads on lateral braces on cross mains, add one-half the weight of branch to one-half the weight of the portion of the cross main within the zone of influence of the brace. [See examples 1, 3, 6, and 7 in Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.1(h) on the following page.]

2. For the loads on longitudinal braces on cross mains, consider only one-half the weight of the cross mains, feed mains, and the first 15 ft of branch line piping within the zone of influence. Branch lines need not be included if piping is provided with lateral sway bracing.

3. For the four-way brace at the riser, add the longitudinal and lateral loads within the zone of influence of the brace. [See examples 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8 in Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.1(h) on the following page.]

Use the information on weights of water-filled piping contained within Table A-4-5.4.3.5.1.

(d) If the total expected loads are less than the maximums permitted in Table 4-5.4.3.5.1(b) for the particular brace and orientation, go on to step (e). If not, add additional braces to reduce the zones of influence of overloaded braces.

(e) Check that fasteners connecting the braces to structural supporting members are adequate to support the expected loads on the braces in accordance with Table 4-5.4.3.5.1(c). If not, again add additional braces or additional means of support.

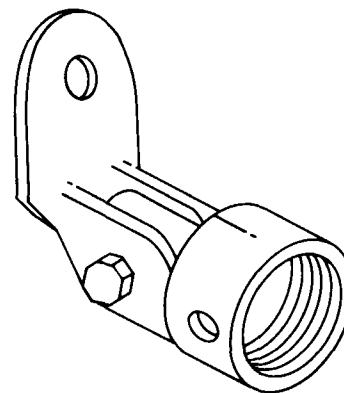


Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.1(g) Special fitting.

**A-4-5.4.3.5.3** The four-way brace provided at the riser may also provide longitudinal and lateral bracing for adjacent mains.

**A-4-5.4.3.5.8** Wires used for piping restraints should be attached to the branch line with two tight turns around the pipe, and fastened with four tight turns within 1½ inches, and should be attached to the structure in accordance with the details shown in Figures A-4-5.4.3.5.8(a) through (d) on the following pages or other approved method.

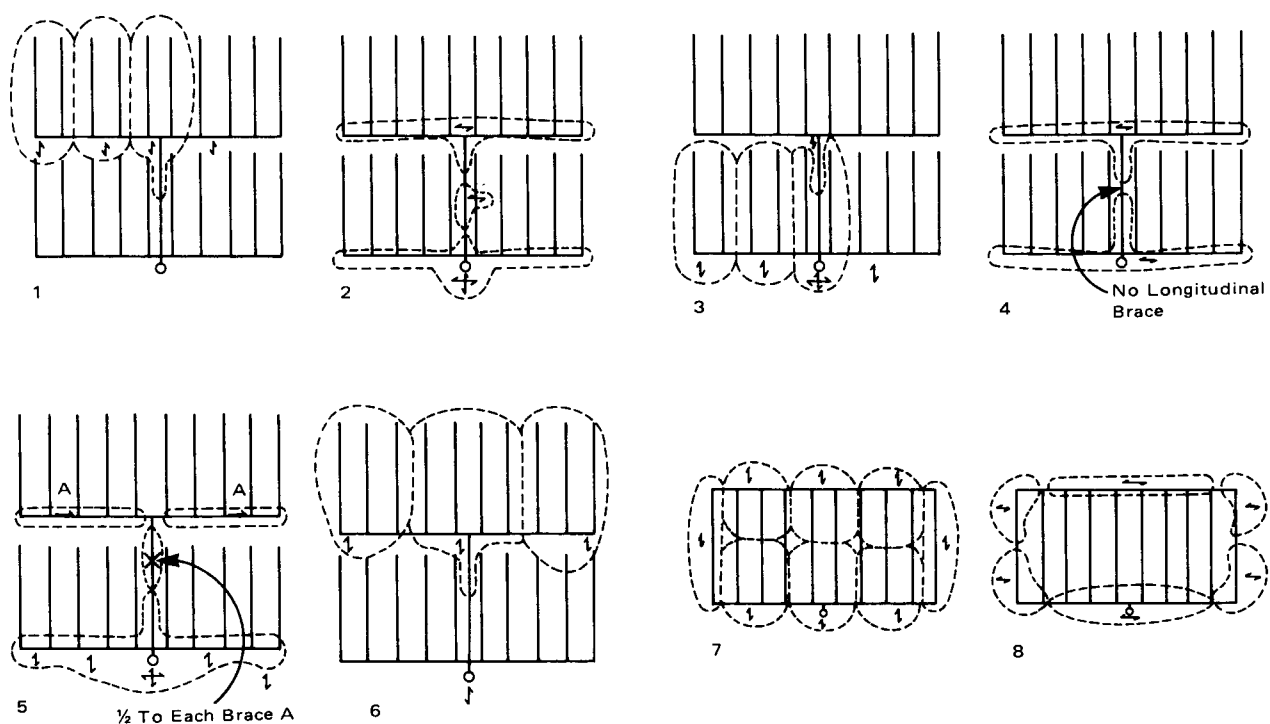
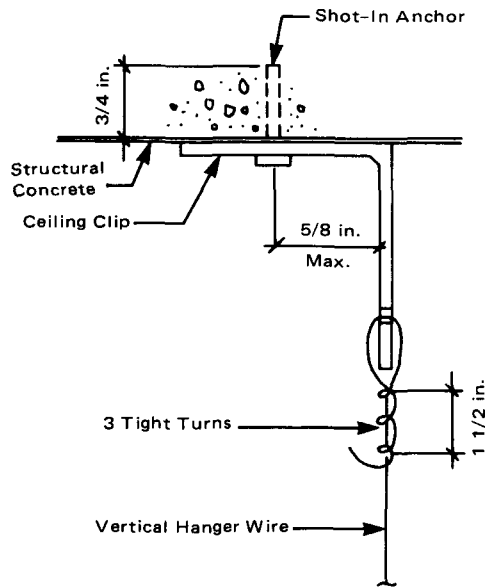


Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.1(h) Examples of load distribution to bracing.

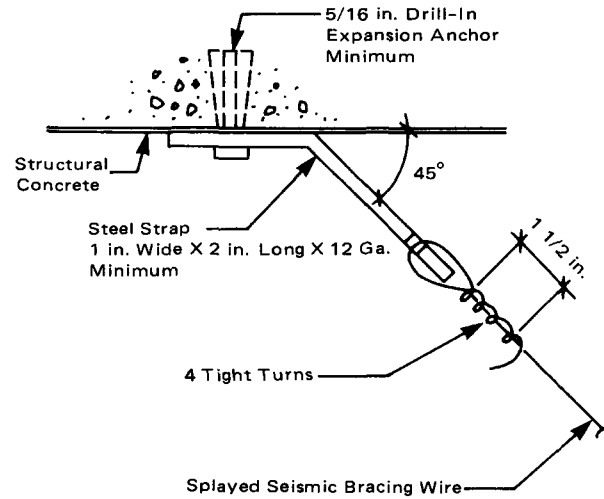
Table A-4-5.4.3.5.1 Piping Weights for Determining Horizontal Load

| Schedule 40 Pipe        | Weight of Water-Filled Pipe (lb per ft) | $\frac{1}{2}$ Weight of Water-Filled Pipe (lb per ft) |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| 1                       | 2.05                                    | 1.03  |
| 1 $\frac{1}{4}$         | 2.93                                    | 1.47  |
| 1 $\frac{1}{2}$         | 3.61                                    | 1.81  |
| 2                       | 5.13                                    | 2.57  |
| 2 $\frac{1}{2}$         | 7.89                                    | 3.95  |
| 3                       | 10.82                                   | 5.41  |
| 3 $\frac{1}{2}$         | 13.48                                   | 6.74  |
| 4                       | 16.40                                   | 8.20  |
| 5                       | 23.47                                   | 11.74   |
| 6                       | 31.69                                   | 15.85   |
| 8*                      | 47.70                                   | 23.85   |
| <b>Schedule 10 Pipe</b> |   |   |
| 1                       | 1.81                                    | 0.91  |
| 1 $\frac{1}{4}$         | 2.52                                    | 1.26  |
| 1 $\frac{1}{2}$         | 3.04                                    | 1.52  |
| 2                       | 4.22                                    | 2.11  |
| 2 $\frac{1}{2}$         | 5.89                                    | 2.95  |
| 3                       | 7.94                                    | 3.97  |
| 3 $\frac{1}{2}$         | 9.78                                    | 4.89  |
| 4                       | 11.78                                   | 5.89  |
| 5                       | 17.30                                   | 8.65  |
| 6                       | 23.03                                   | 11.52   |
| 8                       | 40.08                                   | 20.04   |

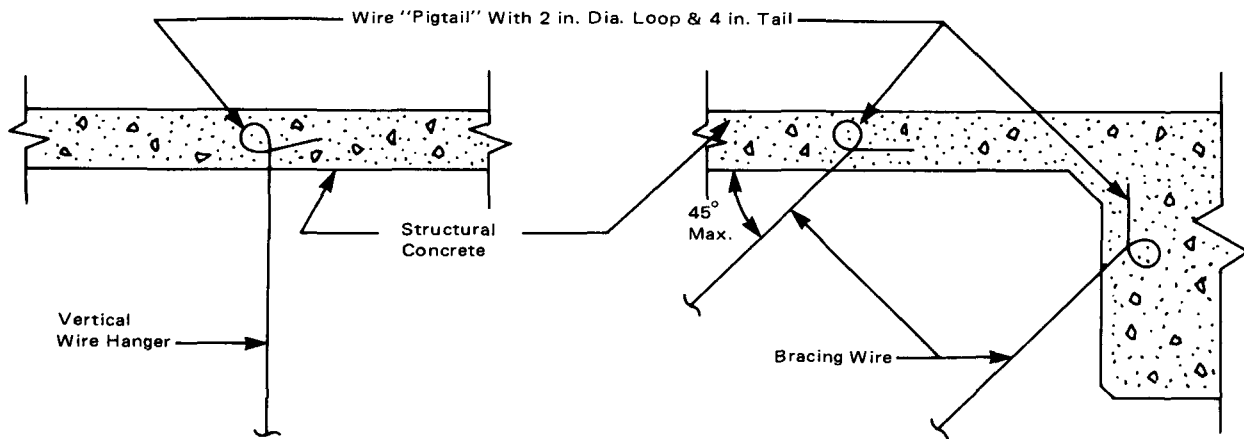
\* Schedule 30



(A) Vertical Hanger Wire Attachment



(B) Splayed Seismic Bracing Wire Attachment

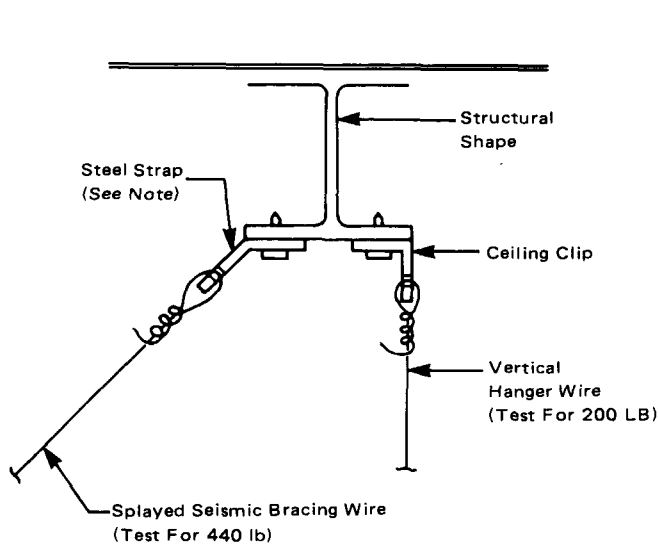


(C)

(D)

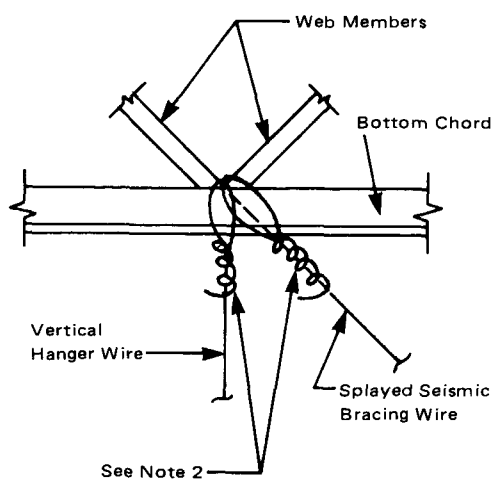
Wire Attachment To Cast-In-Place Concrete

Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.8(a).



(A) At Steel Beams

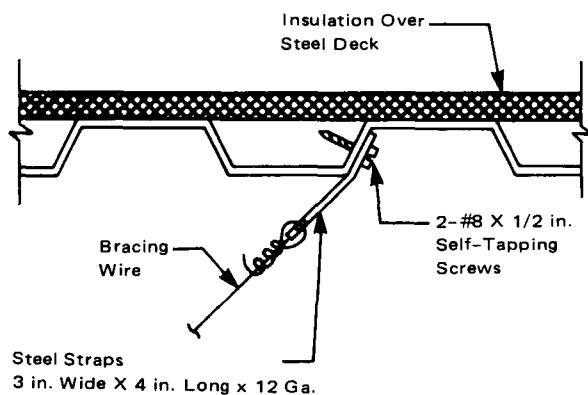
Note: See Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.8(a), Detail B.



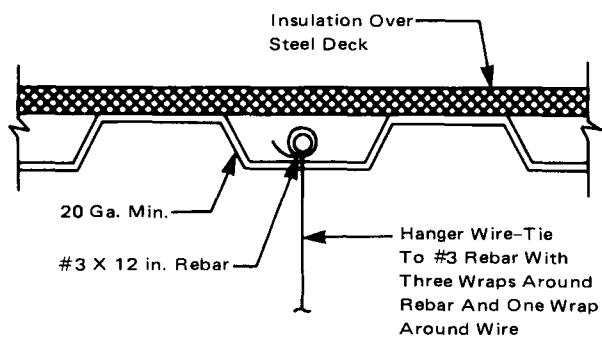
(B) At Open-Web Steel Joist

Note 1: Splay wires parallel to joist. Splay wires cannot be perpendicular to joist.

Note 2: See Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.8(a), Details (A) and (B).



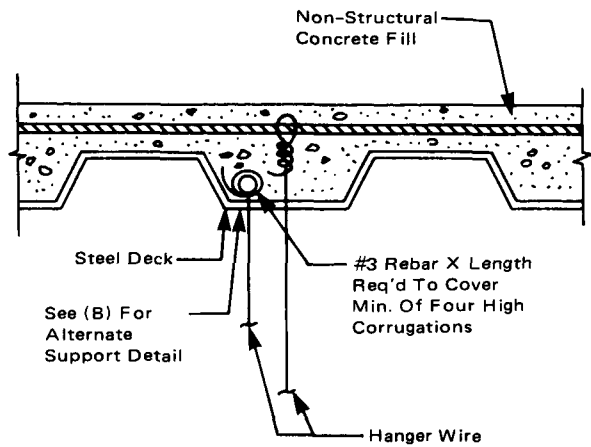
(C) At Steel Roof Deck



(D) At Steel Roof Deck

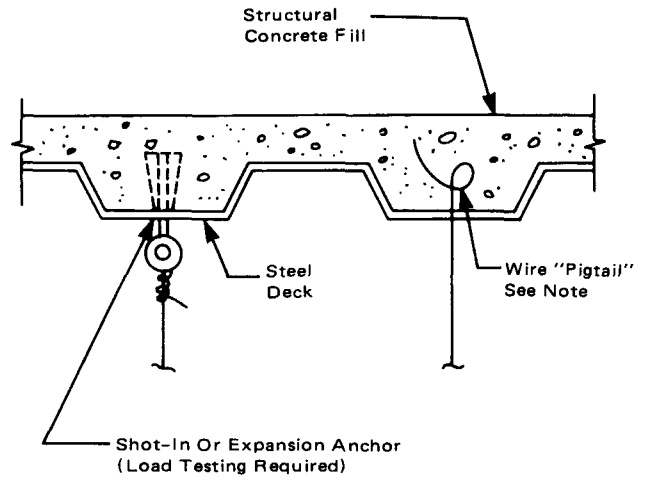
Note: If self-tapping screws are used with concrete fill, set screws before placing concrete.

Acceptable Details-Wire Connections To Steel Framing  
Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.8(b).



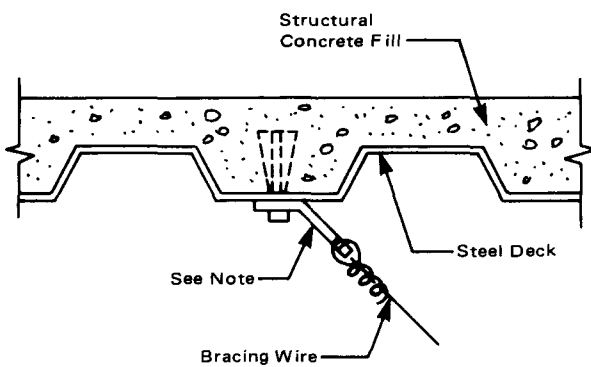
(A) At Steel Deck With Insulating Fill

Note: Bracing wire detail similar.



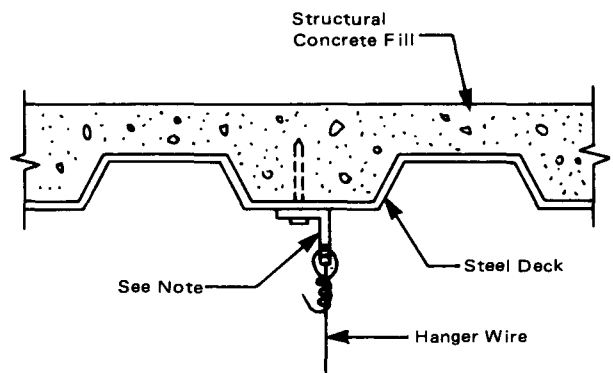
(B) At Steel Deck With Concrete Fill

Note: See Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.8(a), Detail (C).



(C) At Steel Deck With Concrete Fill

Note: See Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.8(a), Detail (B).



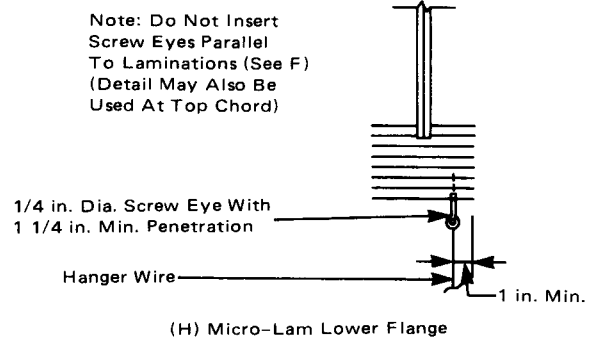
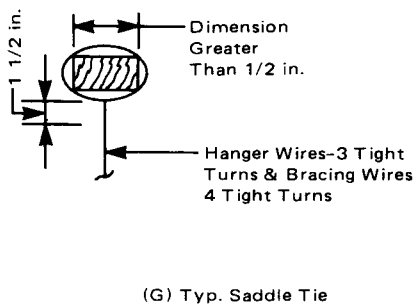
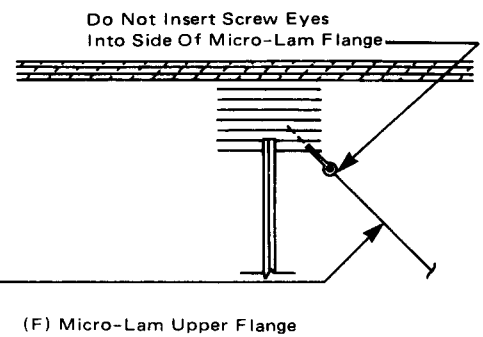
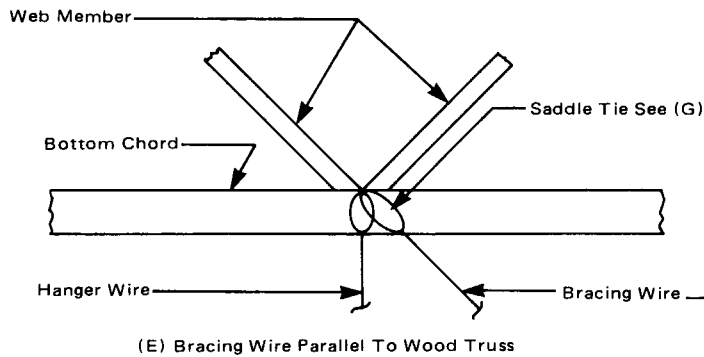
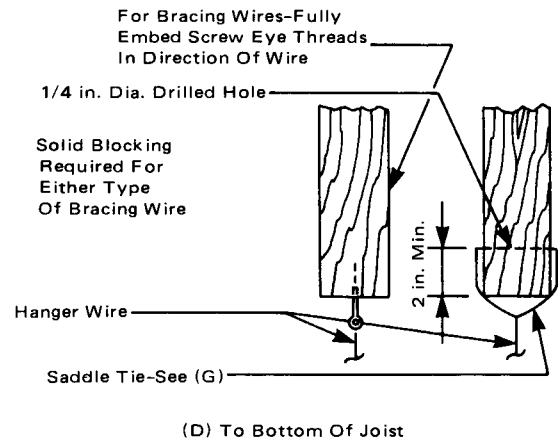
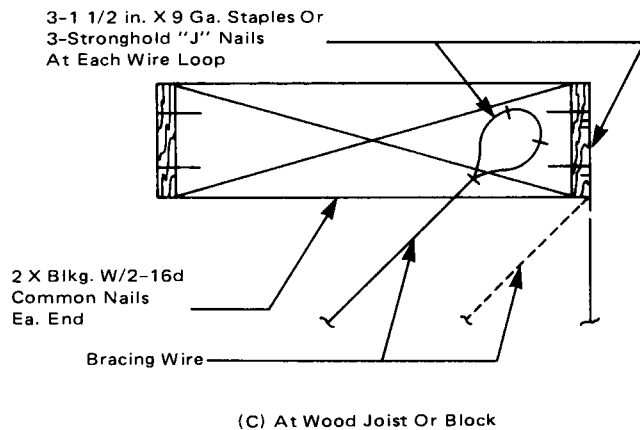
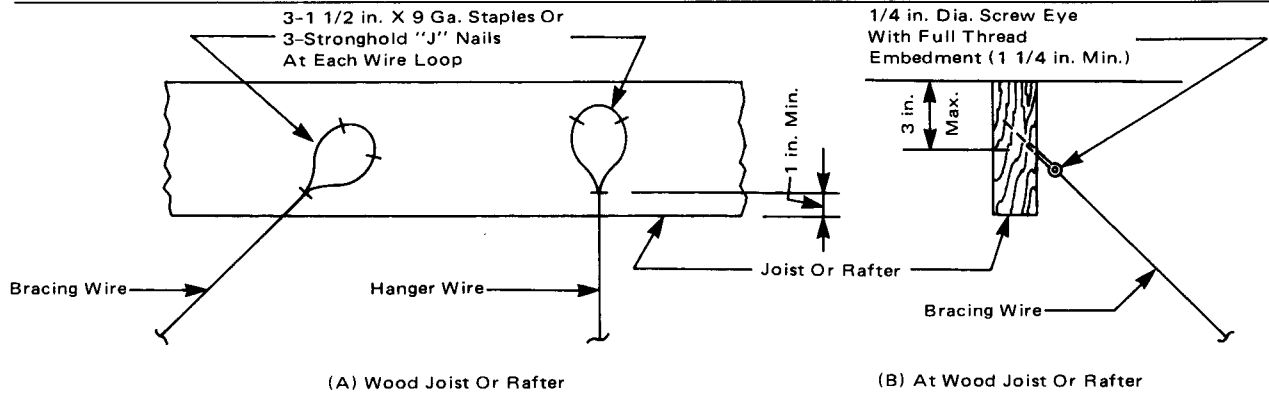
(D) At Steel Deck With Concrete Fill

Note: See Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.8(a), Detail (A).

Note: If self-tapping screws are used with concrete fill, set screws before placing concrete.

Acceptable Details-Wire Connections To Steel Framing

Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.8(c).



Acceptable Details-Wire Connections To Wood Framing  
Figure A-4-5.4.3.5.8(d).



**A-4-6.1.1** Central station, auxiliary, remote station, or proprietary protective signaling systems are a highly desirable supplement to local alarms, especially from a safety to life standpoint. (See 4-6.1.1.6.)

**Identification Signs.** Approved identification signs should be provided for outside alarm devices. The sign should be located near the device in a conspicuous position and should be worded as follows:

"SPRINKLER FIRE ALARM — WHEN BELL RINGS CALL FIRE DEPARTMENT OR POLICE."



Figure A-4-6.1.1 Identification sign.

**A-4-6.1.1.5** Water-motor-operated devices should be located as near as practicable to the alarm valve, dry pipe valve, or other waterflow detecting device. The total length of the pipe to these devices should not exceed 75 ft (22.9 m) nor should the water-motor-operated device be located over 20 ft (6.1 m) above the alarm device or dry pipe valve.

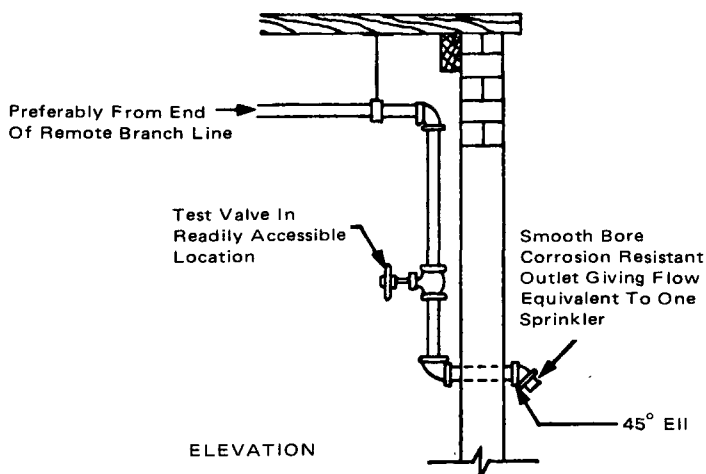
**A-4-6.1.1.6** Monitoring should include but not be limited to control valves, building temperatures, fire pump power supplies and running conditions, and water tank levels and temperatures. Pressure supervision shall also be provided on pressure tanks.

**A-4-6.2** The fire department connection should be located not less than 18 in. (457 mm) and not more than 4 ft (1.22 m) above the level of the adjacent grade or access level.

**A-4-6.2.1** Fire department connections should be located and arranged so that hose lines can be readily and conveniently attached without interference from nearby objects including buildings, fences, posts, or other fire department connections. When a hydrant is not available, other water supply sources such as a natural body of water, a tank, or reservoir should be utilized. The water authority should be consulted when a nonpotable water supply is proposed as a suction source for the fire department.

**A-4-6.2.3** The check valve should be located to maximize accessibility and minimize freezing potential.

**A-4-6.4.2** This test connection should be in the upper story, and the connection should preferably be piped from the end of the most remote branch line. The discharge should be at a point where it can be readily observed. In locations where it is not practical to terminate the test connection outside the building, the test connection may terminate into a drain capable of accepting full flow under system pressure. In this event, the test connection should be made using an approved sight test connection containing a smooth bore corrosion-resistant orifice giving a flow equivalent to one sprinkler simulating the least flow from an individual sprinkler in the system. [See Figures A-4-6.4.2(a) and A-4-6.4.2(b).] The test valve should be located at an accessible point and preferably not over 7 ft (2.1 m) above the floor. The control valve on the test connection should be located at a point not exposed to freezing.



For SI Units: 1 ft = 0.3048 m.

NOTE: Not less than 4 ft (1.2 m) of exposed test pipe in warm room beyond valve when pipe extends through wall to outside.

Figure A-4-6.4.2(a) System test connection on wet pipe system.

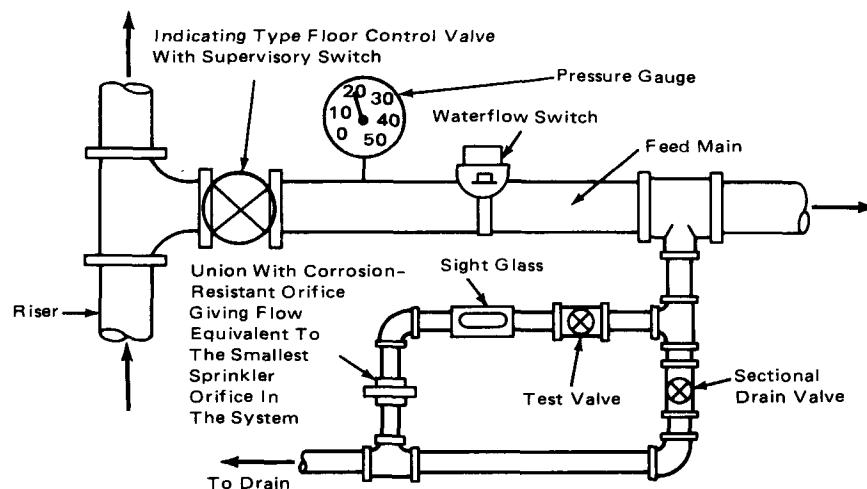
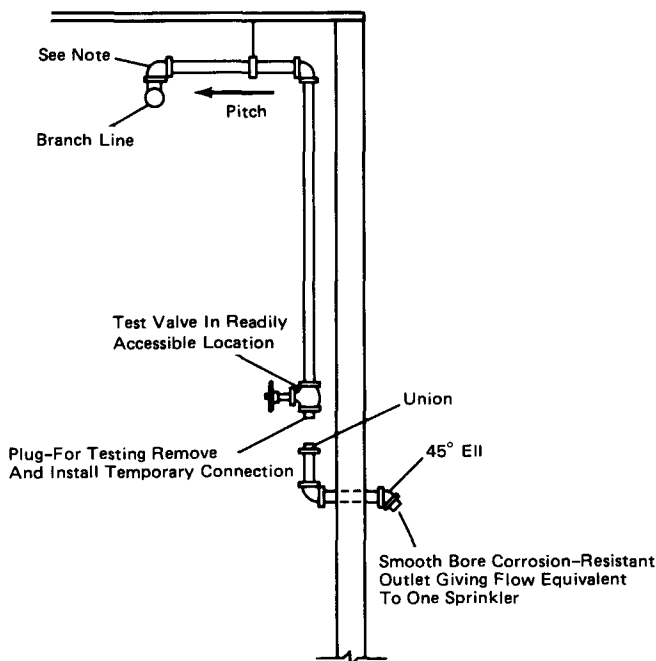


Figure A-4-6.4.2(b) Floor control valve.

**A-4-6.4.3** See Figure A-4-6.4.3.



NOTE: To minimize condensation of water in the drop to the test connection, provide a nipple-up off of the branch line.

Figure A-4-6.4.3 System test connection on dry pipe system.

**A-5-2.2.3** The additional pressure that is needed at the level of the water supply to account for sprinkler elevation is 0.433 psi per ft (9.8 kPa/m) of elevation above the water supply.

**A-5-2.3.1.1** Appropriate area/density, other design criteria, and water supply requirements should be based on scientifically based engineering analyses that may include

submitted fire testing, calculations, or results from appropriate computational models.

**A-5-2.3.1.3(b)** This section is included to compensate for possible delay in operation of sprinklers from fires in combustible concealed spaces found in wood frame, brick veneer, and ordinary construction.

**A-5-2.3.1.3(b) Exception No. 3** This exception is intended to apply only when the exposed materials in the space are limited combustible materials or fire retardant treated wood as defined in NFPA 703, *Standard for Fire Retardant Impregnated Wood and Fire Retardant Coatings for Building Materials*.

**A-5-2.3.3.1** This section allows for calculation of the sprinklers in the largest room, so long as the calculation produces the greatest hydraulic demand among selection of rooms and communicating spaces. For example, in a case where the largest room has four sprinklers and a smaller room has two sprinklers but communicates through unprotected openings with three other rooms, each having two sprinklers, the smaller room and group of communicating spaces should also be calculated.

Corridors are rooms and should be considered as such.

Walls may terminate at a substantial suspended ceiling and need not be extended to a rated floor slab above for this section to be applied.

**A-5-3.2.2** See Figure A-5-3.2.2.

**A-5-3.4** See Table A-5-3.4 on pages 104-105.

**A-5-3.5** See Table A-5-3.5 on page 106.

**A-5-3.6.1** If the system is a deluge type, then all the sprinklers need to be calculated even if they are located on different building faces.

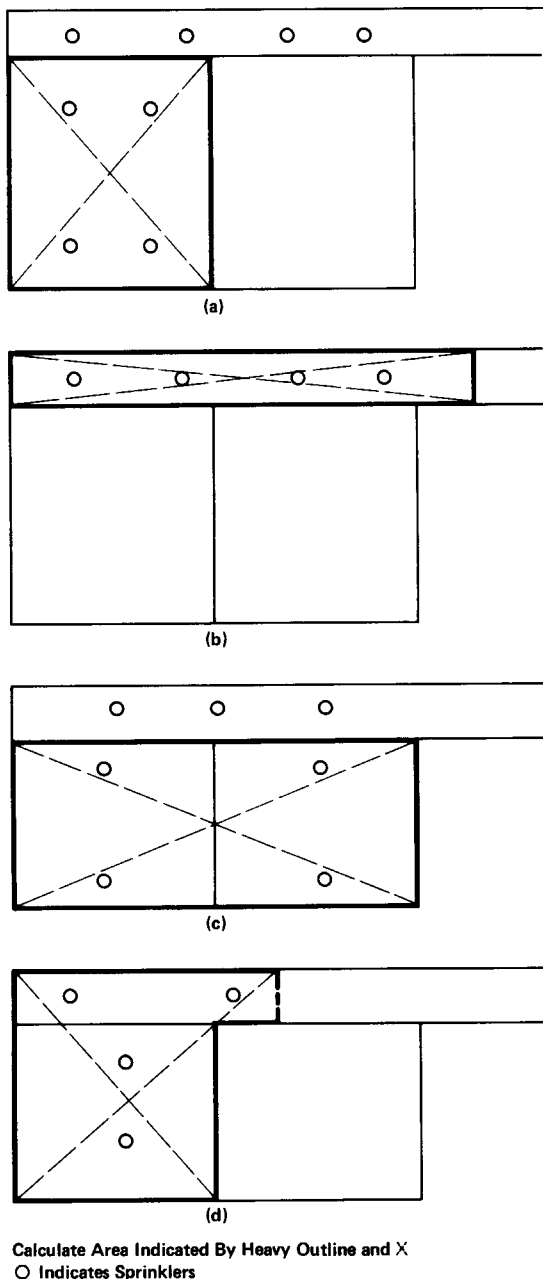


Figure A-5-3.2.2 Examples of design area for dwelling units.

**A-6-1** Preliminary layouts should be submitted for review to the authority having jurisdiction before any equipment is installed or remodeled in order to avoid error or subsequent misunderstanding. (See Figure A-6-1 on page 106.) Any material deviation from approved plans will require permission of the authority having jurisdiction.

Preliminary layouts should show as much of the following information as is required to provide a clear representation of the system, hazard, and occupancy:

- (a) Name of owner and occupant
- (b) Location, including street address

- (c) Point of compass
- (d) Construction and occupancy of each building

NOTE: Data on special hazards should be submitted as they may require special rulings.

- (e) Building height in feet

(f) If it is proposed to use a city main as a supply, whether the main is dead-end or circulating, size of main and pressure in psi, and, if dead-end, direction and distance to nearest circulating main

- (g) Distance from nearest pumping station or reservoir

(h) In cases where reliable, up-to-date information is not available, a waterflow test of the city main should be conducted in accordance with A-7-2.1. The preliminary plans should specify who conducted the test, date and time, the location of the hydrants where flow was taken, and where static and residual pressure readings were recorded; the size of main supplying these hydrants, and the results of the test, giving size and number of open hydrant butts flowed; also data covering minimum pressure in the connection with the city main should be included.

(i) Data covering waterworks systems in small towns in order to expedite the review of plans

(j) Fire walls, fire doors, unprotected window openings, large unprotected floor openings, and blind spaces

(k) Distance to and construction and occupancy of exposing buildings—e.g., lumber yards, brick mercantiles, fire-resistive office buildings, etc.

(l) Spacing of sprinklers, number of sprinklers in each story or fire area and total number of sprinklers, number of sprinklers on each riser and on each system by floors, total area protected by each system on each floor, total number of sprinklers on each dry pipe system or preaction or deluge system and if extension to present equipment, sprinklers already installed

(m) Capacities of dry pipe systems with bulk pipe included, see Table A-3-2.3; and, if an extension is made to an existing dry pipe system, the total capacity of the existing and also the extended portion of the system

(n) Weight or class, size, and material of any proposed underground pipe

(o) Whether property is located in a flood or earthquake area requiring consideration in the design of sprinkler system

- (p) Name and address of party submitting the layout.

**A-6-1.1** See Figure A-6-1.1 on page 107.

**A-6-1.1.2** See Figures A-6-1.1.2(a) and (b) on page 108.

**A-6-2.2** See Figures A-6-2.2(a) through (d) on pages 109 through 112.

**A-6-2.3** See Figure A-6-2.3 on page 113.

**A-6-2.3(o)** See Figure A-6-2.3(o) on page 114.

**A-6-2.4** See Figure A-6-2.4 on page 115.

**Table A-5-3.4 Large-Drop Sprinkler Data**  
**Pressure and Number of Design Sprinklers Required for Various Hazards for Large Drop Sprinklers**

| Hazard   | Type of System | Minimum Operating Pressure, <sup>1</sup> psi (bar)   |  |  | Hose Stream Demand<br>gal/min (dm <sup>3</sup> /min) | Water Supply Duration, Hr |
|--|----------------|--|--|--|--|---------------------------|
|  |                | 25 (1.7)   | 50 (3.4)   | 75 (5.2)   |  |                           |
| Number Design Sprinklers   |                |  |  |  |  |                           |
| Palletized <sup>2</sup> Storage  |                |  |  |  |  |                           |
| Class I, II, and III commodities up to 25 ft (7.6 m) with maximum 10 ft (3.0 m) clearance to ceiling             | Wet            | 15   | Note 4   | Note 4   | 500 (1900)   | 2                         |
|  | Dry            | 25   | Note 4   | Note 4   |  |                           |
| Class IV commodities up to 20 ft (6.1 m) with maximum 10 ft (3.0 m) clearance to ceiling                         | Wet            | 20   | 15   | Note 4   | 500 (1900)   | 2                         |
|  | Dry            | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       |  |                           |
| Unexpanded plastics up to 20 ft (6.1 m) with maximum 10 ft (3.0 m) clearance to ceiling                          | Wet            | 25   | 15   | Note 4   | 500 (1900)   | 2                         |
|  | Dry            | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       |  |                           |
| Expanded plastics commodities up to 18 ft (5.5 m) with maximum 8 ft (2.4 m) clearance to ceiling                 | Wet            | Does not apply                                       | 15   | Note 4   | 500 (1900)   | 2                         |
|  | Dry            | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       |  |                           |
| Idle wood pallets up to 20 ft (6.1 m) with maximum 10 ft (3.0 m) clearance to ceiling                            | Wet            | 15   | Note 4   | Note 4   | 500 (1900)   | 1½                        |
|  | Dry            | 25   | Note 4   | Note 4   |  |                           |
| Solid Piled <sup>2</sup> Storage   |                |  |  |  |  |                           |
| Class I, II, and III commodities up to 20 ft (6.1 m) with maximum 10 ft (3.0 m) clearance to ceiling             | Wet            | 15   | Note 4   | Note 4   | 500 (1900)   | 1½                        |
|  | Dry            | 25   | Note 4   | Note 4   |  |                           |
| Class IV commodities and unexpanded plastics up to 20 ft (6.1 m) with maximum 10 ft (3.0 m) clearance to ceiling | Wet            | Does not apply                                       | 15   | Note 4   | 500 (1900)   | 1½                        |
|  | Dry            | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       |  |                           |
| Double-Row Rack Storage <sup>5</sup> with Minimum 5.5 ft (1.7 m) Aisle Width                                     |                |  |  |  |  |                           |
| Class I and II commodities up to 25 ft (7.6 m) with maximum 5 ft (1.5 m) clearance to ceiling                    | Wet            | 20   | Note 4   | Note 4   | 500 (1900)   | 1½                        |
|  | Dry            | 30   | Note 4   | Note 4   |  |                           |
| Class I and II commodities up to 30 ft (9.2 m) with maximum 5 ft (1.5 m) clearance to ceiling                    | Wet            | 20 plus one level of in-rack sprinklers <sup>6</sup> | Note 4   | Note 4   | 500 (1900)   | 1½                        |
|  | Dry            | 30 plus one level of in-rack sprinklers <sup>6</sup> | Note 4   | Note 4   |  |                           |
| Class I, II, and III commodities up to 20 ft (6.1 m) with maximum 10 ft (3.0 m) clearance to ceiling             | Wet            | 15   | Note 4   | Note 4   | 500 (1900)   | 1½                        |
|  | Dry            | 25   | Note 4   | Note 4   |  |                           |
| Class I, II, and III commodities up to 25 ft (7.6 m) with maximum 10 ft (3.0 m) clearance to ceiling             | Wet            | 15 plus one level of in-rack sprinklers <sup>6</sup> | Note 4   | Note 4   | 500 (1900)   | 1½                        |
|  | Dry            | 25 plus one level of in-rack sprinklers <sup>6</sup> | Note 4   | Note 4   |  |                           |
| Class IV commodities up to 20 ft (6.1 m) with maximum 10 ft (3.0 m) clearance to ceiling                         | Wet            | Does not apply                                       | 20   | 15   | 500 (1900)   | 2                         |
|  | Dry            | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       |  |                           |
| Class IV commodities up to 25 ft (7.6 m) with maximum 10 ft clearance to ceiling                                 | Wet            | Does not apply                                       | 20 plus one level of in-rack sprinklers <sup>6</sup> | 15 plus one level of in-rack sprinklers <sup>6</sup> | 500 (1900)   | 2                         |
|  | Dry            | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       |  |                           |

Table A-5-3.4 (cont.)

|   |     |                |  |  |               |               |
|---|-----|----------------|--|--|---------------|---------------|
| Unexpanded plastics up to 20 ft (6.1 m) with maximum 10 ft (3.0 m) clearance to ceiling   | Wet | Does not apply | 30   | 20   | 500 (1900)    | 2             |
|   | Dry | Does not apply | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       |               |               |
| Unexpanded plastics up to 25 ft (7.6 m) with maximum 10 ft (3.0 m) clearance to ceiling   | Wet | Does not apply | 30 plus one level of in-rack sprinklers <sup>4</sup> | 20 plus one level of in-rack sprinklers <sup>4</sup> | 500 (1900)    | 2             |
|   | Dry | Does not apply | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       |               |               |
| Class IV commodities and unexpanded plastics up to 20 ft (6.1 m) with maximum 5 ft (1.5 m) clearance to ceiling   | Wet | Does not apply | 15   | Note 4   | 500 (1900)    | 2             |
|   | Dry | Does not apply | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       |               |               |
| Class IV commodities and unexpanded plastics up to 25 ft (7.6 m) with maximum 5 ft (1.5 m) clearance to ceiling   | Wet | Does not apply | 15 plus one level of in-rack sprinklers <sup>4</sup> | Note 4   | 500 (1900)    | 2             |
|   | Dry | Does not apply | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       |               |               |
| <b>On-end Storage of Roll Paper<sup>2</sup></b>   |     |                |  |  |               |               |
| Heavyweight paper in closed array, banded in open array, or banded or unbanded in a standard array, up to 26 ft (7.9 m) with maximum 34 ft (10.4 m) clearance to ceiling  | Wet | Does not apply | 15   | Note 4   |               |               |
|   | Dry | Does not apply | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       | 0<br>(Note 7) | 4<br>(Note 7) |
| Any grade of paper, except lightweight paper with stacks in closed array, or banded or unbanded in a standard array, up to 20 ft (6.1 m) with maximum 10 ft (3.0 m) clearance to ceiling  | Wet | Does not apply | 15   | Note 4   |               |               |
|   | Dry | Does not apply | 25   | Note 4   | 0<br>(Note 7) | 4<br>(Note 7) |
| Medium weight paper completely wrapped (sides and ends) in one or more layers of heavyweight paper, or lightweight paper in two or more layers of heavyweight paper, with closed array, banded in open array, or unbanded in a standard array, up to 26 ft (7.9 m) with maximum 34 ft (10.4 m) clearance to ceiling | Wet | Does not apply | 15   | Note 4   |               |               |
|   | Dry | Does not apply | Does not apply                                       | Does not apply                                       | 0<br>(Note 7) | 4<br>(Note 7) |
| <b>Record Storage</b>   |     |                |  |  |               |               |
| Paper records and/or computer tapes in multitier steel shelving up to 5 ft (1.5 m) in width and with aisles 30 in. (76 cm) or wider, without catwalks in the aisles, up to 15 ft (4.6 m) with maximum 5 ft (1.5 m) clearance to ceiling   | Wet | 15             | Note 4   | Note 4   | 500 (1900)    | 1½            |
|   | Dry | 25             | Note 4   | Note 4   |               |               |
| Same as above, but with catwalks of expanded metal or metal grid with minimum 50% open area in the aisles   | Wet | Does not apply | 15   | Note 4   | 500 (1900)    | 1½            |
|   | Dry | Does not apply | 15   | Note 4   |               |               |

## NOTES:

1. Open wood joist construction. Fully firestop each joist channel to its full depth at intervals not exceeding 20 ft (6.2 m). In unfirestopped open wood joist construction, or if firestops are installed at intervals not exceeding 20 ft (6.1 m), increase the minimum operating pressures of Table A-5-3.4 by 40 percent.
2. See NFPA 231, *Standard for General Storage*.
3. With rack storage, use conventional wood pallets only, no slave pallets.
4. The high pressure may be used, but the required number of design sprinklers may not be reduced from that required for the lower pressure.
5. See NFPA 231F, *Standard for the Storage of Roll Paper*.
6. Install in-rack sprinklers in accordance with NFPA 231C, *Standard for Rack Storage*.
7. Hose stream demands and water supply durations may vary for roll paper storage depending on local conditions. See NFPA 231F, *Standard for the Storage of Roll Paper*.

Table A-5-3.5 ESFR Sprinkler Data

| Type of Storage  | Commodity  | Maximum Height of Storage (ft) | Maximum Height See Note (ft) |
|--|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Single-, double-, and multiple-row and portable rack storage (no open-top containers or solid-piled or palletized storage) | Cartoned plastics (unexpanded or expanded) and Class I through IV commodities, all either encapsulated or unencapsulated | 25                             | 30                           |
| Roll paper on end, open/standard closed array, banded or unbanded  | Heavyweight paper  | 20                             | 30                           |
| Roll paper on end, open/standard closed array, banded or unbanded  | Mediumweight paper   | 20                             | 30                           |
| Aerosol storage  | See NFPA 30B   |                                |                              |

NOTE: The maximum height is to be measured to the underside of the roof deck or ceiling.

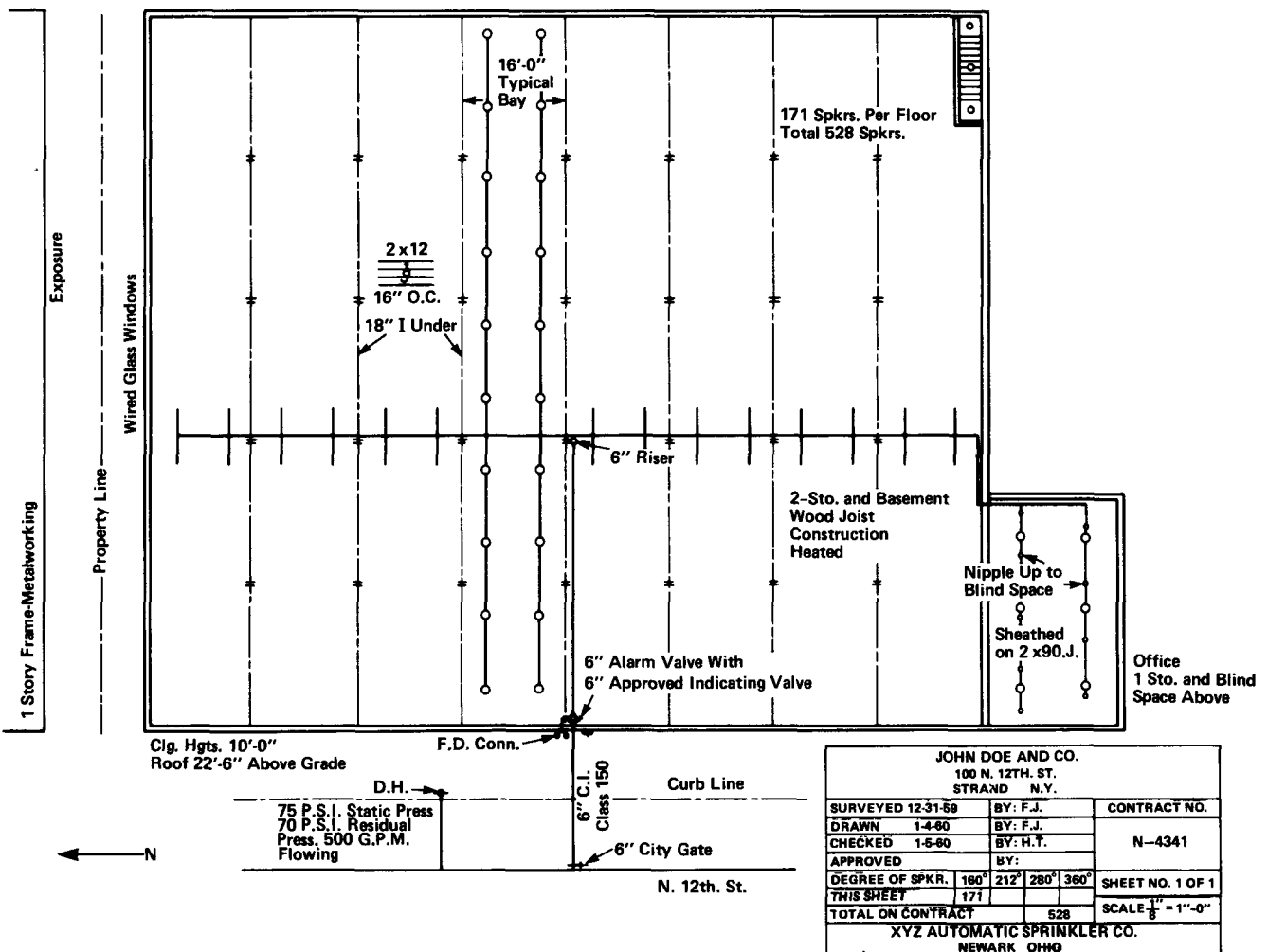


Figure A-6-1 Typical preliminary plan.

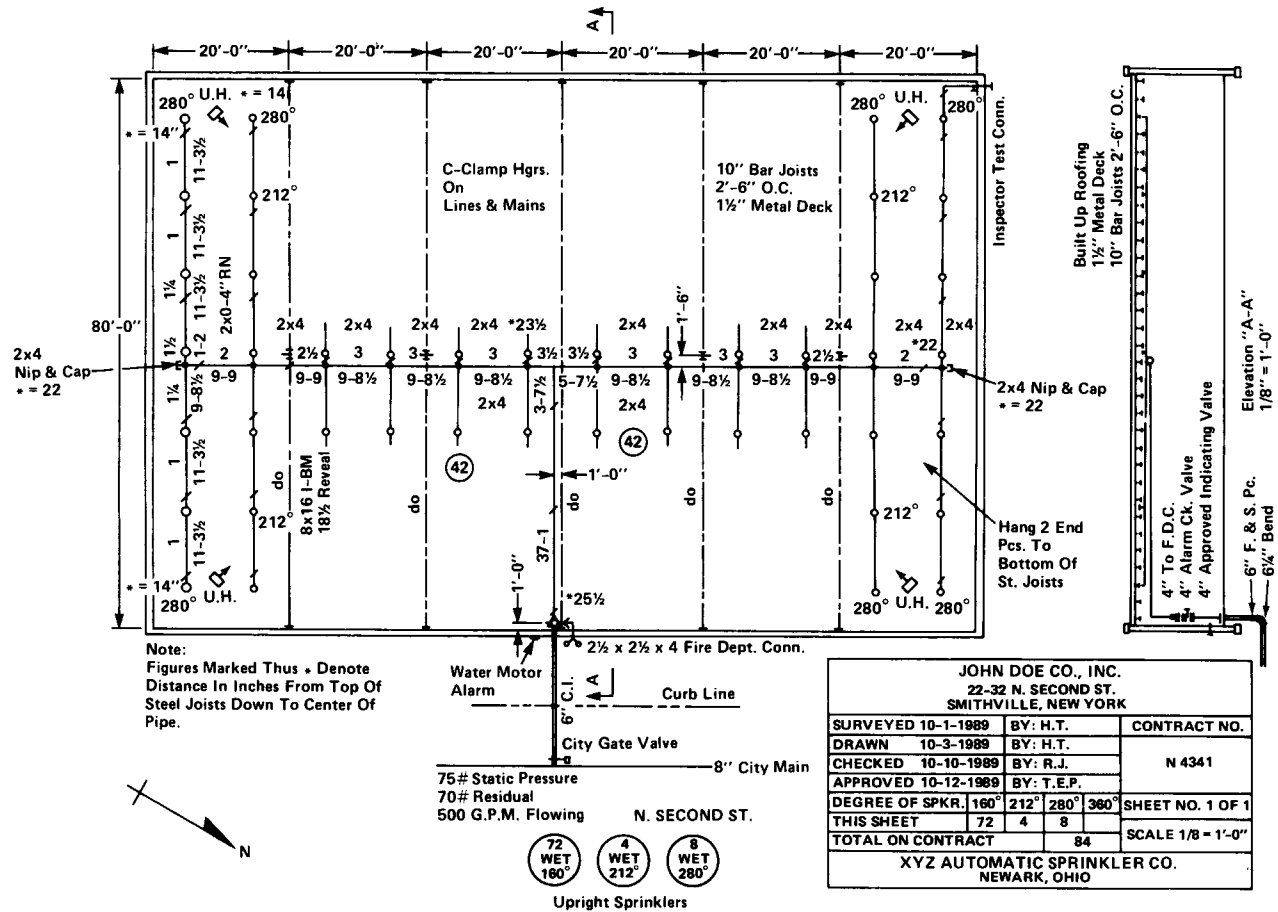


Figure A-6-1.1 Typical working plans.