

Fire Inspector's Guide

L-Occupancies

I. EXTINGUISHERS

- A. One Class 2-A rated fire extinguisher shall be provided for each 6000 square feet (560 m²) of light hazard fuel load or one Class 2-A extinguisher for each 3000 square feet (280 m²) of ordinary hazard fuel load. Travel distance shall not exceed 75 feet (25 m).T19 Sec. 568
- B. A 10-B rated extinguisher is required within 30 feet (10m), or a 20-B extinguisher is required within 50 feet (16.4 m), of Ordinary (moderate) flammable liquid hazards.T19 Sec. 569
- C. A 40-B rated extinguisher is required within 30 feet (10m), or a 80-B extinguisher is required within 50 feet (16.4 m), of extra (high) flammable liquids hazards.T19 Sec. 569
- D. Extinguishers shall be manually inspected at least monthly by the building owner or occupant, or electronically monitored.T19 Sec. 574.1
- E. Extinguishers shall be subjected to maintenance annually as described in Title 19 CCR. With exceptions, this type of service does not require internal examination of the extinguisher.T19 Sec. 575.1
- F. Fire extinguishers shall not be obstructed or obscured from view.T19 Sec. 567

II. MEANS OF EGRESS

- A. Every portion of a Group L occupancy having a floor area of 500 square feet (19 m²) or more shall have access to not less than two exits.CBC Sec. 443.6.1
- B. In the event of power supply failure, an emergency electrical system shall automatically illuminate aisles, stairways, corridors and other egress components in areas that require two or more exits.CFC Sec. 1006.3
- C. The common path of egress travel shall not exceed 75 feet.CFC Sec. 1014.3
- D. Exit doors serving areas with hazardous materials shall swing in the direction of exit travel.CBC Sec. 443.6.2
- E. Exit doors from areas with hazardous materials shall not be provided with a latch or lock unless it is panic hardware or fire exit hardware.CBC Sec. 443.6.3
- F. The fire resistance of fire corridors shall be one hour, with corridor doors required to be protected by a fire assembly having a rating of not less than ¾ hour with smoke gasketing, and shall be maintained self-closing or automatic closing.....CFC Sec. 1018.1 & CBC Sec. 443.6.5

III. HOUSEKEEPING

- A. An operational permit is required for the storage, handling or use of more than 5 gallons (19L) of flammable liquid indoors or 10 gallons (38 L) of flammable liquid outdoors.CFC Sec. 105.6.16
- B. An operational permit is required for the storage, handling or use of more than 25 gallons (95L) of combustible liquid indoors or 60 gallons (227 L) of combustible liquid outdoors.CFC Sec. 105.6.16

Fire Inspector's Guide

L-Occupancies (Continued)

HOUSEKEEPING (CONTINUED)

- C. The Percentage of Maximum allowable quantities for hazardous materials per laboratory suite for each story level within a building shall be in accordance with Table 443.7.3.1. CBC 443.7.3
- D. Existing Group L approved prior to January 1, 2008 shall not exceed the maximum allowable quantities listed in Tables 3416.1 and 3416.2.CBC Sec. 3416.7
- E. Storage shall be maintained 2 feet (610 mm) or more below the ceiling in nonsprinklered areas of buildings or a minimum of 18 inches (457 mm) below sprinkler deflectors in sprinklered areas of buildings.CFC Sec. 315.2.1

IV. ELECTRICAL

- A. Temporary wiring is allowed for a period not to exceed 90 days; such wiring is allowed for longer periods for construction, remodeling or repair of buildings or equipment.CFC Sec.605.9
- B. Extension cords and flexible cords shall not be used as a substitute for permanent wiring.CFC Sec. 605.5
- C. Multiplug adaptors, such as cube adaptors, unfused plug strips or other such devices not complying with the California Electrical Code shall be prohibited.CFC Sec. 605.4
- D. Relocatable power taps shall be permitted if of the grounded type, equipped with overcurrent protection and listed in accordance with UL 1363.CFC Sec. 605.4.1
- E. Relocatable power taps shall be directly connected to a permanently installed receptacle.CFC Sec. 605.4.2
- F. Appliance cords and extensions cords shall be maintained in good condition without splices, deterioration or damage.CFC Sec. 605.5.3
- G. Power taps and extension cords shall not be affixed to structures, extended through walls, ceilings or floors, or under doors or floor covering, nor subject to physical impact.CFC Sec. 605.4.3
- H. A working space of not less than 30 inches (762 mm) in width, 36 inches (914 mm) in depth and 78 inches (1981 mm) in height shall be provided in front of electrical service equipment. Storage is prohibited within the designated working space.CFC Sec. 605.3

V. MISCELLANEOUS

- A. An automatic fire protection system shall be installed throughout buildings housing Group L occupancies.CFC Sec. 903.2.16
- B. A manual fire alarm system shall be installed throughout buildings containing Group L occupancies. CFC Sec. 907.2.28
- C. Emergency response equipment shall be provided on each floor in an approved location with min. area of 50 square feet accessed from outside the laboratory suite and properly identified.CBC Sec. 443.4.4

Fire Inspector's Guide

L-Occupancies (Continued)

MISCELLANEOUS (CONTINUED)

- D. An emergency power system shall be provided that automatically supplies power to all required electrical equipment when the normal electrical supply system is interrupted.CBC Sec. 443.4.6
- E. Material Safety Data Sheets for all hazardous materials shall be either readily available on the premises as a paper copy, or where approved, shall be permitted to be readily retrievable through electronic access.;.....CFC Sec. 407.2
- F. Exterior doors and their function cannot be eliminated without approval. If approved, and door retains the appearance as functional, door shall be posted on the exterior "THIS DOOR BLOCKED".CFC Sec. 504.2