The City of New York

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
60 HUDSON STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10013

JOEL A. MIELE, SR, P.E., Commissioner

(212) 312-8100

Richard C. Visconti, R.A.
First Deputy Commissioner
Technical Affairs/Operations
(212) 312-8120

ISSUANCE ~~#476~~ 479

TECHNICAL POLICY AND PROCEDURE NOTICE #1/95

TO: Distribution

FROM: Richard C. Visconti, R.A.
First Deputy Commissioner

DATE: May 9, 1995

SUBJECT: Using of Fluoropolymer "Teflon" Type Cabling/Wiring in Fire Alarm Systems

EFFECTIVE: Immediately.

PURPOSE: Application of the Administrative Code of the City of New York ("Code") regarding the use of fluoropolymer (teflon, kynar, holar, etc.) type wiring in Fire Alarm Systems under Reference Standard (RS) 17-3.

SPECIFICS: Section 6, entitled Wiring of RS 17-3 of the Code stipulates that electrical conductors shall be installed in standard heavy wall, threaded, galvanized rigid iron or steel, or in aluminum conduits, except that aluminum conduits are prohibited for burying underground or embedding in floors, ceilings or walls.

The Department of Buildings and Fire Department concur that:

Since the above mentioned section does not prohibit the use of fluoropolymer "Teflon" type wiring;

Since this type of wiring may be installed in a Mini-Class "E" Fire Alarm System and in an interior Fire Alarm and Signal System required under Local Law 41 of 1978;

Since Section 6 of RS 17-3A and RS 17-3B permits the use of teflon or its equivalent as a type of insulation without enclosure in raceways or conduits, provided the cable approved for such is not subject to tampering or physical hazard and is otherwise protected by the building construction;

The use of such wiring method in any interior fire alarm or automatic fire detection system, operating at less than 50 volts, is permitted provided the specific type of installation complies with the following:

I. IN VOLUNTARY SYSTEMS:

1. May use fluoropolymer wire approved for fire alarm use in New York City if enclosed in non flexible metallic conduit throughout.

2. May use approved "Teflon" or "Teflon equivalent" wire rated at 150°C or higher provided:

   a) It is in an enclosed raceway throughout, or

   b) If unprotected above eight (8) feet, it must be properly supported and a central station connection monitored for alarm and trouble conditions must be provided, or

   c) If unprotected above eight (8) feet, it must be properly supported and a local annunciator panel, located in a normally occupied area of the building, must be provided to monitor both alarm and trouble conditions. The annunciator panel shall be under the care of a person holding a Certificate of Fitness.

II. IN REQUIRED SYSTEMS:

1. May use any approved "Teflon" or "Teflon equivalent" if protected in non-flexible metallic conduit throughout, such as EMT or IMC.

III. IN CLASS "E" SYSTEMS:

1. Any subsystem installed in a Class "E" system may be installed using the wiring methods outlined in RS 17-3A/B provided the subsystem is monitored at the fire command station for alarm and trouble conditions.

NOTE: This TPPN shall not apply to systems which are "exclusively" regulated by the Fire Department, such as a central office notification system and a fire alarm telegraph system.