



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

FIRE SAFETY CODE
BOARD OF APPEAL AND REVIEW
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RIMTA
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July 29, 2010

Chief of Inspections Scott Caron
Division of State Fire Marshal
118 Parade Street
Providence, RI 02909

Re: Guidelines for Marinas and Boatyards

Gentlemen:

Please be advised that the proposed guidelines for compliance for marinas and boatyards was presented to the full Board on June 8, 2010 at 1:00 pm. At that time, a motion was made by Vice Chairman Newbrook and seconded by Commissioner Richard to approve the attached framework and to allow the parties to proceed in accordance with this framework. The motion was unanimous. Accordingly, the attached "Guidelines For Compliance For Marinas And Boatyards" shall be utilized by the Board, the state and local fire marshals and the marine trades as the guidelines covering this industry.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Thomas B. Coffey, Esq.
Executive Director

TC/cm

RIMTA and State Fire Marshal's Office Guidelines for Compliance for Marinas and Boatyards

1. Fire alarm installation in accordance with the RI Fire Safety Code
 - Municipal connection-allow multiple buildings on single master box
 - A compliant wireless fire alarm system can be submitted for approval by State Fire Marshal's Office on a case-by-case basis
2. Local alarms-provide telephone monitoring service
3. Work with local fire departments to provide and maintain emergency access to facility structures and to the onsite water supply
 - Maintain adequate fire department access for exterior winter boat storage
4. Provide a floor plan, signage and marking for interior boat storage areas that provides for acceptable access to exterior exits subject to the approval of the local AHJ.
5. Provide adequate water supply for fire suppression, or provide supplemental water supply access for responding firefighters with an approved performance designed alternative system, to include dry hydrants, at existing facilities subject to the approval of the local AHJ.
6. Treat storage occupancies as industrial if there is some mixed use
 - Industrial occupancy is generally a more stringent occupancy chapter than storage
 - Protect designated high hazard areas in industrial buildings with localized fire suppression and 1 hour separation
7. Where sprinkler system installation is required or installed at the discretion of the building owner, the Office of the State Fire Marshal will review the plans for consistency of enforcement in cooperation with the local AHJ.
 - Alternative suppression systems shall be subject to RIFSBAR approval in cooperation with the local AHJ.
8. The edition of NFPA 303 Fire Protection Standard for Marinas and Boatyards, adopted and amended by the State of Rhode Island, will be adopted by RIMTA and will be distributed to association members
 - Each facility will conduct and document annual in-house training of personnel in fire safe behavior and application of portable fire extinguishers in accordance with NFPA 303.
9. RIMTA will direct its members to implement NFPA-303 Fire Protection Standard for Marinas and Boatyards and to keep the principles of fire prevention at the forefront of each organization's goals. RIMTA will also direct its members to designate a responsible person within each facility to keep a written record of ongoing training and to liaison with the local AHJ

Amendments to original draft indicated in *Italics*.

Amendments to secondary draft indicated in *Underlined Italics*.