



In an emergency, it's important the fire department and emergency responders are able to quickly locate and access critical controls for fire protection equipment. Obstructed or poorly marked equipment can cause delays in firefighting operations, which can jeopardize life safety and property.

The International Fire Code (IFC) sets forth requirements for fire protection equipment identification and access. Rooms or areas containing controls, leading to controls or valves shall be identified in an approved manner. As a general rule, fire protection equipment and locations are identified by a red sign with white letters. Unless where otherwise specified or approved, letters on the signs shall be a minimum one-inch in height. For Fire Department Connection (FDC) identification, see Public Information Handout F-55.

ROOMS CONTAINING CONTROLS

The signs required to identify the fire protection equipment and control locations must be constructed of durable materials, permanently installed and readily visible. Here are some examples:



SYSTEM CONTROLS

The following sign examples shall be placed at each system control riser or sectional control valve assembly by the installing contractor to identify the specific valves, floor levels, zones or areas they serve.



The installing contractor shall also identify a hydraulically designed sprinkler system with a machine engraved weatherproof metal, or rigid plastic sign secured to the riser it serves with corrosion resistant wire, chain, or other approved means. Such signs shall be placed at the alarm valve, dry valve, pre-action valve, or deluge valve supplying the corresponding hydraulically designed area.

