CAN/ULC S1001 – Standards for Integrated Systems Testing of Fire Protection and Life-Safety Systems

Frequently Asked Questions

What is new?

- The requirement that a new building be equipped with fire-protection and life-safety systems that are communicating and integrated with each other is not new.
- This requirement has been in effect since the 2010 National Building Code was introduced (see Sentence 3.2.4.6(1))
- What is new is that in the 2015 National Building Code, a new standard was introduced - *CAN/ULC S1001 Standards for Integrated Systems Testing of Fire Protection and Life-Safety Systems.*
    - This is a standard that outlined the methodology for the **Integrated Testing Coordinator** to verify and document all interconnections between these important systems.
- The impact is that there are now standards to follow and as a result, a **formal report confirming the integration of the systems** is required from the Integrated Testing Coordinator to the Authority Having Jurisdiction before a building can be occupied, even if only partially occupied.

What is in the report?

In the Standard, Subsection 7.3 indicates that the integrated testing coordinator is to prepare and deliver a report to the AHJ that contains:

- The integrated testing plan;
- Initial integrated testing forms;
- Re-test integrated testing forms; and
- Documentation provided as required in Subsection 5.3 which indicates:
    - Written confirmation from the design professionals that they have conducted acceptance testing that the fire protection and life-safety systems have been installed in accordance with the design and are ready for integrated fire protection and life-safety testing
    - Written confirmation from the installing contractors that the fire protection and life safety systems have been installed in accordance with the design and are ready for integrated fire protection and life-safety testing
    - Documentation from the verifying parties confirming that the fire protection and life safety system have been installed in accordance with the design
    - Confirmation of inspection by the local authorities responsible for enforcing CSA C22.1 Canadian Electrical code, Part 1 safety standards for electrical installations
    - Confirmation of inspection by the local authorities responsible for enforcing ASME A17.1/CSA B44 Safety code for elevators and escalators
    - Confirmation of implementation of occupant notification procedures and
    - Confirmation of implementation of alternate measure for ensuring occupant safety.

What is an Integrated Testing Coordinator?

Integrated Testing Coordinators are agents who are knowledgeable and experienced in the design, installation, and operation of fire protection and life safety systems in buildings. They have an understanding of:

- The codes and Standards that regulate the design and installation of fire protection and life-safety systems
- How individuals and integrated fire protection and life safety systems are designed to operate during normal operating conditions and emergency conditions.
- Methods for validating the intended functionality of integrated fire protection and life safety systems.

Integrated Testing Coordinators must be qualified professionals (such as professional engineers) who can confirm and seal a report that demonstrates the systems are functional as per the Standards.

Do Integrated Testing Coordinators need special licencing?

- Only if licencing or certifications are required by federal, provincial and/or other regulations apply or by contractual obligations.

When is the testing done?

The testing is done **before** a building is to be occupied or even partially occupied. All testing results must demonstrate that the fire protection and life safety systems are integrated.

Where can I find more information?

Documentation and fees for the CAN/ULC Standards can be found at the following link:

https://canada.ul.com/ulcstandards/