

Ministerial Ordinance (Draft) that Amends a Portion of the Ministerial Ordinance that Stipulates Technical Standards for Detectors and Manual Call Points

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Fire Prevention Division

Fire and Disaster Management Agency

1 Reason for Revision

- (1) Due to the revision of the Fire Service Law Enforcement Order of June 2007 following the fire at a group home for the elderly with dementia in Nagasaki prefecture, specific small facilities, such as group homes for the elderly with dementia, are required to install an automatic fire detection system regardless of its dimensions.

For this reason, the Fire and Disaster Management Agency has examined ways to approve a simple system that does not use a receiver, provided that an automatic fire detection system to be installed at specified small facilities uses a detector that sets off sirens and works directly with other detectors.

This Ministerial Ordinance shall, therefore, amend a portion of the Ministerial Ordinance that Stipulates Technical Standards for Detectors and Manual Call Points to set standards for performance, etc. of detectors with the function to set off sirens and the function to work directly with other detectors (hereinafter referred to as “multiple station detector with alarm function”).

- (2) In addition, other necessary rules shall be introduced.

2 Brief Overview of Revision

- (1) Standards for performance, etc. of detectors with alarm function shall be set as follows.
 - (i) The alarm must continue to sound for a certain period of time or more.
 - (ii) The alarm must sustain a certain sound pressure level, which is 70 decibels or above.
 - (iii) In the event that the alarm is deactivated with an on/off switch, it must be automatically restored to the appropriate executive state within 15 minutes.
- (2) Standards for performance, etc. of multiple station detectors with alarm function shall be set to meet the requirements stipulated in (1) (i) and (ii) and as follows.
 - (i) Signals sent out from a multiple station detector with alarm function upon detection of a fire must be transmitted, without fail, to other multiple station detectors with alarm function.
 - (ii) A multiple station detector with alarm function must receive, without fail, signals from other multiple station detectors.
 - (iii) A multiple station detector with alarm function must set off sirens, without fail, upon reception of signals in the event described in (ii).
 - (iv) In the event that the alarm is deactivated with an on/off switch, a multiple station detector with alarm function that detected a fire must be automatically restored to the appropriate executive state within 15 minutes, and other multiple station detectors with alarm function must be automatically restored to the appropriate executive state at once.

- (v) A multiple station detector with alarm function that detected a fire cannot be deactivated with an on/off switch of other multiple station detectors with alarm function.
- (3) Standards for performance, etc. of multiple station detectors with alarm function to be installed at specified small facilities shall be set to meet the requirements stipulated in (2) and as follows.
 - (i) If a detector has a power indicating light, it shall not require the function to transmit signals to inform stoppage of power supply, even if power is supplied through a terminal other than that to transmit fire signals.
 - (ii) A detector with automatic test function shall not require the dropping test or the corrosion test.
- (4) Batteries must be easily replaceable if detectors use batteries as the power source. In the event that the voltage drops below the critical limit for effective performance, the detectors must automatically send out signals to warn users of the voltage drop, or display the voltage drop.
- (5) In addition, other necessary rules shall be introduced.

3 Enforcement Date

The Ministerial Ordinance will be enforced on the day of its publication.