

PART II – HEALTH CARE FACILITIES CODE REQUIREMENTS

K-916

Remote Annunciators

Commentary by Paul Harris

K-916

Electrical Systems – Essential Electric System Alarm Annunciator

A remote annunciator that is **storage battery powered** is provided to operate outside of the generating room in a location readily observed by operating personnel. The annunciator is hard-wired to indicate alarm conditions of the emergency power source. A centralized computer system (e.g., building information system) is not to be substituted for the alarm annunciator. 6.4.1.1.17, 6.4.1.1.17.5 (NFPA 99)

Storage battery powered does not mean battery backup.

The remote annunciator is “hard wired” to the generator’s cranking battery through the generator’s control panel.

The cranking battery is closely monitored by the battery charger and the remote annunciator if NFPA 110 and 99 have been observed during acquisition and installation. **See NFPA 110, 2010 edition, chapters 5.6.4.6, 5.6.4.7, and table 5.6.4.2**

(Right now, my website deals primarily with NFPA 110, chapter 8, Routine Maintenance and Operational Testing)



Does not meet code



Meets code

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The annunciator cannot be mounted in a closet, behind doors, or in the generator room. In practice, it should be in an occupied part of the building in order to be **readily observable.**

We have moved annunciators to occupied parts of a building after a wing was shut down and no longer regularly occupied.

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An annunciator may not use Wi-Fi to signal a fault.

In older systems individual wires conduct fault signals to the annunciator. Recently manufacturers use a USB connection, but it is still solidly wired.

Centralized computer systems may be used as auxiliary, but they cannot replace the hard-wired source for alarm signals.

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