

March 9, 2006

Balanced Fire Protection Study Group Work Plan

Scope: To develop a process to assess what constitutes an appropriate balance of active and passive fire protection requirements with respect to meeting the intent of the IBC relative to safety to life and property from fire and safety to fire fighters and emergency responders.

Goals/Objectives

1. To identify the code requirements applicable to active and passive fire protection
2. Define terms including, but not limited to:
active fire protection
balanced fire protection design
passive fire protection
3. Identify the parameters which constitute levels of fire safety
4. Develop a methodology to assess the parameters for the purpose of determining the levels of fire safety. It is anticipated that the methodology will include the following:
 - 4a. Establish benchmarks against which levels of fire safety will be evaluated
 - 4b. Assess the levels of fire safety achieved using different components and/or systems of active and passive fire protection using the methodology developed per objective #4, against the benchmark established in #4a
 - 4c. Determine code requirements to achieve intended levels of fire safety

Proposed Tasks

1. Finalize scope and goals/objectives
2. Define terms
3. Id code requirements
4. Identify the parameters which constitute levels of safety
5. Identify/research methodologies that can be used to determine the levels of fire safety. It is anticipated that a suitable methodology will establish benchmarks against which levels of fire safety will be evaluated.

To do when 5 is done

6. Establish the methodology to be used
7. Establish a task group of stakeholders to implement the methodology identified in item #6

To do when 7 is done

8. Develop fire scenarios for the methodology identified in item #6
9. Completion of a comparative matrix by interested parties for the subject matter to be considered.
10. Select scenarios, apply the methodology and evaluate the results.
11. Report findings and make recommendations to the CTC.