



September 28, 2007

STANDARDS BULLETIN 2007-28

CAN/ULC-S528-05, Manual Stations For Fire Alarm Systems, Including Accessories

INTERPRETATION OF CLAUSE 7.4.1

The following is an interpretation of Clause 7.4.1 by the ULC Subcommittee on Accessory Devices for Fire Alarm Systems, on CAN/ULC-S528-05 (Manual Stations For Fire Alarm Systems, Including Accessories). This is being issued in response to a request for an interpretation that was received by ULC.

Clause 7.4.1 specifies the following:

The contacts of a non-coded manual station shall remain in the operated condition until the mechanism has been restored to its normal condition by means of a tool or a device not normally carried by the public (e.g. a key).

Note: This is intended to deter unauthorized access to the equipment, while being available on site either at a defined location or from a “responsible person” familiar with and having knowledge of the equipment.

Interpretation Request:

The intent of the clause embodied in: “to deter unauthorized access to the equipment” is satisfied by a manufacturer’s product without the use of a key. This manufacturer’s product is for use in hazardous locations which are not open to the public. Also, an employee working in hazardous locations is highly trained and would be classified as a “responsible person familiar with and having knowledge of the equipment”.

The installation sheets include specific instructions clarifying that the device is not for use and may not be installed in public areas.

The question is whether or not the product offering, including the relevant installation instructions, satisfies the stated intent of the clause?

Interpretation by ULC Subcommittee on Accessory Devices for Fire Alarm Systems:

This product offering (i.e. without the use of a key product), including the relevant installation instructions does not satisfy the stated intent of Clause 7.4.1.

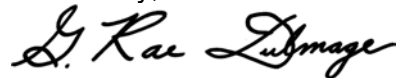
Rationale:

The previous (1991) edition of the standard (Clause 7.4.1) states: "The contacts of a non-coded manual pull station shall remain in the operated condition until the mechanism has been restored to its normal condition by means of a tool." This corresponding clause (7.4.1) in the 2005 edition of the Standard conveys the same meaning, i.e. a tool or a device not normally carried by the public (e.g. a key) is required to reset the station. The revision to the requirement introduced in this 2005 edition of the Standard was simply to clarify the intent regarding the type of "device" required to reset the mechanism of the manual station. Personnel authorized to enter a hazardous area may be trained and familiar with the equipment inside the particular area where the manual station is installed, but not necessarily trained in the operation of the fire alarm system.

Furthermore, Clause 7.4.1 does not state or imply that a "responsible person" is an acceptable alternative to a tool or device.

Should you require any additional information, please contact Mahendra (Mike) Prasad at 416-757-5250 Ext. 61242 or email: mahendra.prasad@ca.ul.com

Yours truly,



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