MEMORANDUM

TO: Plan Review Staff
Fire Alarm Contractors

FROM: Don Zeringue – Chief Architect

RE: Listing Documentation on all Fire Alarm Devices

DATE: October 8, 2002

In an effort to reduce the review time of all fire alarm submittals and required fire alarm exemption request forms, the plan review section shall require documentation from an independent testing lab on all fire alarm devices. This documentation shall indicate that these devices are listed for fire alarm use in accordance with NFPA 72 – National Fire Code.

72:1-5.1.2 requires that “equipment constructed and installed in conformity with this code shall be listed for the purpose for which it is used.”

Equipment listing typically provides information pertaining to the allowable use such as: compatibility, ambient conditions, voltage tolerances, etc... Fire alarm equipment must be installed in conformance with the listings to meet the requirements of NFPA 72. Such information must be verified in the plan review process. Unfortunately, many of our reviewers are spending too much time searching fire protection directories and websites to verify cross listings of private labeled devices. In some cases, after an exhausted search by the plan reviewer, the project is found not in compliance because it appears that non-listed devices would be installed. In actuality, the listing for the private labeled device was under another manufacturer’s name.

Therefore, this office shall require listing documentation from an independent testing lab on all fire alarm devices (i.e. strobes, manual pull stations, horns, control panel, etc...) and all fire alarm components (i.e. control modules, power boosters, power extenders, etc...) for all required fire alarm exemption request forms and all fire alarm plan review submittals after January 1, 2003. Acceptable documentation shall be from Underwriters Laboratories, Factory Mutual or Warnock Hersey. Such documentation may be photo-copied from a fire protection directory or printed out from a testing lab website and the device shall be identified from the remainder of the text (i.e. underlined, circled or high-lighted). For devices and components that
are private labeled (without multiple listings), documentation from the manufacturer shall be provided, proving that the devices are listed by an acceptable testing organization.

Failure to provide this documentation after January 1, 2003 shall cause the fire alarm plan review submittal to be found not in compliance and the required fire alarm exemption request to be denied.