NSW FIRE BRIGADES

GUIDELINES FOR TACTICAL FIRE PLANS

POLICY NO. 6

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1   Scope

This document details NSW Fire Brigades (NSWFB) guidelines for tactical fire plans required in fire control rooms.

2   Application

This guideline should be used by building developers when producing tactical fire plans.

Tactical fire plans are building and/or site plans fixed within a fire control room which shows the location of fire safety equipment. They are in the form of colour coded schematic drawings.

Tactical fire plans are utilised by fire fighters and other emergency personnel to devise appropriate incident management tactics during an emergency event.

The main objective of a tactical fire plan is to provide detail of a building's active and passive fire protection equipment and provide essential instructions for their operation in case of fire.

Satisfying the requirements detailed within this document will ensure tactical fire plans have a consistent and standardised format for familiarisation by personnel during time critical scenarios.

3   General Requirements

A 'fire control room' is defined as a fire control centre that is required to be within a separate fire rated room. Specification E1.8 (6) of the Building Code of Australia (BCA) states that all buildings with an effective height exceeding 50m are required to have a fire control room.

Specification E1.8 (9)(a)(vi) of the BCA states that a colour-coded, durable tactical fire plan is required in a fire control room.

The NSWFB recommends that tactical fire plans are also provided where a fire control centre facility exists, and at premises involving the storage of dangerous goods.

Note: Tactical fire plans should be placed with the emergency plan if one is required by the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. If no emergency plan is required, the fire plans shall be located at the fire control centre.

Tactical fire plans shall comprise:

- a plan view of each level showing fire barriers and fire protection equipment,
- sectional elevations of building showing fire barriers, service risers and other fire protection equipment,
- schematic diagrams including:
    — fire mains systems (including isolation valves),
    — smoke control and stair pressurization systems,
    — fire detection and control systems,
    — essential service power distribution systems,
- essential instructions for operation and control of emergency systems.

The drawings should be clear and unambiguous with sufficient detail of all important fire safety measures. Superfluous information (e.g. contents, services, tenancy details, measurements) should be omitted.

Tactical fire plans should not be smaller than 1:200 scale, however the NSWFB may accept a scale of up to 1:500 for buildings which have a very large floor area.

Note: The NSWFB should be consulted if plans having a scale greater than 1:200 is proposed.

The plans must be durable, fade resistant and protected from damage (e.g. framed, laminated), and permanently displayed in a suitable location.

4   Tactical Fire Plan Requirements

The following symbols and colour-coding should be used for tactical fire plans;

Type	Description	Colour	Symbol
Fire Safety Measures	Booster Assembly — Hydrant	Red	
	Booster Assembly — Sprinkler	Red	
	Emergency Lighting	Green	
	Emergency Telephone	Red	
	Emergency Warning and Intercommunication System (EWIS) Panel	Blue	
	Fire Control Room / Centre	Red Border	FCR
	Fire Fan Control Panel	Hatched Pink	FFCP
	Fire Indicator Panel	Hatched Pink	FIP
	Fire Wall / Compartments	Hatched Red	
	Smoke Wall / Compartments	Hatched Red	
	Hose Reel	Red	
	Hydrant Valve	Red	
	Isolating / Control Valves — Normally Open	Red	
	Isolating / Control Valves— Normally Closed	Red	
	Manual Alarm/Call Point	Red	MCP
	Pump Set (Sprinkler, Hydrant)	Red	
	Smoke Detector	Red	
	Sprinklers	Red	
	Static Water Storage	Red	
	Thermal Detector	Red	
	Warden Intercom Phone	Blue	

Table 1: Colour-codes for fire protection systems

Type	Description	Colour	Symbol
Egress	Escalators (Emergency Stop)	Red	
	Fire Isolated Stairways, Ramps and Passageways	Solid Green	
	Lifts (Emergency) and Lift Recall Controls	Red	
	Pressurised Stairways, Ramps and Passageways	Hatched Green	
Air Handling Systems	Fire Dampers	Red	
	Return Air Shaft / Duct	White	
	Smoke Exhaust Shaft / Duct	Yellow	
	Supply Air Shaft / Duct	Blue	
Electrical	Electrical Risers and Cupboards	Orange	
	Stand-by Power Equipment	Orange	
	Substation / Transformer	Orange	
	Switch room	Orange	SWITCH
Miscellaneous	Fuel Storage, Distribution and Controls	Purple (with dangerous goods placard)	
	Gas Storage, Distribution and Controls	Brown (with dangerous goods placard)	
	Special Risk Areas (e.g. Laboratories)	Yellow (with dangerous goods placard)	

Table 1: Colour-codes for fire protection systems

Where multiple equipment exists within one cupboard (e.g. emergency telephone within a hose reel cupboard) and each cannot be clearly indicated within the confines of the cupboard, either:

(a)   colour each cupboard red and clearly list all contents;

(b)   magnify the cupboard to individually identify the equipment contained within; or

(c)   use decals/symbols which individually identify the equipment contained within (refer to Figure 1, below).
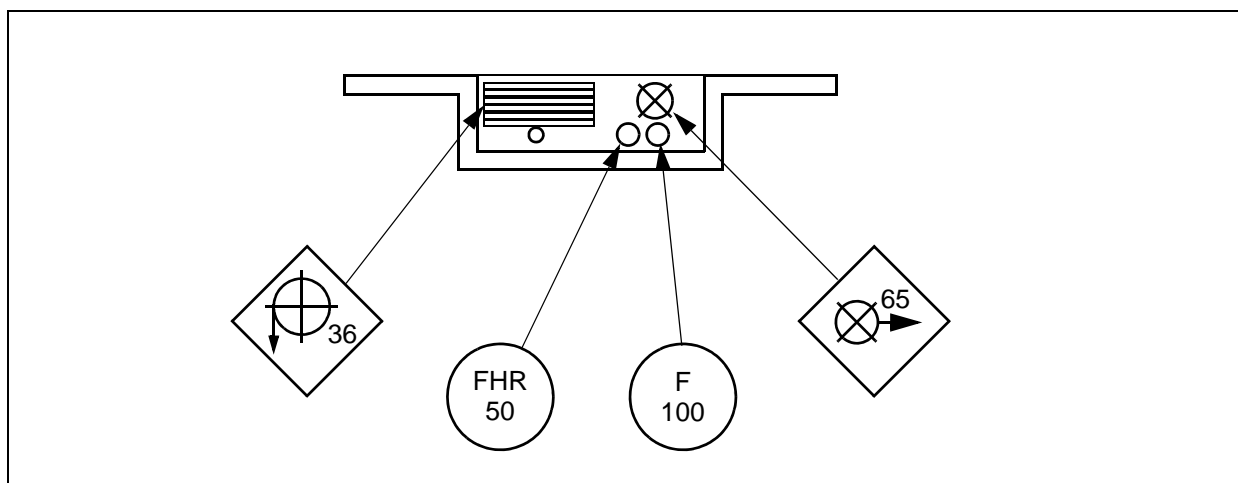

Figure 1 Identifying multiple equipment within a cupboard

Only required exits should be identified by colour-coding. All other stairways, exits and entrances should only be shown as part of the building outline.

Fire and smoke doors should be identified along egress paths and on fire compartment boundaries.

Distribution ducts should not be included as they will unnecessarily complicate the drawings. Where detectors are located in duct work, a section of duct should be included to help identify the location of the detector.

5   Approval Process

Discussions on the development of tactical fire plans should be initiated as soon as practical in the building design process. Using a design system such as Computer Aided Design (CAD) to produce these plans should simplify the approval process, particularly when alterations occur.

If the drawings become congested it is recommended that the size of the drawings be increased.

Note: *If increasing the drawing is not possible then the NSWFB should be consulted regarding alternatives.*

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NSW FIRE BRIGADES

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