



BUILDINGS BULLETIN 2013-012

Technical

Supersedes: None

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Purpose: This document clarifies 2008 Code and 1968 Code requirements with regard to fire alarm equipment and panels, data gathering panels, terminal transmission boxes and all associated wiring in stair enclosures

Related Code/Zoning Section(s): BC 1019.1.2

Subject(s): Stair enclosure, penetrations; Fire alarm equipment, fire alarm panel, data gathering panels (DGP); Stair enclosure, data gathering panels (DGP); Stair enclosure, terminal transmission boxes (TTB); Stair enclosure, fire alarm wiring

I. **Effective date**

This bulletin shall take effect immediately.

II. **Background**

Section 1019.1.2 of the 2008 NYC Building Code (BC) prohibits various types of penetrations in exit stair enclosures and states:

“Penetrations into and openings through an exit enclosure are prohibited except for required exit doors, equipment and ductwork necessary for independent pressurization, sprinkler piping, standpipes, electrical raceway for Fire Department communication and electrical raceway serving the exit enclosure and terminating at a steel box not exceeding 16 square inches. Such penetrations shall be protected in accordance with Section 712. There shall be no penetrations or communication openings, whether protected or not, between adjacent exit enclosures.”

III. **New Buildings and Alterations to 2008 Code Buildings**

Where a new building or alteration is subject to Section BC 1019.1.2, the fire alarm panel, data gathering panels (DGP), terminal transmission boxes (TTB), and all associated fire alarm wiring shall not be installed in stair enclosures.

IV. **1968 Code or Prior Code Buildings**

The Department of Buildings will continue to accept the installation of fire alarm panels, data gathering panels (DGP), terminal transmission boxes (TTB), and all associated fire alarm wiring in exit enclosures in buildings constructed under the 1968 Code or prior codes.