

Code Technology Committee
Area of Study – Carbon Monoxide Alarms

2007/2008 Cycle
Code changes related to the CTC area of study noted above

The following are code changes related to the CTC Carbon Monoxide Area of Study that will be considered at the 2007/2008 Code Development Hearings in Palm Springs, California.

RB 71: Page 1

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RB71–07/08

R313, R313.1.1 (New), R313.1.2 (New), R313.1.3 (New), Chapter 43 (New)

Proponent: Roger R. Evans, Park City Municipal Corporation, representing Utah Chapter of ICC

1. Revise section title as follows:

SECTION R313
SMOKE ALARMS

2. Add new text as follows:

R313.1.1 Carbon monoxide alarms. In new construction, dwelling units within which fuel-fired appliances are installed shall be provided with an approved carbon monoxide alarm installed outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedroom(s).

R313.1.2 Where required-existing dwellings. In existing dwellings, where interior alterations, repairs, fuel-fired appliance replacements of additions requiring a permit occur, or where one or more sleeping rooms are added or created, carbon monoxide alarms shall be provided in accordance with Section 313.1.1.

R313.1.3 Alarm requirements. The required carbon monoxide alarms shall be clearly audible in all bedrooms over background noise levels with all intervening doors closed. Carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed as complying with UL 2034 and shall be installed in accordance with this code and the manufacturer’s installation instructions.

(Renumber subsequent sections)

3. Add standard to Chapter 43 as follows:

UL
2034-96 Standard for Single and Multiple Station Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Reason: According to the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), carbon monoxide is the leading cause of accidental poisoning deaths in America. Over 1,500 people die annually due to accidental carbon monoxide exposure and an additional 10,000 seek medical attention. www.homesafe.com

Cost Impact: The code change proposal will increase the cost of construction from between \$50.00 to \$300.00 per dwelling unit.

Analysis: The standard proposed for inclusion in the code, UL 2034, complies with ICC criteria for referenced standards given in Section 3.6 of Council Policy #CP 28.

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FG48-07/08

621.7 (New)

Proponent: Tom Lariviere, Fire Department, Madison, MS, representing Joint Fire Service Review Committee

Add new text as follows:

621.7 Carbon monoxide alarm. A listed carbon monoxide alarm shall be installed in each room that contains an unvented room heater. Carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

Reason: This proposal is designed to provide a life saving device in areas where fuel-fired heaters are utilized. There have been incidents where the occupants have been overcome by carbon monoxide as a result of poorly or improperly operating heaters.

This proposal does not require CO detectors in all buildings, but only in those buildings which have an unvented heater installed as a permanent appliance. The unvented appliances have a high susceptibility to producing carbon monoxide when the combustion is not quite balanced. This proposal will require a CO detector when these heaters are installed and the potential need for the detector has been demonstrated.

Cost Impact: The code change proposal will increase the cost of construction.