

Hazard Index-

Hazard Index 1: A hazard index of 1 should be assigned where violations encountered are of a minor technical nature, that are readily repairable, and the building is considered a low inspection priority (See 2-1.1), and may be protected with sprinkler protection, or when no violations are noted. A follow up inspection is not required. Examples (not inclusive) of code violations that warrant a hazard index of 1: exit signs not working, unsecured handrails, self-closers missing, portable fire extinguishers without current inspection, or repairs to existing stairs.

Hazard Index 2: A hazard index of 2 should be assigned when violations encountered are of a technical nature, are easily repairable, and the building is considered a medium or high inspection priority (see 2-1.1). A follow up inspection is not required. Examples (not inclusive): A missing fire extinguisher, missing handrail, missing exit sign, missing outlet cover plate, extension cords, TQP inspection less than one year past due, missing self-closer, missing pull station on a fire alarm system, inadequate emergency lighting, or limited area sprinkler head.

Hazard Index 3: A hazard index of 3 should be assigned when violations encountered are of a technical or serious nature. Examples (not inclusive): undersized window for rescue and ventilation, smoke detectors not meeting current standards, TQP inspections more than a year past due, exit enclosure ratings, additional exits required, inoperable fire alarm/sprinkler system components, carbon monoxide detectors not to current code, installation of fire doors, protection of vertical openings, and fire separation. A hazard index of 3 requires a follow up inspection within the assigned abatement date unless an extension of time has been authorized.

Hazard Index 4: A hazard index of 4 should be assigned where one or more serious life safety hazards exist requiring **immediate** correction, examples (not inclusive): Propane cylinder inside a building, a bedroom with no secondary means of escape, a building with no smoke/carbon monoxide detector, chained exit door, obstructed exit, exposed energized electrical wiring posing an electrocution and fire hazard, holes or a missing vent pipe on a heating appliance, major structural damage, unapproved heating appliance, and an inoperable fire alarm/sprinkler system.

- Immediate action must be taken to reduce the risk to life safety.
- The serious life safety violation(s) must be abated the same day that it is identified and/or a follow up inspection must be conducted within 72 hours, based on risk. Verification of the corrections may be made by division staff, local officials, or by receipt of a compliance certificate, signed by the owner or his/her representative, within 72 hours of the initial inspection. If this verification is performed and indicates that the corrective action has been taken to abate the serious life safety hazard(s), then the hazard index may be re-classified to a lower hazard index. Follow the appropriate procedures accordingly.

Hazard Index 5: A hazard index of 5 is assigned when conditions are found that pose a high degree of risk requiring relocation of occupants, or the immediate closure of the building. This designation is reserved for conditions where an **imminent** hazard is present and likely to cause immediate harm. When possible, immediate contact of the regional manager or other management is necessary. Examples (not inclusive): carbon monoxide present, gas leak, severe structural collapse potential, explosion hazard, or threat of fire.

- When a severe and imminent hazard exists, evacuate the building and call 911. The Fire Department can play an important role in mitigating an imminent hazard.
- Contact the Regional Manager, or Central Office as soon as possible. If cellular coverage is unavailable, secure a landline or seek assistance from the responding department.
- Document the conditions as accurately and completely as possible.