



February 8, 2008

STANDARDS BULLETIN 2008-02

CAN/ULC-S536-04, Inspection and Testing of Fire Alarm Systems

INTERPRETATION OF SUBSECTION 5.1, DOCUMENTATION

The following is an interpretation of Subsection 5.1 (Documentation) by the ULC Subcommittee on Installation, Inspection and Testing, and Verification of Fire Alarm Systems, on CAN/ULC-S536-04 (Inspection and Testing of Fire Alarm Systems). This is being issued in response to a request for an interpretation that was received by ULC.

Interpretation Request:

Clause 5.1.1 specifies the following: "The inspections and tests required by this Standard shall be documented in a report similar to that shown in Appendix E, Annual Fire Alarm System Test and Inspection Records."

Annual Inspection and testing requires that alarm operation, zone identification and annunciation indication are confirmed.

It is the interpretation of our organization that this was intended to mean a two-man system. Is this correct?

If no, when can a one-man system be used? Are automatic resetting devices, walk test features and/or automation system printouts sufficient for this purpose since it is impossible to verify these conditions remotely in lieu of a two-man system?

Interpretation by ULC Subcommittee on Installation, Inspection and Testing, and Verification of Fire Alarm Systems:

Section 5 relates to periodic inspections and tests – yearly, and Subsection 5.1 specifically deals with documentation for these and inspections and tests. There are no specific references to the number of persons in Section 5, however, it is recognized that this request is looking for clarification on the minimum number of individuals required to conduct the required inspections and tests.

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Intent of this section of the Standard is to describe the inspection and tests required and the documentation required on a yearly basis. These requirements are performance based and therefore do not and should not specify the number of individuals that are required to conduct these tests and inspections.

Should you require any additional information, please contact Mahendra (Mike) Prasad at 416-757-5250 Ext. 61242 or email: mahendra.prasad@ca.ul.com

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. Rae Dulmage". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "G".

G. Rae Dulmage
Director, Standards Department & Government Relations Office