



FIRE PREVENTION MANUAL

FIRE EXTINGUISHING SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

405.002 PRE-PIPE INSPECTIONS

EFFECTIVE: JUNE 2006

SCOPE

This policy clarifies the Fresno Fire Department (FFD or Department) requirements for pre-pipe inspections for metallic fire sprinkler system piping. These requirements apply to both voluntary and required systems.

PURPOSE

This policy has been established to provide direction for fire sprinkler contractors regarding required inspections of metallic fire sprinkler system piping, prior to the installation of the piping.

BACKGROUND

As noted in the *California Fire Code (CFC)*, the fire code official has the authority to conduct inspections of fire related construction and components as a condition of issuing a construction permit.

REQUIREMENTS

Based upon the need for uniformity in application across the Department's diverse service delivery area, and after careful deliberation, the Department has determined the following:

1. All new metallic fire sprinkler piping for fire sprinkler systems must be inspected by fire department personnel prior to installation. These pre-installation inspections are to ensure that welding, cutting, drilling, etc. was carried out in compliance with the requirements found in *National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 13 – Automatic Sprinkler Systems (2016 ed. with California Amendments)*.
2. Prior to this inspection, it is the contractor's responsibility to verify that all discs, coupons, wire, and other debris has been removed from the piping. Contractors shall also verify that the interior of all outlets are smooth, any slag or other welding residue (including wire) has been removed and the outlet deburred. Finally, contractors shall confirm that no debris remains in the piping

which would reduce the pressure and volume of water during a fire sprinkler system activation.

3. All metallic piping that has been installed without a pre-pipe inspection will be required to be removed and inspected prior to any other inspections of the system by fire department personnel.
4. Contractors that install metallic piping without a pre-pie inspection will be subject to a penalty as noted in the Department Master Fee Schedule.
5. Contractors that repeatedly violate this policy may be subject to additional administrative action(s) including: complaints filed with the California Contractors State License Board, the refusal to issue new construction permits as authorized by *CFC Section 102.9*, and any other remedy provided for by law may also be instituted at the sole discretion of the Department, and are not subject to appeal, except as noted by law.

CROSS REFERENCES

California Fire Code
NFPA 13

Automatic Sprinkler Systems (2016 ed. with California amendments).