

29 July 2005 *Question: Std: NZS 4512*

An emergency warning and intercommunication system (EWIS) to comply with AS 2220.2 is permitted to be used as the alerting devices (406.8).

AS 2220.2-1989 Table 5.1 (and AS 1670-4-2004 Table 4.1) requires cable that traverses any fire compartment to service another fire compartment to be mechanically and fire protected.

Question:

Does the cable itself have to be of a fire insulated type or is it acceptable to use a suitable mechanically rated cable without fire insulation when the trunk duct it runs through is appropriately fire rated and in addition is protected by an automatic fire sprinkler system?

Interpretation: Issued by the Alarms and Detection Group

ANSWER:

The EWIS installation requirements of AS2220.2 must be fully complied with. Non fire-rated cable installed in a fire rated duct would only be acceptable if the arrangement has been formally certified as compliant with the cable protection requirements specified in AS2220.2.

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The presence of a Sprinkler System is immaterial.