

December 17, 2019

The following issue of TechNotes has been written by Mark Hopkins, P.E., Vice President of Engineering for the NFSA.

NFPA 200 - The New Hanging and Bracing Standard

A new standard (NFPA 200, Standard for Hanging and Bracing of Fire Suppression Systems) which will address hanging, support and bracing of all fire suppression systems is currently in development. The idea for the new standard was actually initiated after the 2016 edition of NFPA 13 was issued.

The chairman of this technical committee, James Biggins of TUV SUD America Inc./Global Risk Consultants Corporation, requested that the NFPA Standards Council consider formation of a new standard regarding hanging and bracing requirements for fire protection systems as part of the Annual 2018 code cycle leading to the 2019 edition of NFPA 13 (NFPA 13-2019). However, the Standards Council suggested that this request be held until after publication of NFPA 13-2019.

During the development of the NFPA 13-2019, a task group was established to investigate how many other standards were referencing NFPA 13 for support, hanging and bracing requirements. The task group had reported at least 11 other NFPA standards referred to NFPA 13 for installation requirements relating to hanging, support and bracing. However, the scope of this new standard has now been broadened to cover most if not all water-based, gaseous and hybrid fire suppression systems.

A pre-first draft meeting of the NFPA 200 technical committee was held in Savannah, Georgia last month to develop the scope of the document. The following list of NFPA standards relating to installation requirements for various fire suppression systems were discussed for inclusion in the scope of NFPA 200:

- *NFPA 11, Standard for Low-, Medium-, and High-Expansion Foam*

Upcoming Technical Tuesdays

January 21, 2020

2010 NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, Fire Protection Updates

Presented by Jeff Hugo,
Director of Codes,
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EOD will be closed Monday, 12/23 - Friday, 12/27 and will resume operation on Monday, 12/30.



View older issues in the "Member's Only" section

- *NFPA 12, Standard on Carbon Dioxide Extinguishing Systems*
- *NFPA 12A, Standard on Halon 1301 Fire Extinguishing Systems*
- *NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*
- *NFPA 13R, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Low-Rise Residential Occupancies*
- *NFPA 14, Standard for the Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems*
- *NFPA 15, Standard for Water Spray Fixed Systems for Fire Protection*
- *NFPA 16, Standard for the Installation of Foam-Water Sprinkler and Foam-Water Spray Systems*
- *NFPA 17, Standard for Dry Chemical Extinguishing Systems*
- *NFPA 17A, Standard for Wet Chemical Extinguishing Systems*
- *NFPA 20, Standard for the Installation of Stationary Pumps for Fire Protection*
- *NFPA 22, Standard for Water Tanks for Private Fire Protection*
- *NFPA 24, Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances*
- *NFPA 750, Standard on Water Mist Fire Protection Systems*
- *NFPA 770, Standard on Hybrid (Water and Inert Gas) Fire Extinguishing Systems*
- *NFPA 2001, Standard on Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems*
- *NFPA 2010, Standard for Fixed Aerosol Fire-Extinguishing Systems*

There is nothing to panic about since the requirements for hanging and bracing of sprinkler systems will likely remain relatively unchanged, barring the routine changes experienced from one edition to the next. The intention of this new standard is to provide appropriate requirements for other types of systems rather than having simple references to NFPA 13 which do not provide information necessary to properly hang and brace these systems.

The document will likely follow an Annual 2022 revision cycle but will depend on the ability to develop hanging, support and bracing requirements for the various systems. The document will extract requirements from NFPA 13 and NFPA 15 for this first edition. Then NFPA 13 and NFPA 15 will extract the requirements back into the subsequent editions of those documents.

It is anticipated that the first four chapters of the document will be consistent with all NFPA systems related standards, e.g. Administration, Referenced Publications, Definitions, and General Requirements. Two separate chapters will be provided for each type



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of system; one chapter will provide requirements for the hanging, support and anchorage of systems, and the other chapter will provide requirements for seismic protection of the systems. It is anticipated that requirements will be provided for water-based fire protection systems, gaseous based fire protection systems, water mist systems, hybrid systems, fire pump systems, private fire water tanks, private fire service mains, and foam system components.

This document will build upon the available requirements already established within current NFPA standards and will utilize information from other available resources where information does not exist in the NFPA standards. Task groups have been established to develop the requirements for the document. Many working group meetings in addition to the established first draft and second draft meetings will be held over the next couple of years in order to get this document ready for review at the technical meeting and consideration for publication in 2023 or 2024.

Change is always a challenge, so don't get hung up on the fact the requirements will be contained within a separate document. It is envisioned that the requirements for hanging, support and bracing will be extracted from NFPA 200 into NFPA 13 and the other standards identified. This will be handled similarly to the way underground piping requirements are extracted from NFPA 24 into NFPA 13. The development of this document should help to fill a void that has existed for some time. The development of hanging, bracing, support and anchorage requirements for all fire suppression systems and components should help us all to provide better fire suppression systems in the future.

EOD will be closed from December 23 - 27, 2019 and will reopen on December 30, 2019. Moving into 2020, there will be some changes in EOD policy based on member category. Additional information will be provided in the first issued TechNotes in 2020.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, and Happy New Year.



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Building Code**

January 9, 2020
Medford, OR

**Understanding, Applying and
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January 15, 2020
St. Louis, MO

**2010 NFPA 101, Life Safety Code,
Fire Protection Updates**

January 29, 2019
Online Seminar

Register Here

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