



NYC Buildings Department  
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**BUILDINGS BULLETIN 2014-005**  
OTCR

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**Supersedes:** None

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Director, Office of Technical Certification and Research

**Issuance Date:** March 18, 2014

**Purpose:** This document establishes acceptance criteria for a video image smoke detection system as an alternative system to the 2008 NYC Construction Codes.

**Related Code/Zoning Section(s):**  
AC 28-113      BC Q106  
BC 907

**Subject(s):** Smoke detection systems, video image smoke detection system

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**Background:** The New York City Building Code requires the detection of smoke by means of smoke detection systems. New products have recently been introduced that use video camera and image recognition software to detect smoke. NFPA 72 of 2002 that is currently referenced by the 2008 New York City Building Code does not address such products. However, Local Law 141 of 2013, which will take effect on October 1<sup>st</sup> this year includes amendments to Chapter 9 of the 2008 New York City Building Code to reference NFPA 72<sup>1</sup> of 2010, which recognizes this new technology under section 17.7.7.7. This bulletin establishes acceptance criteria for such products.

**Description:** A video image smoke detection system is a network of cameras with embedded processing that visually identifies if smoke, and/or motion is within the cameras field of view. Dry contact closures on the smoke detection camera indicating alarm and trouble conditions can be attached to the fire alarm control panel. As a supplemental capability, the detected events can be streamed over the internet and recorded/viewed through a Network Video Recorder.

**Evaluation Scope:** 2008 NYC Construction Codes

**Evaluation Criteria:** Pursuant to section AC 28-113, the Office of Technical Certification and Research (OTCR) recognizes video image smoke detection systems installed and listed in accordance with sections 3.2.5 and 17.7.7 of NFPA 72.

Video image smoke detection systems shall be listed and labeled by an approved agency in accordance with section AC 28-113.2.3 and comply with conditions of this bulletin.

**Uses:** Video image smoke detection systems are used for smoke detection, generally in open large spaces where it is difficult to detect smoke with conventional methods.

Restriction: Video image smoke detection systems shall not be used for heat detection.

**Conditions of Acceptance:** Video image smoke detection systems shall be designed and installed in accordance with the 2008 NYC Construction Codes and the New York City Fire Code and other applicable provisions including but not limited the following:

**A. Design**

1. Video image smoke detection systems shall be specified in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and the conditions of the listing.
2. Approved fire and smoke alarm detection systems shall be provided in accordance with section BC907.2.

**B. Installation Requirements**

1. Installation requirements shall be in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, the applicable listing, and the conditions of this bulletin.
2. Video image smoke detection systems shall be labeled as per section AC-113.4. All shipment and deliveries of materials shall be accompanied by a label certifying the material shipped or delivered are equivalent to those tested and approved.
3. Pursuant to section BC 907.19 the installation shall be subject to inspection requirement of the Fire Department.

**C. Maintenance**

1. Maintenance shall comply with all applicable requirements of New York City Construction Codes and the Rules of the City of New York and New York City Fire Code.
2. Maintenance shall comply with the manufacturer's instruction and the applicable listing.

**Referenced Standards:** 1. NFPA 72-10, "National Fire Alarm Code".

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FILED BEFORE 12/31/14\*