

FINAL EXPRESS TERMS  
FOR  
PROPOSED BUILDING STANDARDS  
OF THE  
OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
REGARDING PROPOSED CHANGES TO  
CALIFORNIA ELECTRICAL CODE  
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 3

LEGEND FOR FINAL EXPRESS TERMS (combination of 45-day and 15-day changes)

1. For 45-day changes, existing California amendments or code language being modified appears in *italics*, with modified language underlined.
2. For 45-day changes, repealed text appears in ~~strikeout~~.
3. For 15-day changes, existing California amendments or code language being modified appears in *italics*, with modified language double underlined.
4. For 15-day changes, repealed text appears in double ~~strikeout~~.

**EXPRESS TERMS**

**ARTICLE 517  
HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**

**517.30(B)(7) [For OSHPD 1, 2, 3, & 4]** *All automatic transfer switches in general acute care hospitals, and ambulatory surgical clinics, and correctional treatment centers providing optional services shall be provided with an in-phase monitor relay and shall have provisions for electrically by-passing and isolating the transfer switch. The by-pass switch shall be capable of by-passing loads to the emergency source or normal source if the selected by-pass source voltage is available.*

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**517.123 [OSHPD 1, 2, 3, & 4] Signal Systems.** ~~Signal systems shall include provisions for visual and audible communications between patients and nursing personnel and between health care facility staff.~~

~~Exception No. 1: In facilities or separate buildings of 6 beds or less, a signal/call system which can be demonstrated to the enforcing agency to function effectively is permitted.~~

~~Exception No. 2: Acute psychiatric hospitals are not required to install or maintain a signal system if they do not admit or retain patients who are confined to bed.~~

~~**(A) Patient/Nurse Call System.** The patient/nurse call system shall be comprised of components which include an annunciator located at each nurses' station which emits an audible signal and indicates the origin of the call. The system shall require resetting at the calling station unless a two-way voice communication component is included. Visual signals visible from all parts of the corridor shall be provided above corridor doors to each patient bedroom, toilet room, and bath or shower room. The system shall be provided for at least:~~

~~**(1)** One call station at each bed in patient bedrooms, labor rooms, intensive care units and coronary care units, capable of being activated by patients confined to bed.~~

~~**(2)** One call station with cords within 12 inches of the floor in each patient toilet room, bathroom, and shower room in locations easily accessible to patients.~~

~~Exception: For correctional treatment centers, the call system may be a cordless type actuator in a location easily accessible to the patient or may be an audio communication system.~~

~~**(3)** Detachable cords at all call stations in rooms designated for psychiatric patient use.~~

~~**(B) Staff Emergency Call System.** The staff emergency call system shall be comprised of components which provide for at least:~~

~~(1) One call station from each operating, delivery, special procedure, and nursery room connected to the nearest continuously staffed nurses' station or control desk.~~

~~(2) One call station from the control desk of each recovery room, intensive care unit, neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), and coronary care unit connected to the nearest continuously staffed nurses' station.~~

**(C) Emergency Alarm System (Code Blue).** ~~The emergency alarm system shall be comprised of components which provide for at least:~~

~~(1) One call station at each bed and nurses' station in recovery room, intensive care unit, and coronary care unit.~~

~~(2) One call station at the control desk in each neonatal intensive care unit (NICU).~~

~~(3) A unique visual and audible signal at attending nurses' station and a unique visual device above each entry door to the recovery room, intensive care unit, coronary care unit, and neonatal intensive care unit.~~

~~(4) Visual and audible signals at the PBX operator or other 24-hour staff area.~~

**517.123 [OSHPD 1, 2, 3, & 4] Call Systems.** Hospital signaling and nurse call equipment includes four types of call stations: patient stations, bath stations, staff emergency stations, and code call stations.

**(A) General.**

(1) Call station locations shall be as required in Table 1224.4.6.5, of the California Building Code.

(2) Electronically supervised call stations shall report to an attended location with ~~electronically supervised~~ visual and audible annunciation as described in Table 1224.4.6.5 "Location of Nurse Call Devices" of the California Building Code.

(3) Where provided, nurse master stations shall provide audible/visual prompting and display ~~all~~ pending patient station, bath station, staff emergency station, and code call station calls for its defined area of coverage. If display capabilities are limited, the system shall display calls in ~~the highest~~ priority calls descending order with oldest calls displayed first. ~~as determined by facility operations in conjunction with the licensing agency.~~

~~(4) (4) The call system shall include a priority hierarchy to account for the needs of specific patient (e.g. nonverbalizing patients or patients with a high risk of falling).~~

~~(5) Alternate technologies that meet the requirements of UL 1069: "Standard for Hospital Signaling and Nurse Call Equipment", including radio frequency systems, shall be permitted for call systems.~~

~~(6) (4) In addition to these requirements, call systems shall meet the requirements of UL 1069: "Standard for Hospital Signaling and Nurse Call Equipment".~~

**(B) Patient Stations.** A patient station shall be provided to allow each patient to summon assistance from the nursing staff.

(1) Each patient sleeping bed, except nursery beds, shall be provided with a patient station equipped for two-way voice communication. Use of a dual call station shall be permitted when beds are located adjacent to each other.

(2) The patient station shall be equipped with the following:

(a) A visual call assurance signal once ~~the~~ station has been activated.

(b) An indicator light or recurring audible tone, or call assurance lamp that remains lighted active as long as the voice circuit is operating shall be provided. A tone may also sound at the patient station upon initial voice circuit operation.

(c) In rooms containing two or more patient stations, call assurance lamps shall be provided at each station.

~~(b)~~ (d) A reset switch for canceling a call.

(3) The patient station shall activate signals as follows:

(a) Visual signals visible from all parts of the corridor shall be provided above corridor doors to each patient bedroom, toilet room, and bath or shower room. In multi-corridor nursing units or patient care areas, additional visual signals shall be installed at corridor intersections.

(b) A visual and audible signal at nurse call duty stations. The audible signal may be temporarily silenced provided subsequent calls automatically reactivate the audible signal.

(4) Diagnostic and treatment areas. A nurse call-system station shall be provided in each diagnostic and treatment area (including labor rooms, LDR rooms, emergency examination/treatment rooms or cubicles, and preoperative rooms or cubicles) as required in this article.

(C) Bath Stations. A bath station that can be activated by a patient lying on the floor shall be provided at each room containing a patient water closet, bathtub, sitz bath, or shower stall. Pull cords shall be located extend to a maximum of 12 inches (30.48 centimeters) above the floor.

(1) An alarm in these areas shall be able to be turned off only at the bath station where it was initiated.

Exception: When two or more stations are located in the same bath area and all are visible from any call location, the alarm may be canceled at any of these locations.

(2) Bath stations in shower stalls and tubs shall be located 5 to 6 feet (1.52 to 1.83 meters) above the floor, within normal view of the user and within reach of staff without the need to step into the stall or tub.

(3) Bath stations shall be located to the side of toilets, within 12 inches (30.48 centimeters) of the front of the toilet bowl and 3 to 4 feet (.91 meter to 1.22 meters) above the floor. A bath station shall be permitted to serve both a toilet and a shower or other fixture if it is accessible to both.

(D) Staff Emergency Stations. Call stations that initiate S staff emergency stations signals for summoning additional local staff assistance for non-life-threatening situations shall be provided in each patient care location as required in Table 1224.4.6.5, "Location of Nurse Call Devices" of the California Building Code.

(E) Code Call Stations. Commonly referred to as a "Code Blue," code call stations are meant for use during a life-threatening situation to summon assistance from outside the unit or department.

~~(1) Code call stations shall be provided as determined by facility operations in conjunction with the licensing agency.~~

~~(2) (1) Call stations that initiate C code call signals station locations shall be as required in Table 1224.4.6.5, "Location of Nurse Call Devices" of the California Building Code.~~

~~(3) (2) The code-call station shall be equipped with a continuous audible or visual confirmation of activation to the person who initiated the code call.~~

~~(4) (3) Audible and visual code call signals Code call stations shall be provided audible and visual signals at the PBX operator or other continuously monitored location.~~

**(F) Alarm in Psychiatric Nursing Units.** *A nurse call is not required in psychiatric units, but if one is included the following shall apply:*

**(1) Provisions shall be made for easy removal or for covering of call button outlets.**

**(2) All hardware shall have tamper-resistant fasteners.**

**(3) Cords at all call stations in rooms designated for psychiatric patient use shall be detachable.**

Notation

Authority: Health & Safety Code Section 1226, 1275, 129790 and 129850 and Government Code Section 11152.5

Reference(s): Health & Safety Code Section 129850

### MATRIX TABLES

#### CHAPTER 4 – EQUIPMENT FOR GENERAL USE

| Adopting Agency  | OSHPD |   |   |   | Comments |
|--|-------|---|---|---|----------|
|  | 1     | 2 | 3 | 4 |          |
| <i>Adopt Entire Chapter</i>  |       |   |   |   |          |
| <i>Adopt Entire Chapter as amended (amended sections listed below)</i> | X     | X | X | X |          |
| <i>Adopt only those articles / sections that are listed below</i>      | X     | X | X | X |          |
| <i>Article / Section</i>   |       |   |   |   |          |
| 404.4  | X     | X |   | X |          |
| 406.8 (C) (1)  | X     | X |   | X |          |

#### CHAPTER 5 – SPECIAL OCCUPANCIES

##### ARTICLE 517 – HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

| Adopting Agency  | OSHPD |   |   |   | Comments                               |
|--|-------|---|---|---|--|
|  | 1     | 2 | 3 | 4 |  |
| <i>Adopt Entire Chapter</i>  |       |   |   |   |  |
| <i>Adopt Entire Chapter as amended (amended sections listed below)</i> | X     | X | X | X |  |
| <i>Adopt only those articles / sections that are listed below</i>      |       |   |   |   |  |
| <i>Article / Section</i>   |       |   |   |   |  |
| 517.30(B)(7) CA  | X     | X | X | X | Remainder of Matrix remains unchanged. |

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