

# THE COMPLIANCE ENGINE

By BRYCER



City of  
New Braunfels



# INTRODUCTION

- The Compliance Engine is a simple web-based service for code officials to track and drive inspection, testing and maintenance of fire protection systems.
- It allows third party reporting of inspection and maintenance on the systems.



# FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS

Approved devices, equipment and systems used to detect a fire, activate an alarm, extinguish or control a fire and manage or control products of a fire or combustion.



Fire Suppression Systems



Fire Alarm Systems



Fire Detection Systems

# TYPES OF FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS

- Fire protection systems are required on a majority of new commercial construction and the requirements are based on many factors including size, use and occupant load.
- There are currently over 5,000 different types of fire protection systems in the city. The most common are:
  - Automatic Sprinkler Systems-Multiple Types
  - Fixed Pipe Systems-Restaurants and Spray Booths
  - Automatic Fire Alarm Systems
  - Manual Fire Alarm Systems

# INSPECTIONS

- The current adopted fire code for the City of New Braunfels requires that fire protection systems shall be maintained in an operative condition at all times and shall be replaced or repaired where defective.
- The length of times between inspections is determined by the type of system based on National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA), with annual inspections being the most common.
- The Adopted Fire Code Section 108.3 Recordkeeping authorizes the Fire Code Official to prescribe the form and format of recordkeeping.



# DEFICIENCIES, IMPAIRMENT, OUT OF SERVICE

- Under the Texas Department of Insurance and Texas Administrative Code the inspector must notify the local Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) in writing of all non-compliant systems within five business days for a Yellow Tag and within twenty-four hours for a Red Tag.
- Red Tag indicates impairment
- Yellow Tag indicates non-compliance

Sealed Printing Ltd.  
EQ-800-555-3040  
4.5.5.3-1 Impairment Tag

www.sealedprintingtags.com  
Form: HGA-4-1-1-1-1-1-1-1  
Printed in Canada

**Your Company Name**

12345 6th Street,  
Ste. 111  
Your Town, GA 30000  
000-000-0000

INSPECTOR LICENSE# CL000000  
INSPECTOR SIGNATURE:

FACILITY:

ADDRESS:

**IMPAIRMENT TAG**  
DO NOT REMOVE  
BY ORDER OF  
THE STATE FIRE  
MARSHAL

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC  
2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

SPC-42 (Edition: 2006)  
NFPA 704 Standards  
NFPA Yellow Non-compliance

www.sealedprintingtags.com  
Form: HGA-4-1-1-1-1-1-1-1  
Printed in Canada

**Your Business Name**

Permit # P 00000

12345 Your Street  
Home Town, NJ 08000

(732) 000-0000

www.website.com

ID Number 1234567  
Inspector's Name

Signature of Inspector

**NON COMPLIANCE TAG**  
DO NOT REMOVE  
BY ORDER OF  
THE STATE FIRE  
MARSHAL  
SYSTEM NOT IN  
COMPLIANCE WITH  
NFPA STANDARDS

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC  
2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016

# PROTECTION OF LIFE AND PROPERTY

It is imperative that the fire protection systems work properly as designed. These systems notify occupants of a fire and can control or extinguish the fire prior to the fire departments arrival. Any deficiencies or impairments of the fire protection system can negatively affect life safety and the fire department's ability to protect property.



# CURRENT PROCESS

- The vendor submits a red tag or yellow tag notification through an online smartsheet submission.
- These deficiencies are often captured during the required maintenance and inspection of the systems.
- Many systems are not inspected and maintained as required due to a variety of reasons.
- The lack of maintenance and inspection lead to multiple false alarms that the fire department responds to annually as well as unprotected structures and occupants.
- Currently we have over 300 reported red/yellow tags.



# THE COMPLAINT ENGINE

- Maintains a database of the systems in our jurisdiction.
- Initial inspection renewal dates are set for one year from the start date.
- Renewal letters are sent out 35 days prior to the required inspection date.
- Once the inspections have occurred the contracted companies that performed the inspections submit a report to The Compliance Engine.
- A fee of 15.00 is charged annually to the contractor per system to submit reports. (Approximately 50% of the time this fee is passed on from the contractors to the customer.)
- If the required inspection has not occurred at 45 days a letter is sent to the occupancy. At 60 days past the due date calls are made to the occupancy.

# THE COMPLIANCE ENGINE-RED/YELLOW

- Once The Compliance Engine receives notice of a red tag we are sent an e-mail immediately.
- Once The Compliance Engine receives a yellow tag it is inputted into the database and viewable.
- The occupancy is contacted immediately by The Compliance Engine with written follow-up and escalation to phone calls if the impairments are not corrected.
- Records of ALL contacts with occupancies are documented and viewable in the database.

# SUMMARY

- The Fire Marshal's office often cannot follow-up on impairment notices in a timely manner.
- The Compliance Engine will assist with ensuring that fire protection systems are inspected and maintained.
- The notifications and up to date database will allow the Fire Marshal's Office to focus on non-compliant occupancies.
- The contract with The Compliance Engine can be cancelled for no cause at any time. If cancelled the data in the system is transferred to the fire department.
- The 15.00 fee charged per system cannot be raised without permission from the city. Any occupancy can be exempted from the requirement that their systems be included, and the associated fee charged to the contractor.

# QUESTIONS?



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New Braunfels