

CHAPTER 69A-46
FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM CONTRACTORS AND SYSTEMS

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69A-46.001 Scope.

The provisions of this part shall apply to those individuals wishing to be qualified by the State Fire Marshal as a contractor of fire protection systems in this state pursuant to the provisions of Section 633.521, F.S.

Rulemaking Authority 633.01, 633.517(1) FS. Law Implemented 633.521, 633.524, 633.534 FS. History—New 10-14-86, Formerly 4A-46.001.

69A-46.010 Submission of the Application.

(1) The applicant shall submit an application on a form furnished by the division which shall conform with Section 633.534, F.S.

(2) The application shall be accompanied by a fee as prescribed in Section 633.524, F.S.

(3)(a) As a prerequisite to challenging the examination as a Contractor I, II, or III, the applicant shall provide evidence of four (4) years proven experience in the employment of a Contractor I, II, or III, or a combination of experience and education equivalent thereto.

1. "Experience in the employment of a contractor", as required by Section 633.521(3), F.S., must be gained from full-time employment by a contractor licensed as provided in Section 633.521, F.S., relating to technical areas. For purposes of this rule chapter, "technical areas" means those activities engaged in by a contractor and participated in by the applicant which provide experience in laying out, fabricating, installing, inspecting, altering, repairing, or servicing fire protection systems. For purposes of this rule chapter, four (4) years proven experience as a certified plumbing contractor, licensed pursuant to the provisions of Section 489.115, F.S., may be offered toward the experience requirements for a Contractor I or II and shall be considered equivalent to two (2) years proven experience in the employment of a contractor. A certified plumbing contractor shall offer no more than 4 years as a certified plumbing contractor toward the 4 years experience requirement in Section 633.521, F.S. The applicant's experience must be verified by the contractor employing the applicant. The required verification shall be in the form of a letter from the employing contractor, on company stationery, attesting to the applicant's duties, the kinds of jobs he worked on; his dates of employment; and any other information reasonably calculated to provide the division with an informed understanding of the applicant's work experience. An applicant offering self-employment experience shall provide verification in the form of letters from customers, and others familiar with his work. It is the applicant's responsibility to furnish the required verification. The experience will be evaluated to determine an applicant's qualifications for the class of certificate requested; or,

2. The division will accept a current NICET Level III or IV certification as a Fire Protection Engineering Technician in the subfield of Automatic Sprinkler System Layout, for contractor I and II applicants, and will accept a current NICET Level III or IV certification as a Fire Protection Engineering Technician in the subfield of Special Hazards System Layout, for Contractor III applicants, issued by the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies in Alexandria, Virginia; or,

3. The applicant can provide evidence of a combination of experience and education equivalent to four (4) years proven experience in the employment of a contractor. Acceptable education shall include, but not be limited to, a bachelor degree from a four (4) year college or university with a major in mechanical engineering, civil engineering, fire science engineering technology, or equivalent coursework; or an associate degree (2 years) with a major in fire science engineering technology or fire protection engineering technology. The applicant must furnish official transcripts to substantiate all degrees and coursework. The curriculum,

degree, date degree awarded, and all engineering, fire science, and fire protection courses must be clearly identified on the transcripts. Acceptable experience to combine with the education offered shall be provided in the same form as required under subparagraph 1., above. For purposes of combining education and work experience, the number of hours worked in part-time employment will be counted as the appropriate percentage of full-time employment.

4.a. Applicants for certification as a Contractor I who are offering 4 years proven experience as a certified plumbing contractor as the equivalent of 2 years proven experience in the employment of a contractor shall combine that experience with a NICET Level III or IV certificate; or with 18 credit hours from a 4-year college or university, or a junior or community college in courses which teach the material in the National Fire Protection Association standards on which the applicant will be tested; or with other equivalent coursework.

b. Applicants for certification as a Contractor II who are offering 4 years proven experience as a certified plumbing contractor as the equivalent of 2 years proven experience in the employment of a contractor shall combine that experience with a NICET Level III or IV certificate; or with 15 credit hours from a 4-year college or university, or a junior or community college in courses which teach the material in the National Fire Protection Association standards on which the applicant will be tested; or with other equivalent coursework.

(b) As a prerequisite to challenging the examination as a Contractor IV, the applicant shall provide evidence of two (2) years proven experience in the employment of a Contractor I, II, or IV, or a combination of equivalent education and experience, which combination need not include experience in the employment of a contractor. For purposes of combining education and experience, education in the areas described in subparagraph (a)3., above, including at least 3 credit hours from a 4-year college or university or junior or community college in courses which teach the material in the National Fire Protection Association standards on which the applicant will be tested; or other equivalent coursework; and experience in the areas described in subparagraph (a)1., above, shall be provided. In addition, the division will accept a current NICET Level III or IV Certification as a Fire Protection Engineering Technician in the subfield of Automatic Sprinkler System Layout, issued by the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies in Alexandria, Virginia.

(c) As a prerequisite to challenging the examination as a Contractor V, the applicant shall provide evidence of:

1. Licensing as a certified underground utility contractor, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 489, F.S., which shall be submitted in the form of a copy of the license issued by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation, accompanied by a statement that the applicant certifies that he is the person named on the license; or

2. Four years experience in the employment of an individual licensed as a certified underground utility contractor or plumbing contractor pursuant to the provisions of Section 489.115, F.S., which shall be submitted in the form of a letter, on company stationery, signed by the certified underground utility contractor or plumbing contractor, attesting to the applicant's duties; the kinds of jobs he worked on; his dates of employment; and any other information reasonably calculated to provide the division with an informed understanding of the applicant's work experience; or

3. A combination of education and experience equivalent to four (4) years proven experience in the employment of a certified underground utility contractor or plumbing contractor. For purposes of combining education and experience, education in the areas described in paragraph (a)3., above, including at least 3 credit hours from a 4-year college or university or junior or community college in courses which teach the material in the National Fire Protection Association standards on which the applicant will be tested; or other equivalent coursework; and experience in the areas described in subparagraph (a)1., or subparagraph (c)1. or 2., above, shall be provided.

(d) For all classes of contractor applicants the division will accept other experience and education combinations which are equivalent to those described above.

(4) The applicant shall not be approved to challenge a competency examination unless the applicant has substantiated employment experience or a combination of employment and education. The applicant is encouraged to submit documentation of all relevant experience and education since each instance of a combination prerequisite must necessarily be decided individually. When the review of the application has been completed the applicant will be notified in writing whether or not he has qualified to challenge the competency examination in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 120, F.S.

Rulemaking Authority 633.01, 633.517(1) FS. Law Implemented 633.521, 633.524, 633.534 FS. History—New 10-14-86, Amended 12-21-88, 10-20-93, Formerly 4A-46.010, Amended 5-18-08.

69A-46.015 Testing.

(1) An applicant who has been qualified to challenge an examination will be notified in writing of available examination dates and examination locations. Upon receipt of a written request for a specific examination date, the applicant will be sent a notice of the exam date, time and location at least seven days prior to the scheduled exam. The applicant will be expected to challenge the exam on that day unless he or she submits a written waiver of his or her right to challenge the exam on that day and requests a later date.

(2) The examinations are multiple choice and open book. The examinations are based on relevant Florida and federal laws pertaining to the construction industry, safety standards, administrative procedures, pertinent technical data, and on standards of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). An applicant shall be notified of the study material required for the contractor class for which he has applied.

(3) Each applicant must provide his or her own NFPA standards and other resource materials for use during the exam. Applicants will not be allowed to share standards or materials during an examination.

(4) NFPA standards may be obtained from the National Fire Protection Association, Batterymarch Park, Quincy, Massachusetts 02215. Sources for other materials will be listed on the information sheet supplied to each applicant before the examination.

(5) The applicant must bring positive identification, including identification containing the applicant's photograph, to the exam.

(6) Examination grades and papers are confidential. Applicants will be notified of examination scores in writing only.

(7) Reexaminations will be scheduled no sooner than 30 days after any administration of an examination to an applicant. Each examination scheduled requires an examination fee as provided in Section 633.524, F.S.

(8) Upon successful completion of a competency examination an applicant must submit evidence of insurance coverage meeting the requirements of Section 633.521, F.S.

(9) Upon satisfactory completion of the application, testing and insurance requirements, a certificate will be issued.

Rulemaking Authority 633.01, 633.517(1) FS. Law Implemented 633.521 FS. History—New 10-14-86, Amended 12-21-88, 8-1-90, 10-20-93, 10-2-96, 6-8-98, 11-21-01, Formerly 4A-46.015, Amended 5-18-08.

69A-46.016 Insurance Requirements.

(1) The Fire Protection System Contractor I, II, III, IV, or V licensed pursuant to Section 633.521, F.S., shall provide evidence of current and subsisting insurance coverage meeting the requirements of Section 633.521, F.S., to the Regulatory Licensing Section on Form DFS-K3-25, Certificate of Insurance Fire Protection System Contractor, revised and dated 5-18-08, as adopted and incorporated herein by reference. This form is available from the Regulatory Licensing Section, Bureau of Fire Prevention, 200 East Gaines Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0342.

(2) The licensed Fire Protection System Contractor I, II, III, IV, or V shall be responsible to ensure that current and subsisting insurance coverage meets the requirements of Section 633.521, F.S., and that an original signed Form DFS-K3-25, Certificate of Insurance is on file with the Regulatory Licensing Section.

(3) Failure to provide evidence of insurance coverage within 30 days of the expiration date of the policy or within 30 days of a notice to provide evidence of coverage shall result in administrative proceedings pursuant to Section 624.4211, F.S., as provided in subsection (4) of Section 633.521, F.S. and pursuant to Section 633.547, F.S.

Rulemaking Authority 633.01, 633.517(1), 633.521(4) FS. Law Implemented 633.521(4) FS. History—New 10-20-93, Amended 11-21-01, Formerly 4A-46.016, Amended 5-18-08.

69A-46.0165 Submission of the Application for a Water-Based Fire Protection Inspector Permit.

(1) An individual employed by a Fire Protection System Contractor I or II who will be inspecting water based fire protection systems must be issued a permit by the State Fire Marshal in accordance with Section 633.521, F.S., to conduct such work.

(2) The applicant for a Water-Based Fire Protection Inspector Permit shall submit an application on Form DFS-K3-1794, "Application for Water-Based Fire Protection Inspector Permit," (Effective: 5-18-08), incorporated herein by reference, and available from the Bureau of Fire Prevention, Regulatory Licensing Section, 200 East Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0342.

(3) The application shall be accompanied by a fee as prescribed in Section 633.524(1), F.S.

(4) The application shall be accompanied by two current full-face color passport size photographs, and a photocopy of the applicant's driver's license or identification card issued by the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. Each photograph shall have the name of the applicant printed legibly on the back of the photograph. Each application shall be

accompanied by evidence that the applicant holds a NICET Level II certification in a subfield of Inspection and Testing of Water-Based Systems. As an alternative to holding a NICET Level II certification, the applicant may provide proof of equivalent education and training approved by the State Fire Marshal and meeting the criteria outlined in this rule.

(5) Upon submission of a completed application, fee, and photographs, a permit and photo identification card will be issued to the applicant.

(6) Permittees must have a valid and subsisting permit upon their persons at all times while engaging in the inspection, testing, and maintenance of fire protection systems. The permit must be produced upon demand. A permittee may perform only those services authorized under the Fire Protection System Contractor I or II employing such permittee.

(7) A permit shall be valid solely for use by the holder thereof in his or her employment by the licensee under whose license the permit was issued. A permittee changing his or her employer or place of employment shall obtain a new permit under the license of the holder at the new place of employment. The licensee shall notify the Regulatory Licensing Section, in writing, of the termination of a permittee within fifteen days of the termination. A permit and photo identification card of an individual leaving the employment of a Fire Protection System Contractor I or II becomes void and inoperative on the date of termination, pursuant to Section 633.521, F.S.

(8) A Water-Based Fire Protection Inspector permittee must qualify and maintain a NICET Level II certification in a subfield of Inspection and Testing of Water-Based Systems as a condition to renewal.

(9) Courses and certifications equivalent to NICET certification shall be reviewed and approved by the State Fire Marshal. The State Fire Marshal shall approve any course or certification which meets the criteria provided in this rule. Requests for approval shall be submitted to the State Fire Marshal in writing to the address in subsection (2). All requests shall include, at a minimum:

- (a) Passage scores and rates;
- (b) An educational agenda;
- (c) Required number of classroom hours;
- (d) A work experience requirement and system of verification of that experience;
- (e) Description of the minimum standards covered;
- (f) Coverage of technical aspects;
- (g) Formulation of a test bank and sample exam.

(10) Courses may include both NICET Level I and NICET Level II certification equivalents or may include only a NICET Level II certification equivalent.

(11) Courses may be presented to the Florida Fire Safety Board for an advisory opinion as to the sufficiency of any equivalent course or certification.

Rulemaking Authority 633.01, 633.517(1), 633.521(11) FS. Law Implemented 633.521(4), (8), (10), (11), 633.524(1), 633.537(4) FS. History—New 5-18-08, Amended 9-25-12.

69A-46.017 Required Continuing Education.

(1) Fire Protection System Contractors shall complete a continuing education course or combination of courses in compliance with Section 633.537, F.S., within each biennial license period, except that a contractor who completes the competency examination and receives a license issued for 1 year or less shall be required to complete a continuing education course or combination of courses prorated at 50 percent of the required hours for a biennial license.

(2) The continuing education course or combination of courses shall be in a fire protection discipline related to the Certificate of Competency held by the Fire Protection System Contractor. All licensed Fire Protection System Contractors are required to complete an approved course or courses providing one hour of workplace safety, one hour of business practices, and one hour of a workers' compensation as part of the required continuing education for each biennial renewal period.

(3) The course or combination of courses shall be conducted by persons approved by the Regulatory Licensing Section. Approval of such persons shall be based on the person's training, experience and expertise in fire protection under Florida law. The instructor must be qualified by education or experience to teach the course, or parts of a course, to which the instructor is assigned. Any person with a four year college or graduate degree is qualified to teach any course in his or her field of study. Any state certified fire protection system contractor with at least five years' experience may teach any technical course within the scope of the contractor license held; however, no contractor whose license is suspended or revoked as a result of administrative action shall teach or serve as a continuing education instructor. The Regulatory Licensing Section is not permitted to reject a course based upon the

proposed instructor, but is permitted to approve a course contingent on certification that all instructors meet those minimum requirements before conducting the course and before advertising that the course is approved for continuing education credit.

(4) Written instructional materials and any audio-visual aids must provide instruction relevant to fire protection under Florida law.

(5) The course or combination of courses shall be approved by the Regulatory Licensing Section. The Regulatory Licensing Section shall approve any course, seminar, or conference in the technical areas provided by any university, community college, vocational-technical center, public or private school, firm, association, person, corporation or entity which meets the criteria provided in this rule.

(6) The number of contact hours assigned to any course shall be determined by the Regulatory Licensing Section based on the course content and length of the course.

(a) Requests for approval shall be submitted on Form DI4-1239 (3/00), "Request for Approval of Fire Protection System Contractor Continuing Education Coursework" as adopted and incorporated herein by reference.

(b) Forms are available from and submissions shall be sent to: Regulatory Licensing Section, 200 East Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0342.

(c) Each Fire Protection System Contractor shall be notified by the Regulatory Licensing Section, in writing, if the coursework does not satisfy the continuing education requirement in Section 633.537, F.S. No notification will be given over the telephone.

(d) The application shall include the total number of classroom or interactive distance learning hours, the course syllabus, a detailed outline of the contents of the course, and the name and qualifications of all instructors. The Regulatory Licensing Section shall approve continuing education courses which appropriately relate to the technical skills required of fire protection contractors and contain sufficient educational content to improve the quality of the contractor's performance and are taught by qualified instructors. Continuing education coursework approval shall be valid for two years from the date of issue, provided that no substantial change is made in the approved coursework.

(e) The number of classroom hours must be devoted to course content and does not include registration periods, meals, and keynote speakers or similar nonsubstantive time periods.

(f) Examples of courses which will be approved if the criteria and procedures of this rule are met:

1. Florida Fire Sprinkler Association meetings;
2. American Fire Sprinkler Association meetings;
3. NFPA meetings and seminars; and
4. Training sessions conducted by manufacturers.

(g) The Regulatory Licensing Section shall approve continuing education courses within 90 days from the date of receipt. Such approval will be based upon the submission of coursework which relates to the technical skills of the fire protection system contractors and which contains educational content to improve the quality of work being performed.

(h) Each approved course will be assigned a course number and the course will be identified by course title as submitted and the number of continuing education hours awarded. A listing of approved courses will be available from the Regulatory Licensing Section. The course list will include the course number, the course title, the course submitter, and the type of course.

(i) Within 90 days of the conclusion of each approved course, the organization or person offering the course shall inform the Regulatory Licensing Section that the course was completed and shall supply the Regulatory Licensing Section with a sign-in sheet or roster. The sign-in sheet or roster shall contain:

1. The course name;
2. The course number;
3. The course provider;
4. The date the course was offered;
5. The duration of the course;
6. The contractor's name;
7. The contractor's license number;
8. The contractor's signature.

For interactive distance learning courses, in lieu of the original sign-in sheet required above, the course provider shall maintain and provide a record of the registration login, course access log, and course completion, which shall include the information required in subparagraphs 1. through 7., above. In lieu of providing a document bearing the contractor's signature, the course provider shall

provide the contractor's identity verification data which shall include the contractor's password and the contractor's mother's maiden name.

(j) Each person who completes an approved course shall be issued a certificate of completion by the course provider. The certificate of completion shall contain the name of the person who completed the course, the course provider's name, the course name as approved by the Regulatory Licensing Section, the course number, the date the course was taken, and the number of continuing education hours awarded for the course as approved for the course by the Regulatory Licensing Section. The course provider shall maintain a list of the names and license number of each person who completes each course conducted by the course provider for four years from the date of the course.

(7) Each Fire Protection System Contractor is responsible for attending the appropriate course or courses and for maintaining proof of completion of the course or courses. Such proof shall be in the form of copies of certificates of completion awarded. The Regulatory Licensing Section will not accept any proof of completion except that submitted in accordance with subsection (8) below.

(8) Prior to the annual expiration of the Certificate of Competency, the Fire Protection System Contractor shall submit proof of completion of the required course or courses to the Regulatory Licensing Section. Submissions shall be submitted on a "Fire Protection System Contractor Continuing Education Coursework" form, DFS-K3-1240 (5-18-08) as adopted and incorporated herein by reference. Forms are available from and submissions shall be sent to: Regulatory Licensing Section, 200 East Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0342. Each Fire Protection System Contractor will be notified by the Regulatory Licensing Section, in writing, if the coursework does not satisfy the continuing education requirement in Section 633.537, F.S. No notification will be given over the telephone.

(9) Any Fire Protection System Contractor who does not complete the continuing education requirement shall not have his or her certificate renewed. If the Fire Protection System Contractor is not renewed, the contractor shall perform no work for which a license is required. A contractor wishing to become licensed again shall meet the requirements of Section 633.521, F.S.

(10) Effective July 1, 2005, a Water-Based Fire Protection Inspector shall complete 8 hours of approved continuing education in compliance with Section 633.537, F.S., which are preparatory curriculum for NICET II certification and shall support the general and special work elements for NICET II certification. An additional 16 hours of continuing education must be completed between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2008.

(11) A Water-Based Fire Protection Inspector shall complete 16 hours of approved continuing education coursework in compliance with Section 633.537, F.S., within each biennial license period.

Rulemaking Authority 633.01, 633.517(1) FS. Law Implemented 633.521(10), 633.537(4) FS. History—New 10-2-96, Amended 6-18-97, 6-8-98, 11-21-01, Formerly 4A-46.017, Amended 5-18-08.

69A-46.025 Scope.

The provisions of this part shall apply to the lay out, fabrication, installation, inspection, alteration, repair, or servicing on the fire protection systems.

Rulemaking Authority 633.01 FS. Law Implemented 633.021(2), (3), (4), (5), (7), (16), (20), 633.082, 633.541, 633.547, 633.551, 633.554 FS. History—New 12-21-88, Formerly 4A-46.025.

69A-46.030 Definitions.

(1) For purposes of this part, the definitions in Rule 69A-46.005, F.A.C., shall have the same meaning as in Part I.

(2) In addition, the following term shall have the following meaning: "Registered professional engineer" shall mean an individual who is registered to engage in the practice of engineering as prescribed in Chapter 471, F.S.

Rulemaking Authority 633.01 FS. Law Implemented 633.021 FS. History—New 12-21-88, Amended 8-1-90, Formerly 4A-46.030.

69A-46.035 Standards of the National Fire Protection Association to be Complied With.

The following standards of the National Fire Protection Association which are adopted in Rule Chapter 69A-3, F.A.C., including the editions as adopted therein, shall be complied with by all those holding certificates of competency as fire protection system contractors pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 633, F.S.:

- (1) NFPA 11, Standard for Low Expansion Foam.
- (2) NFPA 11A, Standard for Medium and High Expansion Foam.
- (3) NFPA 12, Standard on Carbon Dioxide Extinguishing Systems.
- (4) NFPA 12A, Standard on Halon 1301 Fire Extinguishing Systems.
- (5) NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems.
- (6) NFPA 13D, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes.
- (7) NFPA 14, Standard for the Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems.
- (8) NFPA 15, Standard for Water Spray Fixed Systems for Fire Protection.
- (9) NFPA 16, Standard for the Installation of Foam-Water Sprinkler Systems and Foam-Water Spray Systems.
- (10) NFPA 17, Standard for Dry Chemical Extinguishing Systems.
- (11) NFPA 17A, Standard on Wet Chemical Extinguishing Systems.
- (12) NFPA 20, Standard for the Installation of Centrifugal Fire Pumps.
- (13) NFPA 22, Standard for Water Tanks for Private Fire Protection.
- (14) NFPA 24, Standard for the Installation of Private Fire Service Mains and Their Appurtenances.
- (15) NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm Code.
- (16) NFPA 96, Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations. Section 7-2.2 of NFPA 96 applies prospectively only. Existing installations are permitted to remain in place subject to the approval of the authority having jurisdiction.
- (17) NFPA 214, Standard for Water Cooling Towers.
- (18) NFPA 231D, Standard for Storage of Rubber Tires.
- (19) NFPA 232, Standard for Protection of Records.
- (20) NFPA 409, Standard on Aircraft Hangars.
- (21) NFPA 13R, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Residential Occupancies up to and including four Stories in Height.
- (22) NFPA 25, Standard for the inspection, testing, and maintenance of Water-based Fire Protection Systems, except that quarterly flow tests will be required for those systems supplied by a municipal water supply.
- (23) NFPA 2001, Standard on Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems.
- (24) NFPA 230, Standard on Fire Protection of Storage.

Rulemaking Authority 633.01 FS. Law Implemented 633.01, 633.065, 633.082 FS. History—New 12-21-88, Amended 7-19-89, 8-1-90, 10-20-93, 10-2-96, 6-8-98, 11-21-01, Formerly 4A-46.035.

69A-46.040 Installation Requirements for Automatic Sprinkler Systems Employing Water as the Extinguishing Agent.

(1) Fire protection system contractors installing an automatic sprinkler system employing water as the extinguishing agent shall supervise and be responsible for the complete system in accordance with the provisions of Section 633.539, F.S. The contractor shall be responsible to installing the complete system in compliance with the National Fire Protection Association standards adopted pursuant to Rule Chapter 69A-3, F.A.C., except that if a contractor installs the underground portion of the system from the point of service to the aboveground connection flange in compliance with Section 633.539(3), F.S., he or she shall be responsible for that portion of the system, and the Contractor installing the remaining portion shall be responsible for the system from the point of connection to the underground throughout the remainder of the system.

(2) The complete system begins at the point-of-service as defined in Section 633.021(16), F.S., and ends at the most remote head inside the facility.

(3) In order to ensure that sufficient water is available at the point-of-service to provide the water inside the facility as required by the plans, the contractor who installs the underground portion shall be responsible for conducting the acceptance tests required by NFPA 13 and shall personally, sign and maintain on file the Contractor's Material and Test Certificate for Underground Piping as

specified in NFPA 13, as adopted in Rule Chapter 69A-3, F.A.C. If the above ground pipe is installed by a contractor other than the one who installed the underground, the contractor shall be responsible to obtain a copy of the underground certificate from the underground contractor and maintain it on file before connection to the underground is made. If the contractor is unable to obtain the certificate, the contractor shall notify the Regulatory Licensing Section.

(4) Upon completion of the final installation of the aboveground piping, the contractor shall conduct the tests and sign and maintain on file the Contractor's Material and Test Certificate for Aboveground Piping as specified in NFPA 13, as adopted in Rule 69A-46.035, F.A.C.

(5) Failure to complete and maintain the two certificates described in subsections (3) and (4) above shall be grounds for disciplinary action as violations of Section 633.539, F.S.

(6) The contractor whose name appears on the application for the building permit shall be responsible for the acceptance tests which are required in NFPA 13. The contractor shall complete all portions of the Contractor's Material and Test Certificate(s) that are related to the system being tested. The contractor shall sign and date the test certificates. In cases where there is no building permit, the contractor that supervised the installation shall be responsible for the performance of these duties.

(7) The contractor shall maintain on file all Contractor's Material and Test Certificates, and shall provide such to the State Fire Marshal upon his request.

(8) The contractor shall complete and attach to the system a tag as described in Rule 69A-46.041, F.A.C.

Rulemaking Authority 633.01 FS. Law Implemented 553.79(6), 633.065, 633.547(2)(e) FS. History—New 12-21-88, Amended 8-1-90, 10-20-93, 11-21-01, Formerly 4A-46.040, Amended 5-18-08.

69A-46.041 Inspection Requirements for Fire Protection Systems.

(1) A Fire Protection Contractor, contracting to perform inspecting, testing, and maintenance service on a fire protection system shall comply with the requirements of Chapter 633, F.S., and the applicable NFPA standards as adopted in Rule Chapter 69A-3, F.A.C.

(2) Each system that has been inspected, tested, or maintained by a fire protection contractor, or his or her permitted Water-Based Fire Protection Inspector, shall have a record tag of durable and weather resistant material placed on the riser.

(3) Inspection Tags.

(a) After inspection and testing, an inspection tag shall be completed indicating all work that has been done, and then attached to the system riser in such a position as to permit convenient inspection and not hamper activation or operation. A new inspection tag shall be attached to the system riser each time an inspection and test service is performed.

(b) Inspection tags must be a minimum dimension of 133 mm (5 1/4 inches) in height and 89 mm (3 1/2 inches) in width, and a maximum dimension of 178 mm (7 inches) in height and 102 mm (4 inches) in width.

(c) Inspection tags shall bear the following information in an easily read format:

1. 'DO NOT REMOVE BY ORDER OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL.' This particular information shall be in a minimum of 10 pt type and in all capital letters;

2. The licensed Fire Protection System Contractor I or II's name and licensed physical address;

3. The license number of the Fire Protection System Contractor I or II;

4. The permit number of the Water-Based Fire Protection Inspector;

5. The permitted Water-Based Fire Protection Inspector's signature;

6. The day, month and year (to be punched), and

7. The facility name and address.

8. Affixing this tag shall not be construed to invalidate the owner's responsibility to maintain the system as provided in Section 633.082, F.S.

9. The reverse of the non-compliant tag shall include at least four separate boxes for the listing of repair work as follows:

a. Date of Repair:

b. Repaired by (Signature):

c. Print Name:

d. Type of Repair:

e. Permit Number: (if repair is made by a Water Based Fire Protection Inspector, Permit Number must be noted.)

(d) Inspection tags may be printed and established for a five-year period of time.

(e) An inspection tag shall only be removed by the Fire Protection System Contractor or his permitted Water-Based Fire Protection Inspector.

(4) Compliance and Noncompliance Tag.

(a) If a fire protection system is found to be in compliance with the applicable NFPA standards, a GREEN Compliance Tag shall be attached to either the main riser or main control valve in such a manner as to be plainly visible and not more than 60 inches above the finished floor.

(b) If a fire protection system is found to have deficiencies and is not in compliance with the applicable NFPA standards, a completed RED Noncompliance Tag shall be attached to the main control valve of the system to indicate that corrective action is necessary. If the system is operational but not in compliance with the applicable NFPA standards, the building owner or authorized representative and occupant shall be notified by copy of the NFPA 25 inspection report within 30 days of the inspection. If the system is not operational, the contractor or inspector shall notify the building owner or authorized representative, the occupant, and the authority having jurisdiction within 24 hours of the time of the inspection.

(5) The contractor shall maintain all records of any fire protection system having been inspected, serviced and maintained.

(6) These records shall be made available to the State Fire Marshal upon request.

(7) The contractor or his or her permitted Water-Based Fire Protection Inspector shall complete in detail the inspection reports as required in NFPA 25, as adopted in Rule Chapter 69A-3, F.A.C., that outlines all points of the inspection, test, and maintenance as required by the applicable NFPA standards. A copy of the inspection report shall be provided to the owner at the completion of each inspection performed.

(8) The inspection report shall include a detailed explanation of every deficiency, and indicate if the inspection is a weekly, monthly, quarterly or annual inspection. The inspection report shall include the name of the permitted Water-Based Fire Protection Inspector, the inspector permit number, the inspector's signature, the date and time of the inspection, and the signature of the owner or the owner's representative.

(9) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 633.082, F.S., it is the owner's responsibility to maintain the fire protection system. Affixing an inspection tag as required herein does not invalidate responsibility nor shall a transfer of risk be construed.

Rulemaking Authority 633.01 FS. Law Implemented 633.071, 633.082, 633.065, 633.547(2)(e) FS. History--New 10-20-93, Amended 11-21-01, Formerly 4A-46.041, Amended 5-18-08.