



COALINGA FIRE DEPARTMENT

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CITY OF COALINGA FIRE DEPARTMENT		
FIRE PREVENTION STANDARD		
STANDARD TITLE:	407.004 HVAC SHUTOFF FOR FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS	
STANDARD NUMBER: 407.004	EFFECTIVE DATE: October 26, 2022	REVISION DATE: October 26, 2022

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the Coalinga Fire Department's (CFD or Department) requirements regarding HVAC system shutoff and fire alarm system interconnection.

APPLICATION

This policy applies to all buildings equipped with a building fire alarm within the Department's service area. These requirements apply to both required and voluntary building fire alarm systems.

OPERATIONAL POLICY

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OPERATIONAL GUIDELINE

Where a building fire alarm system is installed, and the HVAC system has a cumulative total volume of supply air in excess of two thousand (2,000) cubic feet per minute (cfm) (regardless of the number of actual HVAC units) the HVAC system is required to be interconnected to the building fire alarm system.

Where an HVAC system has a cumulative total volume of supply air in excess of two thousand (2,000) cfm (regardless of the number of actual units) and a duct detector initiates an alarm or supervisory signal, the building fire alarm system must transmit the appropriate signal as necessary, and every HVAC unit for the building must shutoff simultaneously (global shutoff) by interrupting the power source of the air-moving equipment.

Exceptions:

- A. Where total coverage smoke detection is provided, global HVAC shutoff is not required.
- B. Dedicated function fire alarm systems used solely for the purpose of waterflow supervision, valve supervision, fire pump supervision, HVLS fan shut off, elevator recall, or commercial cooking extinguishing system supervision are not required to be interconnected to, or provide HVAC supervision or shutoff.



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In an instance where no single HVAC unit is equipped with a smoke detector (i.e., no one (1) HVAC unit flows in excess of two thousand (2,000) cfm of supply air) the largest single unit must be fitted with a duct smoke detector to initiate HVAC shutoff.

PROCESS

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INFORMATION

The currently adopted version of the California Mechanical Code (CMG) requires HVAC automatic shutoff where air moving systems supply air in excess of two thousand (2,000) cfm. Where these systems are interconnected to the fire alarm system, the fire detection or alarm system must supervise these systems.

The CMG however, does not provide information as to whether individual units must shut off, or if all HVAC units must shut off in the event of an alarm or supervisory signal based on a duct detector activation.

Standard engineering guidelines note that HVAC systems may move smoke from one location in a building to another and potentially supply combustion air to an undiscovered fire. Duct smoke detection and HVAC system shutoff can also aid in detection of an undetected fire, especially in an unoccupied area.

DEFINITIONS

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CROSS REFERENCES

California Mechanical Code (CMG)