



**GEORGIA STATE FINANCING AND INVESTMENT COMMISSION
CONSTRUCTION DIVISION**

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INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: State Fire Marshal

From: GSFIC/State ADA Coordinator's Office

Subject: Technical Assistance for the Georgia Accessibility Code

Date: June 2014 Revised

215 Fire Alarm Systems – 702 Visual Alarms

Question: Are Visible Alarm systems required in Employee Work Areas?

Answer: No. However, 215.3 Employee Work Areas: Where employee work areas have audible alarm coverage, the wiring system shall be designed so that visible alarms complying with 702 can be integrated into the alarm system.

Question: When are Visible Alarms required in Existing Facilities?

Answer: 215.1 General Exception: In existing facilities visible alarms shall not be required except where an existing fire alarm system is upgraded or replaced, or a new fire alarm system is installed.

Note: In the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design's Section 702 Fire Alarm Systems are required to comply with NFPA 72, (1999 or 2002 Edition) (Incorporated by reference. See "Referenced Standards" in Chapter 1), except that the maximum allowable sound level of audible notification appliances complying with section 4-3.2.1 of NFPA 72 (1999 edition) shall have a sound level no more than 110 dB at the minimum hearing distance from the audible appliance.

State ADA Coordinator's Office