



Benicia Fire Department – Fire Prevention Policies

Subject: EXIT AND EMERGENCY LIGHTING

Section: E

Effective Date: April 2, 2009

Standard E-502

Page: 1 of 3

Revised Date: July 1, 2015

Authority: Benicia Municipal Code Section 15.04.117, Uniform Fire Code Sections; 12.113, 12.114 and 25.113, Uniform Building Code Sections; 3313 and 3314, Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations Sections; 2-3312, 2-6101 and 2-6105.

DEFINITIONS:

APPROVED means acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION is the Benicia Building Department.

CCR is the California Code of Regulations

LISTED means 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.

N.E.C. mean the National Electrical Code, which is published by the National Fire Protection Association and is the nationally recognized standard for installation of electrical systems wiring and appurtenances.

SHALL indicates a mandatory requirement.

SHOULD indicates a recommendation, which is advised but not required.

U.B.C. is the Uniform Building Code

U.F.C. is the Uniform Fire Code

UNIT EQUIPMENT refers to an individual battery operated device for providing lighting for the purposes of egress from buildings in the event of a power failure either under normal circumstances or during an emergency.

1. General



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In addition to the requirements of Title 24 CCR, UBC, and UFC, the Building Official shall determine the necessity in providing battery operated emergency lighting in all normally occupied areas lacking sufficient natural lighting.

2. Units

A. Individual unit equipment shall conform to the following criteria:

- 1) Each unit shall have a rechargeable battery.
- 2) Each unit shall be provided with the means for charging and/or maintaining a charge on the storage battery.
- 3) Each unit shall have one or more lamps mounted on the unit and/or shall have provisions for remotely mounted lamps.
- 4) Each unit shall have a relaying device capable of energizing the lamps automatically upon the failure of the regular power supply to the unit equipment.

B. Unit equipment shall be permanently fixed in place (i.e., not portable) and shall have all wiring to each unit installed in accordance with the requirements on any of the wiring methods in Art. 300 of the National Electrical Code. Flexible cord-and-plug connection shall be permitted provided that the cord does not exceed three (3) feet (914mm) in length.

C. The branch circuit feeding the unit equipment shall be the same branch circuit as that serving the normal lighting in the area and connected ahead of any local switches. Emergency illumination fixtures that obtain power from unit equipment and are not part of the unit equipment shall be wired to the unit equipment as required by Sec. 700-9 and by one of the wiring methods of Article 300 of the National Electrical Code.

D. The unit shall be approved prior to installation by the Building Official.

E. The placement of each unit shall be determined by the Building Official.



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3. Batteries

The batteries shall be of suitable rating and capacity to supply and maintain at no less than 87.5% of the nominal battery voltage for the total lamp load associated with the unit for a period of the initial emergency illumination for a period of at least 1.5 hours, or the unit equipment shall supply and maintain not less than 60% of the initial emergency illumination for a period of at least 1.5 hours. Storage batteries, whether of the acid or alkali type, shall be designed and constructed to meet the requirements of emergency service.

4. Testing

The testing of the units shall be conducted by the occupant or owner to assure that the lighting unit is working properly on a regular basis. The fire department will inspect and test the unit during fire and life safety inspections.

This Standard is in reference to UBC Section 15.04.117 and UBC Chapter 33.