

KENTFIELD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



Developed by

Jim Galli, Battalion Chief

Approved by

Paul Smith, Fire Chief

Fire Protection Standard 100

Occupancy Designations

Date: 1-1-04

Revision:

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This standard is being promulgated to provide information to Fire Inspection Personnel. It is not intended to substitute for the precise wording of the applicable codes, but to provide explanation in firefighter's language.

The Uniform Fire Code, which is adopted by the Kentfield Fire Protection District, classifies occupancies by groups that are broad, general classifications. The group classification letter also indicates the type of use, i.e., E = Education. Further, those groups are broken into divisions that have more specific definitions. Within each group the division numbers indicate the relative severity of the hazard, i.e. A-1 has 1000 people while A-3 only has up to 300.

Fire Inspection personnel must be able to recognize the different occupancy classifications as some of the requirements for safety are based on the occupancy. Some examples of this occur when multiple tenant buildings are occupied by businesses of differing occupancy classifications, or a business, because of changing economic conditions, changes its use or size.

The format of the remainder of this Standard will be to present the occupancy groups alphabetically with a brief explanation of it followed by the divisions from least to most severe.

Group A Occupancies: Assembly – a building or portion thereof used for the gathering of 50 or more people for drinking or dining, education or instruction of adults (beyond high school), worship, entertainment, amusement or waiting for transportation.

Division 4 – Stadiums, reviewing stands and amusement park structures. All open to the air or with a very large and high enclosure such as the Astrodome.

Division 3 – For the gathering of between 50 and 299 people in an assembly situation that does not have a stage.

Division 2.1 – For the gathering of 300 or more people in an assembly situation that does not have a stage.

Division 2 – For the gathering of between 50 and 999 people in an assembly situation that has a stage.

Division 1 – For the gathering of 1000 or more people in an assembly situation that has a stage.

Group B Occupancies: Business – A compilation of general business occupancies. Offices, stores and factories fall into this category.

Division 4 – Ice plants, power plants and other similar buildings not using any

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combustible or explosive materials.

Division 3 – Aircraft hangars as long as there is no repair work using open flame, welding or flammable liquids. Open parking garages and heliports also fall into this division.

Division 2 - General Businesses: Office, wholesale and retail stores, factories and workshops using materials not highly flammable or combustible, drinking/dining establishments and educational rooms for those beyond the 12th grade for less than 50 people.

Division 1 – Gasoline service stations or garages with no repair work using open flame, welding or flammable liquids, if such repair work is occurring the designation is H-4.

Group E Occupancies: Educational – a building used for educational purposes for more than 12 hours per week or 4 hours any day through and including 12th graders.

Division 3 – Day care centers for more than 6 children.

Division 2 – Rooms for less than 50 students.

Division 1 – Rooms for 50 or more students.

Group H Occupancies: Hazardous – all of the generally more hazardous occupancies fall within one of the divisions of this group.

Division 5 – Hangars with aircraft repair using open flame, welding or flammable liquids.

Division 4 – Garages with automotive repair using open flame, welding or flammable liquids.

Division 3 – Generally locations generating or processing large quantities of loose combustible fibers or dust. Cabinet shops, box factories, buffing rooms of tire recappers, etc.

Division 2 – Locations involving the storage, handling, use or sale of Class I, II and III-A liquids above exempted limits as set forth in Table 9-A of the Building Code and paint spraying rooms that use Class I, II or III-A liquids.

Division 1 – The storage and handling of materials other than Class I, II and III-A

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flammable liquids that exceed the exempted quantities in Table 9-a of the Building Code.

Group I Occupancies: Institutional – Buildings used for housing persons that are under care or restraint.

Division 3 – Mental hospitals, jails and other locations where the people can be locked in or restrained.

Division 2 – Nursing homes for ambulatory patients or homes for children 6 years and older if they have more than 6 persons.

Division 1 – Hospitals, nursing homes for non-ambulatory patients or full time nurseries for children less than 6 years old if they have more than 6 persons.

Group M Occupancies: Miscellaneous – Garages, carports, fences over 6 feet and other similar structures.

Group R Occupancies: Residential – Buildings where people live.

Division 3 – Single family dwellings, duplexes and apartments (lodging houses) with 5 or less guest rooms for daily rental.

Division 1 – Multiple family dwellings (apartments, condominiums or townhouses) that have 3 or more living units in any one building, hotels or motels with 6 or more guest rooms for daily rental.