



REQUIREMENTS for EXISTING BUILDINGS including those Existing Buildings with Modification in Use or Activity	
Definition:	<p><u>Existing Buildings are:</u></p> <p>A- Those constructed projects that do not have Civil Defense-approved Engineering Plans but have obtained a Building Completion Certificate from the Ministry of Municipality (Building Permit Section).</p>
1.0	Fire and Life Safety Requirements
1.1	<u>Where an Existing Building has only a Single Exit Stair but is necessary to add another staircase.</u>
1.1.1	An existing building with only one (1) exit shall provide one of the following options, in order of priority:
1.1.1.1	1st Priority. The existing building shall be provided with an Outside (Exit) Stair that complies with Qatar Civil Defense (QCD) Technical Requirements Guide for Exit Stairs, and is located external of the building for emergency use at each floor level.
1.1.1.2	2nd Priority. The existing building shall be protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system.
1.1.1.3	<p>3rd Priority. Exit access corridors in a single exit existing building shall be protected with self-closing door assemblies and fire rated wall.</p> <p>Exit access corridor WALLS in existing buildings shall be upgraded to a min. of 1-hour fire resistance rating (FRR) in buildings three (3) or fewer stories, and 2-hours FRR where the building is four or more stories.</p> <p>DOORS that open onto exit access corridors shall be self-closing and self-latching, and shall have not less than 1-hour fire protection rating (FPR) in buildings three (3) or fewer stories, and 1.5-hours FPR where the building is four or more stories.</p>
1.2	<p>The provisions of either option in item 1.1.1.2 or in item 1.1.1.3, require that the existing building's interior finish shall be of non-combustible materials.</p> <p>Avoid placing or installing any type of furniture, furnishing or decoration that may reduce the width or obstruct the use of the exit access corridors.</p> <p>The interior finish materials for exit access corridors shall be classified as Class B or Class C in accordance with NFPA 101 Section 10.2.</p>
1.3	When a fire command center or fire pump room is located on floors below ground level (basement), appropriate signs and markings shall be provided from the entry and in all access leading to the fire command center.
1.4	<u>Existing Buildings where Firefighting and Smoke-Stop Lobbies are required but not provided shall meet the following requirements:</u>



**General Directorate of Civil Defense
Ministry of Interior
State of Qatar**



1.4.1	Instead of providing the required firefighting lobbies and the smoke-stop lobbies, the existing protection of the main corridors, lobbies and the exit stairs will suffice.
1.5	<u>Existing Buildings where Firefighting Elevator(s) and Ambulance Stretcher Accommodation Elevator(s) are required shall meet the following requirements:</u>
1.5.1	The existing elevator(s), with their installed size and load capacity, shall be permitted to serve as the required Firefighting Elevator(s) and Ambulance Stretcher Accommodation Elevator(s).
2.0	Extinguishment System Requirements
2.1	<u>Existing buildings that required an Automatic Sprinkler System shall meet the following requirements:</u>
2.1.1	Existing buildings shall be fully equipped with an approved and supervised automatic fire sprinkler system in accordance with Civil Defense Technical Requirements Guide. A grace period of no more than two years may be granted, starting from the date of obtaining the approved engineering drawings for the existing building, along with the owner's written commitment to install the automatic sprinkler system.
2.2	<u>Ceiling Voids shall be exempted from the sprinkler system requirement provided that all of the following conditions are met:</u>
2.2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The ceiling must be made of and contain non-combustible materials. ◦ The services within the ceiling voids shall be limited to air-conditioning, plumbing, and electrical connections. ◦ The spaces within the ceiling voids shall not be used for storage. ◦ The lobby, main corridors, multi-tenant offices, and dwelling units shall be completely enclosed, with ceilings, floors, and walls serving as fire and smoke barriers. <p><i>All of the conditions stated above that exempt the provisions of an automatic sprinkler system in ceiling voids (in a sprinkler-protected building) shall be indicated as notes in the Cover Page of the Life Safety Plans and the Firefighting System Plans.</i></p>
2.3	<u>Existing Buildings with Firewater Tank Capacity that is insufficient and NOT in accordance with QCD Technical Requirements Guide shall meet the following requirements:</u>
2.3.1	The existing building shall provide a water tank capable of operating the pump for thirty (30) minutes, as well as breeching inlets to feed the tank and firefighting system in accordance with the QCD Technical Requirements Guide.
2.4	<u>Provisions of a Wet Standpipe System in Existing Buildings with habitable height of 28 meters and above (high-rise). If a dry standpipe system is already installed in an existing high-rise building and unable to provide Wet Standpipe, the following condition(s) shall be met:</u>



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2.4.1	Existing dry standpipe system shall be permitted to remain in use, provided that the existing system is inspected and approved by Operation Department of the General Directorate for Civil Defense (QCD).
3.0	Fire Alarm and Detection System Requirement
3.1	<u>Existing Buildings where a Mass Notification System is required shall meet the following requirements:</u>
3.1.1	A mass notification system is not required if the building is totally covered by an automatic fire alarm system, and the building administration shall conduct two (2) or more fire evacuation drills per year as a minimum.
3.2	<u>Ceiling Voids shall be exempted from the detection system requirement provided that all of the following conditions are met:</u>
3.2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The ceiling must be made of and contain non-combustible materials. ◦ The services within the ceiling voids shall be limited to air-conditioning, plumbing, and electrical connections. ◦ The spaces within the ceiling voids shall not be used for storage. ◦ The lobby, main corridors, multi-tenant offices, and dwelling units shall be completely enclosed, with ceilings, floors, and walls serving as fire and smoke barriers. <p><i>All of the conditions stated above that exempt the provisions of a fire detection system in ceiling voids shall be indicated as notes in the Cover Page of the Life Safety Plans and Detection System.</i></p>
3.3	Provisions of Fire Telephone in Existing Buildings
3.3.1	Fire Telephone is not required in existing buildings. The QCD Operations Department will rely on (their) wireless communication system devices.
4.0	Ventilation System Requirements
4.1	<u>Existing Buildings where Smoke Control System is required shall meet the following requirements:</u>
4.1.1	The building shall be provided with a single injection in the exit staircase. The pressure in the stairs shall be greater than that in the adjacent corridors, with a door opening force not exceeding 100 N.