

Construction Industry Communication # 26

From: Amit Ghosh, Chief Building Official
Re: Guidelines – Rough Inspections of Fire Alarm System Wiring
Date: September 11, 2009

Requirements: Columbus City Code Section 4115.01 -- *All work for which a permit is required shall be subject to inspection by the building official. Certain types of construction shall have continuous inspection by special inspectors as specified in Sections 4115.07 and 4115.08.*

Inspectors shall be notified by the contractor or owner when the work is ready for inspection. Failure to inspect the work within forty-eight (48) hours exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, after notification, permits the work to proceed. No part of the work shall be made inaccessible for inspection until it has been inspected, tested, and approved.

Background: To eliminate confusion and help facilitate rough inspections of Fire Alarm System Wiring projects, certain guidelines have been established.

Memorandum: Guideline Requirements for Compliance to City Code Section 4115.01:

- Contractor may install metal “electrical” boxes with pipe sleeves/stubs in the walls. It must be ready at the time of electrical rough wall inspection. This installation will be inspected as part of the electrical rough inspection. Approval of construction documents is required prior to any type of ceiling inspections. If changes are required after approval of the Fire Alarm construction documents, the contractor is responsible for making those corrections. No cable may be installed until a permit is issued.
- Contractor may install a cable system in the walls. The approved Fire Alarm plans and permits must be on site.
- A surface mount system may be installed using a listed raceway. The approved Fire Alarm plans and permits must be on site.

For additional information, please contact the Columbus Department of Building & Zoning Services’ Electrical Inspection unit at 614-645-6076.