

# 2021 Virginia Construction Code

## CHAPTER 30 ELEVATORS AND CONVEYING SYSTEMS

### SECTION 3007 FIRE SERVICE ACCESS ELEVATOR

#### 3007.1 General.

Where required by [Section 403.6.1](#), every floor above and including the lowest level of fire department vehicle access of the building shall be served by fire service access elevators complying with [Sections 3007.1](#) through [3007.9](#). Except as modified in this section, fire service access elevators shall be installed in accordance with this chapter and [ASME A17.1/CSA B44](#).

#### Exceptions:

1. Elevators that only service an open or enclosed parking garage and the lobby of the building shall not be required to serve as fire service access elevators.
2. The elevator shall not be required to serve the top floor of a building where that floor is utilized only for equipment for building systems.

#### 3007.2 Automatic sprinkler system.

The building shall be equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with [Section 903.3.1.1](#), except as otherwise permitted by [Section 903.3.1.1.1](#) and as prohibited by [Section 3007.2.1](#).

##### 3007.2.1 Prohibited locations.

Automatic sprinklers shall not be installed in machine rooms, elevator machinery spaces, control rooms, control spaces and elevator hoistways of fire service access elevators.

##### 3007.2.2 Sprinkler system monitoring.

The sprinkler system shall have a sprinkler control valve supervisory switch and water-flow-initiating device provided for each floor that is monitored by the building's *fire alarm system*.

#### 3007.3 Water protection.

Water from the operation of an automatic sprinkler system outside the enclosed lobby shall be prevented from infiltrating into the hoistway enclosure in accordance with an approved method.

#### 3007.4 Shunt trip.

Means for elevator shutdown in accordance with [Section 3005.5](#) shall not be installed on elevator systems used for fire service access elevators.

#### 3007.5 Hoistway enclosures.

The fire service access elevator hoistway shall be located in a *shaft enclosure* complying with [Section 713](#).

##### 3007.5.1 Structural integrity of hoistway enclosures.

The fire service access elevator hoistway enclosure shall comply with [Sections 403.2.2.1](#) through [403.2.2.4](#).

##### 3007.5.2 Hoistway lighting.

When fire-fighters' emergency operation is active, the entire height of the hoistway shall be illuminated at not less than 1 footcandle (11 lux) as measured from the top of the car of each fire service access elevator.

#### 3007.6 Fire service access elevator lobby.

The fire service access elevator shall open into an enclosed fire service access elevator lobby in accordance with [Sections 3007.6.1](#) through [3007.6.5](#). Egress is permitted through the enclosed elevator lobby in accordance with Item 1 of [Section 1016.2](#).

**Exception:** Where a fire service access elevator has two entrances onto a floor, the second entrance shall be permitted to be protected in accordance with [Section 3006.3](#) of the *International Building Code*.

##### 3007.6.1 Access to interior exit stairway or ramp.

The enclosed fire service access elevator lobby shall have *direct access* from the enclosed elevator lobby to an enclosure for an *interior exit stairway* or *ramp*.

**Exception:** Access to an *interior exit stairway* or *ramp* shall be permitted to be through a protected path of travel that has a level of fire protection not less than the elevator lobby enclosure. The protected path shall be separated from the enclosed elevator lobby through an opening protected by a smoke and draft control assembly in accordance [Section 716.2.2.1](#).

##### 3007.6.2 Lobby enclosure.

The fire service access elevator lobby shall be enclosed with a *smoke barrier* having a *fire-resistance rating* of not less

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than 1 hour, except that lobby doorways shall comply with [Section 3007.6.3](#).

**Exception:** Enclosed fire service access elevator lobbies are not required at the *levels of exit discharge*.

### 3007.6.3 Lobby doorways.

Other than doors to the hoistway, elevator control room or elevator control space, each doorway to an enclosed fire service access elevator lobby shall be provided with a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -hour *fire door assembly* complying with [Section 716](#). The *fire door assembly* shall comply with the smoke and draft control door assembly requirements of [Section 716.2.2.1.1](#) and be tested in accordance with [UL 1784](#) without an artificial bottom seal.

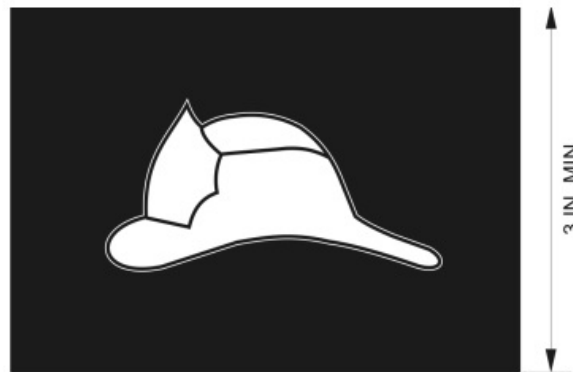
### 3007.6.4 Lobby size.

Regardless of the number of fire service access elevators served by the same elevator lobby, the enclosed fire service access elevator lobby shall be not less than 150 square feet (14 m<sup>2</sup>) in an area with a dimension of not less than 8 feet (2440 mm).

### 3007.6.5 Fire service access elevator symbol.

A pictorial symbol of a standardized design designating which elevators are fire service access elevators shall be installed on each side of the hoistway door frame on the portion of the frame at right angles to the fire service access elevator lobby. The fire service access elevator symbol shall be designed as shown in [Figure 3007.6.5](#) and shall comply with the following:

1. The fire service access elevator symbol shall be not less than 3 inches (76 mm) in height.
2. The helmet shall contrast with the background, with either a light helmet on a dark background or a dark helmet on a light background.
3. The vertical center line of the fire service access elevator symbol shall be centered on the hoistway door frame. Each symbol shall be not less than 78 inches (1981 mm), and not more than 84 inches (2134 mm) above the finished floor at the threshold.



For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

**FIGURE 3007.6.5  
FIRE SERVICE ACCESS ELEVATOR SYMBOL**

### 3007.7 Elevator system monitoring.

The fire service access elevator shall be continuously monitored at the *fire command center* by a standard emergency service interface system meeting the requirements of [NFPA 72](#).

### 3007.8 Electrical power.

The following features serving each fire service access elevator shall be supplied by both normal power and Type 60/Class 2/Level 1 standby power:

1. Elevator equipment.
2. Elevator hoistway lighting.
3. *Ventilation* and cooling equipment for elevator machine rooms, control rooms, machine spaces and control spaces.
4. Elevator car lighting.

#### 3007.8.1 Protection of wiring or cables.

Wires or cables that are located outside of the elevator hoistway and machine room and that provide normal or standby power, control signals, communication with the car, lighting, heating, air conditioning, *ventilation* and fire-detecting systems to fire service access elevators shall be protected using one of the following methods:

1. Cables used for survivability of required critical circuits shall be listed in accordance with [UL 2196](#) and shall have a *fire-resistance rating* of not less than 2 hours.

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2. *Electrical circuit protective systems* shall have a *fire-resistance rating* of not less than 2 hours. *Electrical circuit protective systems* shall be installed in accordance with their listing requirements.
3. Construction having a *fire-resistance rating* of not less than 2 hours.

**Exception:** Wiring and cables to control signals are not required to be protected provided that wiring and cables do not serve Phase II emergency in-car operations.

### **3007.9 Standpipe hose connection.**

A Class I standpipe hose connection in accordance with [Section 905](#) shall be provided in the *interior exit stairway* and *ramp* having *direct access* from the enclosed fire service access elevator lobby.

#### **3007.9.1 Access.**

The exit enclosure containing the standpipe shall have access to the floor without passing through the enclosed fire service access elevator lobby.