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ETL 91- 5 18 JUNE 1991

# ENGINEERING TECHNICAL LETTER

FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERING CRITERIA EMERGENCY LIGHTING AND MARKING OF EXITS





OFFICE of THE CIVIL ENGINEER
DIRECTORATE of MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
ENGINEERING DIVISION

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91-03601

Fire Protection Engineering Criteria and Technical Guidance for Emergency Lighting and Marking of Exits

#### 1. REFERENCED PUBLICATIONS

- a. AFR 8-7, Air Force Engineering Technical Letters, January 1987
- b. AFR 88-15, Criteria and Standards for Air Force Construction (15 December 1985 draft)
- c. MIL-HDBK 1008A, Fire Protection for Facilities Engineering, Design, and Construction, 31 March 1988
- d. National Fire Protection Association Standard 101 (NFPA 101), The Life Safety Code
- e. NISTIR 4399, Evaluation of Exit Signs in Clear and Smoke Conditions, August 1990
- f. HQ AFOMS/SGPR, Use of Radioluminescent Signs and Markers, 16 December 1985
- g. HQ USAF/LEEE, Use of Radioluminescent Signs and Markers, 11 May 1986

#### 2. CRITERIA/TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

- a. Emergency lighting must be provided IAW NFPA 101, Chapter 5, Section 5-9. Normally emergency lighting is required only for designated stairs, aisles, corridors, ramps, escalators, and passageways leading to an exit. Interior rooms and windowless rooms generally do not require emergency lighting unless they meet the definition of a "Windowless Structure" in NFPA 101, Chapter 30, Section 30-1.3.5. Mechanical rooms, telephone equipment rooms, and similar utility spaces generally do not require emergency lighting.
- (1) Emergency lighting in facilities provided with a stand-by electric generator should be powered by the generator. Such generators must be installed, tested, and maintained in accordance with NFPA 110, Emergency and Standby Power Systems.
- (2) Emergency lighting in other facilities will be powered by batteries incorporated in the lighting fixtures.

- (3) Fixtures with wall mounted battery packs will not be used. Fixtures with remote battery packs are permitted. Existing fixtures with wall mounted battery packs meeting minimum NFPA 101 standards will not be replaced simply to eliminate wall mounted battery packs. Existing fixtures with wall mounted battery packs located where not required by NFPA 101 should be removed.
- b. Marking of means of egress must be provided IAW NFPA 101, Chapter 5, Section 5-10.
- (1) Externally illuminated signs must have letters displayed on a white opaque background.
- (2) Internally illuminated signs must have illuminated letters displayed on an opaque background. Internally illuminated signs include surface illuminated fixtures such as light emitting diode type.
- (3). The lettering on all exit signs must be a single uniform color for the entire installation. Each base will establish their standard lettering as either red or green. Bases in or near jurisdictions with established exit signs lettering colors should adopt similar red or green standards.
- (4) Existing exit signs meeting minimum NFPA 101 standards should not be replaced simply to standardize sign colors.
- (5) All internally illuminated signs must use low maintenance low energy consuming lighting. Light emitting diodes are recommended for all applications; however, other low maintenance, low energy consuming, lighting such as florescent fixtures or neon fixtures are permitted.
- (6) Incandescent fixtures are not permitted. Existing incandescent fixtures meeting NFPA 101 standards may remain in service.
- (7) In overseas locations, different colors, pictorials, and/or bilingual lettering may be required to remain consistent with local national standards. Exit marking must always be located as required by NFPA 101 and additional marking is permitted to remain consistent with local national standards. The overseas theatre MAJCOM fire protection engineer must publish a formal standardized policy to implement variations from NFPA 101 and this ETL.
- (8) Self-luminous, electroluminous or radioluminous signs are not permitted. These types of signs contain radioactive materials that are nuclear reactor by-products and controlled by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The Air Force Office of the Surgeon General, USAF Radioisotope Committee, has prohibited the use of these signs (reference f). Special handling is required for their disposal.

- (a) Existing signs, installed before the 14 May 1986 prohibition (reference g) on new installations, may remain in service until replaced at the end of the ten year service life. All signs must have been replaced not later than 1 June 1996.
- (b) IAW NRC requirements, records of the exact location, manufacturer, and date of installation of each sign must be maintained by the facility owner (base real estate office), base fire department, and local environmental health office.
- (c) Broken or damaged signs must be treated as a radiological hazardous materials incident similar to a "Broken Arrow" incident. Incidents must be reported through radiological health channels to the NRC.
- (d) Removed undamaged or unbroken signs must be returned to the manufacturer for disposal. If the manufacturer is no longer in business or has lost NRC license to handle radioactive material, the base is responsible for arranging for disposal at the approved site in Barnwell, SC.

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## ENGINEERING TECHNICAL LETTERS (ETL)

### SECTION A - CURRENT ETLS

ETL	Number	Title	Dat	e Is	ssued
	82-2 83-1	Energy Efficient Equipment Design of Control Systems for HVAC Change No. 1 to ETL 83-1, U.S. Air Force Stndardized Heating, Ventilating		Nov Feb	
	83-3	& Air Conditioning (HVAC) Control Systems Interior Wiring Systems, AFM 88-15	22	Jul	87
	83-4	Para 7-3 EMCS Data Transmission Media (DTM)		Mar	
	02.7	Considerations		Apr	
	83 <b>-</b> 7 83 <b>-</b> 8	Plumbing, AFM 88-8, Chapter 4		Aug	
	83 <b>-</b> 8	Use of Air-to-Air Unitary Heat Pumps Insulation		Sep Nov	
	84-2	Computer Energy Analysis		Mar	
	04-2	Change 1 Ref: HQ USAF/LEEEU Msq	21	Mai	04
		031600Z MAY 84 1 Jun 84		٠	
	84-7	MCP Energy Conservation Investment		ŧ	
	04 /	Program (ECIP)	13	Jun	81
	84-10	Air Force Building Construction and	13	o un	04
	04 10	the Use of Termiticides	1	Aug	84
	86-2	Energy Management and Control Systems		_	
	86-4	(EMCS) Paints and Protective Coatings	_	Feb	
	86-5	Fuels Use Criteria for Air Force	12	May	86
	86-5	Construction	2.2	Mar	06
	86-8	Aqueous Film Forming Foam Waste	22	May	00
	86-8	Discharge Retention and Disposal	1	Jun	96
	86-9	Lodging Facility Design Guide	_	Jun	
	86-10	Antiterrorism Planning and	4	oun	00
	80-10	Design Guidance	1 2	Jun	86
	86-14	Solar Applications		Oct	
	86-16	Direct Digital Control Heating	10	000	00
	00 10	Ventilation and Air Conditioning Systems	9	Dec	86
	87-1	Lead Ban Requirements of Drinking Water	_	Jan	
	87-2	Volatile Organic Compounds		Mar	
	87-4	Energy Budget Figures (EBFs) for	-		
		Facilities in the Military Construction			
		Program	13	Mar	87
	87-5	Utility Meters in New and Renovated			
		Facilities		Jul	
	87-9	Prewiring	21	Oct	ጻ7

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### SECTION A - CURRENT ETLS

ETL	Number	Title	Dat	e Is	sued
	88-2 88-3 88-4	Photovoltaic Applications Design Standards for Critical Facilities Reliability & Maintainability (R&M)		Jan Jun	
	88-5 88-6	Design Checklist Cathodic Protection Heat Distribution Systems Outside of		Jun Aug	
	88-8	Buildings Cholorfluorocarbon (CFC) Limitation in Heating, Ventilating and Air-Conditioning	1	Aug	88
	88-9	(HVAC) Systems Radon Reduction in New Facility		0ct	
	88-10	Construction Prewired Workstations Guide Specification		Oct Dec	
	89-2	Standard Guidelines for Submission of Facility Operating and Maintenance Manuals		May.	
	89-3	Facility Fire Protection Criteria for		Ţ.	
	00.4	Electronic Equipment Installations		Jun	
	89 <b>-4</b> 89 <b>-</b> 6	Systems Furniture Guide Specification Power Conditioning and Continuation Interfacing Equipment (PCCIE) in the Military Construction Program (MCP)		Jul Sep	
	89-7	Design of Air Force Courtrooms		Sep	
	90-1	Built-Up Roof (BUR) Repair/Replacement Guide Specification		Jan	
	90-2	General Policy for Prewired Workstations and Systems Furniture		Jan	
	90-3	TEMPEST Protection for Facilities Change 1 Ref: HQ USAF/LEEDE Ltr dated 20 April 90, Same Subject	20	Apr	90
	90-4	1990 Energy Prices and Discount Factors for Life-Cycle Cost Analysis	24	May	90
	90-5	Fuel and Lube Oil Bulk Storage Capacity for Emergency Generators	26	Jul	90
	90-6	Electrical System Grounding, Static Grounding and Lightning Protection	3	oct	90
	90-7	Air Force Interior Design Policy	12	Oct	90
	90-8	Guide Specifications for Ethylene Propylene Diene Monomer (EPDM) Roofing	17	Oct	90
	90-9	Fire Protection Engineering Criteria for Aircraft Maintenance, Servicing, and Storage Facilities	2	Nov	90
	90-10	Commissioning of Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Systems Guide			
		Specification	17	Oct	90
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# ENGINEERING TECHNICAL LETTERS (ETL)

### SECTION A - CURRENT ETLS

ETL Number	Title	Date Issued
91-1	Fire Protection Engineering Criteria Testing Halon Fire Suppression Systems	2 Jan 91
91-2	High Altitude Electromagnetic Pulse (HEMP) Hardening in Facilities	4 Mar 91
91-3	Water Supply for Fire Protection	14 Jun 91
91-4	Site Selection Criteria for Fire Protection Training Areas	14 Jun 91
91 <b>-</b> 5	Fire Protection Engineering Criteria - Emergency Lighting and Marking of Exits	18 Jun 91

### SECTION B - OBSOLETE ETLS

No.	Date	Status
82-1 82-3	10 Nov 82 10 Nov 82	Superseded by ETL 83-10, 86-1, 87-4 Superseded by ETL 83-5, 84-2
82-4	10 Nov 82	Superseded by ETL 84-7
82-5		Superseded by ETL 84-1, 86-13, 86-14
82-6	30 Dec 82	Cancelled
82-7	30 Nov 82	Cancelled
83-2	16 Feb 83	Superseded by ETL 84-3
83-6	24 May 83	Cancelled
84-3	21 Mar 84	
84-4	10 Apr 84	
84-5	7 May 84	Superseded by ETL 84-8, 86-11, 86-18, 88-6
84-6		
84-9	5 Jul 84	Superseded by ETL 88-7
86-3	21 Feb 86	Superseded by ETL 86-4
	3 Jun 86	
86-7	3 Jun 86	Superseded by ETL 86-15
86-12	3 Jul 86	Superseded by ETL 90-2
86-13	18 Aug 86	Superseded by ETL 86-14
86-15	13 Nov 86	Superseded by ETL 87-5
86-17	17 Dec 86	Superseded by ETL 89-6
86-18	18 Dec 86	Superseded by ETL 88-6
87-3	12 Mar 87	Superseded by ETL 87-6, ETL 88-5
87-6	21 Aug 87	Superseded by ETL-88-5
87-7	14 Oct 87	Superseded by ETL 89-1
Chg 1	30 Dec 87	Superseded by ETL 90-1
88-1	5 Jan 88	Superseded by ETL 89-2
88-7	24 Aug 88	
89-1	6 Feb 89	Superseded by ETL 90-4
89-5		Issued as ETL 90-7

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