



Carbon Monoxide Supervising Station Response Standard

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Revision History

The following are changes made to this document, listed by revision.

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Carbon Monoxide Supervising Station Response Standard

1.0. Administration

1.1* Scope

This standard defines the response procedure for a supervising station to a Carbon Monoxide (CO) detector alarm transmitted to the supervising station. The standard applies to both residential and commercial installations.

1.2 General

1.2.1. The installation, test, and maintenance of a Carbon Monoxide alarm system shall be in accordance with NFPA 720 Standard for the Installation of Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detection and Warning Equipment.

1.2.2. The Supervising Station response procedure shall be in accordance with NFPA 720 Standard for the Installation of Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detection and Warning Equipment and this standard.

2.0. Referenced Publications.

2.1 General. The documents or portions thereof listed in this chapter are referenced within this standard and shall be considered part of the requirements of this document.

2.2. NFPA Publications. National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471

NFPA 720 Standard for the Installation of Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detection and Warning Equipment, 2009 Edition

2.3 Other Publications

None

3.0. Definitions

3.1 General. The definitions contained in this chapter shall apply to the terms used in this code. Where terms are not defined in this chapter or within another chapter, they shall be defined using their ordinarily accepted meanings within the context in which they are used. *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th edition, shall be the source for the ordinarily accepted meaning.

3.2 CSAA Official Definitions.

3.2.1 Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). An organization, office, or individual responsible for enforcing the requirements of a code or standard, or for approving equipment, materials, an installation, or a procedure.

3.2.2.* Emergency Response Agency. Organizations providing law enforcement, emergency medical, fire, rescue, communications, and related support services.

3.2.3 Shall. Indicates a mandatory requirement.

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

3.2.5 Standard. A document, the main text of which contains only mandatory provisions using the word “shall” to indicate requirements and which is in a form generally suitable for mandatory reference by another standard or code or for adoption into law. Non-mandatory provisions shall be located in an appendix or annex, footnote, or fine-print note and are not to be considered a part of the requirements of a standard.

3.3 General Definitions.

None

4.0* Supervising Station Procedure.

Unless otherwise required by the emergency response agency, upon receipt at the supervising station of a CO alarm signal, with or without restoral signal, the supervising station shall first call the premises and then proceed as shown below.

4.1.* If someone answers the telephone:

4.1.1. The occupants shall be instructed to leave the premises and move to fresh air.

4.1.2. The supervising station shall ask the following questions of the individual answering the telephone:

- a) Are all the occupants accounted for and are they out of the premises?
- b) Is anyone nauseous, ill, have a headache or dizzy?

4.1.3. The supervising station shall instruct the occupants not to re-enter the premises until cleared by the responding fire service.

4.1.4. The supervising station shall then immediately call the appropriate emergency response agency to inform them of the alarm. The emergency response agency shall be informed that the occupants answered the telephone, were told to leave the premises and of any reported symptoms.

4.2. If no one answers the telephone:

The supervising station shall then immediately call the appropriate emergency response agency and report that a CO alarm was received from a particular premises and were unable to reach an occupant.

4.3.* In the case of 4.2, after dispatch, the supervising station shall contact the responsible party(s) in accordance with the notification plan.

4.3.1 If an answering machine or voicemail is encountered:

4.3.1.1. The supervising station shall leave a message including the date, time and alarm event and instruct that all occupants evacuate the building.

4.3.1.2. The supervising station shall then immediately call the appropriate emergency response agency and report that a CO alarm was received from a particular premises and were unable to reach an occupant.

5.0* Premises Access.

All buildings with a CO system or detector monitored at a supervising station shall be equipped with a means of providing emergency access to all areas of the premises as required by the authority having jurisdiction.

ANNEX A
(Informative)

A.1.1. Carbon Monoxide (CO) Carbon Monoxide is fundamentally different risk than either smoke or fire. It is odorless; colorless; it is not a danger to loss of property but is a lethal danger to people and pets. The public is not currently educated in evaluating the risk or the effects of CO. Unlike smoke or fire our human senses are not able to assist in the evaluation process. CO is present at some level in many homes that have fossil fuel cooking or heating or have attached garages. To further compound the problem there is absolutely no ability to assess the actual risk from outside the premises and without special measuring apparatus it is difficult to determine risk and cause from inside the premises.

CO is dangerous in different ways because a smaller of amount of CO exposure over a very long period of time can be just as damaging as a larger exposure over a short period of time.

A.3.2.2. An Emergency Response Agency includes any public, governmental, private, industrial, or military organization that engages in the operation specified in the definition.

A.4.0. It is this standards recommendation that the occupants be asked to leave before the public fire service communications center is called by the supervising station. Certainly speaking to the premises and calling the public fire service communications center can happen simultaneously. CO presents unique circumstances where time is of the essence in saving lives by asking occupants to leave the premises.

A.4.1. The supervising station personnel ask these questions to ascertain the level of affect of CO exposure to give this important information to the responders. This information should not be interpreted but recorded and passed on to the public fire service communications center.

A.4.3. The supervising station would call its predefined call list.

A.5.0. Any means allowed by the authority having jurisdiction meets the intent of this paragraph. For example, a Knox Box key lock system could be employed as well as a door releasing system tied to the alarm when a CO detector is in alarm. This is to allow the responders to gain easy and quick access to the premises while minimizing or eliminating damage to the structure. When system is installed the customer needs to be advised that property damage could occur if lock box or other means is not provided or maintained.