

661—275.3(100C) Responsible managing employee. Each fire extinguishing system contractor shall designate a responsible managing employee and may designate one or more alternate responsible managing employees. A contractor may designate more than one responsible managing employee in order to satisfy the requirements for more than one endorsement as provided in subrule 275.1(2). If more than one responsible managing employee is designated, the contractor shall indicate for which responsible managing employee each designated alternate managing employee serves as an alternate.

275.3(1) The responsible managing employee or employees shall be designated in the application for certification; and, if a responsible managing employee is no longer acting in that role, the contractor shall so notify the fire marshal, in writing, within 30 calendar days, on a form designated by the fire marshal.

275.3(2) If a responsible managing employee is no longer acting in that role and the contractor has designated an alternate responsible managing employee, the alternate responsible managing employee shall become the responsible managing employee and the contractor shall so notify the fire marshal, in writing, within 30 calendar days of the date on which the preceding responsible managing employee ceased to act in that role. If the contractor has designated more than one alternate responsible managing employee, the notice to the fire marshal shall indicate which alternate responsible managing employee has assumed the position of responsible managing employee.

275.3(3) If a responsible managing employee designated by a fire extinguishing system contractor is no longer acting in the role of responsible managing employee and the contractor has not designated an alternate responsible managing employee, the contractor shall designate a new responsible managing employee and shall notify the fire marshal, in writing, of the designation within six months of the date on which the former responsible managing employee ceased to act in that capacity, on a form designated by the fire marshal. If the fire marshal has not been notified of the appointment of a new responsible managing employee within six months of the date on which a responsible managing employee ceased serving in that capacity, the fire marshal shall suspend the certification of the fire extinguishing system contractor.

275.3(4) A responsible managing employee or an alternate responsible managing employee shall meet one of the following requirements:

a. Current licensure as a professional engineer by the Iowa engineering and land surveying examining board, with competence in fire extinguishing system design.

b. Current certification by the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies at level III or above in fire protection technology, for automatic sprinkler system layout, special hazards suppression systems, or both.

(1) Prior to April 1, 2008, a fire extinguishing system contractor may receive provisional certification if the person designated as the contractor's responsible managing employee has initiated procedures for obtaining certification by the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies at level III in fire protection technology for automatic sprinkler system layout, special hazards suppression systems, or both, and has satisfactorily completed testing which is offered by a third party and has been approved by the fire marshal, for competency in fire protection technology for automatic sprinkler system layout, special hazards suppression systems, or both. The contractor shall provide the fire marshal with notification and documentation of the satisfactory completion of required third-party testing within 30 days after the date on which the contractor's provisional certification was initially issued.

After one year of provisional certification of the contractor, the responsible managing employee shall have current certification by the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies at level II or above in fire protection technology for automatic sprinkler system layout, special hazards suppression systems, or both. Documentation that this requirement has been met shall be provided by the contractor to the fire marshal within 30 days after the one-year anniversary of the effective date of the initial provisional certification.

Provisional certification shall not be recognized on or after April 1, 2009.

(2) Reserved.

c. A contractor may install preengineered dry chemical or wet agent fire suppression systems, if the responsible managing employee meets the requirements specified in subparagraph (1). Until April 1, 2009, a contractor may install preengineered dry chemical or wet agent fire suppression systems, if the responsible managing employee meets the requirements specified in subparagraph (2), and the contractor has received provisional certification prior to April 1, 2008.

(1) Certification by the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies at level II or above in fire protection technology, for special hazards suppression systems; certification by the National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors in preengineered kitchen fire suppression systems or preengineered industrial fire suppression systems; or satisfactory completion of an applicable training or testing program which has been approved by the fire marshal.

(2) On or prior to April 1, 2008, a contractor may receive provisional certification with endorsement for installation of preengineered dry chemical or wet agent systems if the responsible managing employee has completed training required by a manufacturer of at least one system which the contractor installs or maintains. A contractor who is applying for provisional certification on or after April 1, 2007, shall provide documentation to the fire marshal of such training. A contractor who has received provisional certification prior to April 1, 2007, shall, by April 1, 2007, provide documentation of either training required by a manufacturer of at least one system which the contractor installs or maintains or of the training described in subparagraph (1). If satisfactory documentation is provided of the training required in subparagraph (1), the provisional status of the certification shall be removed at no cost to the contractor.

Provisional certification shall not be recognized on or after April 1, 2009.

d. A contractor may install preengineered water-based systems in one- or two-family dwellings if the responsible managing employee meets the following requirements:

(1) Satisfactory completion of any training required by the manufacturer for the installation of any system the contractor installs; and

(2) Satisfactory completion of an applicable training or testing program which has been approved by the fire marshal.

Until April 1, 2008, a contractor may receive provisional certification if the responsible managing employee has satisfactorily completed training required by the manufacturer for the installation of each system which the contractor installs. The provisional certification shall not be recognized on or after April 1, 2009.

e. A contractor may inspect and test water-based fire extinguishing systems if the responsible managing employee has current certification from the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies at level III in fire protection technology, inspection and testing of water-based systems.

(1) Prior to April 1, 2008, a contractor may receive provisional certification with an endorsement for inspection and testing of water-based fire extinguishing systems if the responsible managing employee has initiated procedures for obtaining certification from the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies at level III in fire protection technology, inspection and testing of water-based systems. After one year of provisional certification with an endorsement for inspection and testing of water-based fire extinguishing systems, the responsible managing employee shall have certification from the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies at level II in fire protection technology, inspection and testing of water-based systems.

Provisional certification shall not be recognized on or after April 1, 2009.

(2) Reserved.

275.3(5) In any case in which training or testing that is offered to satisfy the requirements of this rule is required to be approved by the fire marshal, such approval is required prior to acceptance of the training or testing to meet certification requirements. Approval by the fire marshal of any training or testing to meet these requirements may be sought by the individual, firm, or organization providing the testing or training or initiated by the fire marshal. Any individual, firm or organization seeking to obtain such approval may apply to the fire marshal. An application form for approval of a testing or training program may be obtained by contacting the fire extinguishing system contractors certification program as specified in subrule 275.1(4).

275.3(6) Work performed by a contractor subject to these rules shall be limited to areas of competence indicated by the specific certification or certifications or other training requirements met by the responsible managing employee.

275.3(7) Nothing in this rule shall be interpreted to conflict with or diminish any requirement for training or certification for anyone installing or servicing a fire extinguishing system or portable fire extinguisher set forth in any rule of the fire marshal or local fire ordinance or standard adopted by reference therein.