7.2.12 Area of Refuge (Area of Rescue Assistance) Emergency Communication Systems

7.2.12.1 General

7.2.12.1.1 An area of refuge used as part of a required accessible means of egress in accordance with 7.5.4; consisting of a story in a building that is protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 9.7; and having an accessible story that is one or more stories above or below a story of exit discharge shall meet the following criteria:

1. Each elevator landing shall be provided with a two-way communication system for communication between the elevator landing and the fire command center or a central control point approved by the authority having jurisdiction.
2. Directions for the use of the two-way communication system, instructions for summoning assistance via the two-way communication system, and written identification of the location shall be posted adjacent to the two-way communication system.
3. The two-way communication system shall include both audible and visible signals.

7.2.12.2.5 The area of refuge shall be provided with a two-way communication system for communication between the area of refuge and a central control point. The door opening to the stair enclosure or the elevator door and the associated portion of the area of refuge that the stair enclosure door opening or elevator door serves shall be identified by signage. (See 7.2.12.3.5.)

7.2.12.2.6 Instructions for summoning assistance, via the two-way communication system, and written identification of the area of refuge location shall be posted adjacent to the two-way communication system.

7.2.12.3.5 Each area of refuge shall be identified by a sign that reads as follows: AREA OF REFUGE.

7.2.12.3.5.1 The sign required by 7.2.12.3.5 shall conform to the requirements of ICC/ANSI A117.1, American National Standard for Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities, for such signage and shall display the International Symbol of Accessibility. Signs also shall be located as follows:

1. At each door opening providing access to the area of refuge.
2. At all exits not providing an accessible means of egress, as defined in 3.3.170.1.
3. Where necessary to indicate clearly the direction to an area of refuge.

7.2.12.3.5.2 Signs required by 7.2.12.3.5 shall be illuminated as required for exit signs where exit sign illumination is required.

7.2.12.3.6 Tactile signage complying with ICC/ANSI A117.1, American National Standard for Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities, shall be located at each door opening to an area of refuge.