

NFPA® 418

Standard for Heliports

2011 Edition



NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471
An International Codes and Standards Organization

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NFPA® 418

Standard for

Heliports

2011 Edition

This edition of NFPA 418, *Standard for Heliports*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Helicopter Facilities. It was issued by the Standards Council on December 14, 2010, with an effective date of January 3, 2011, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 418 was approved as an American National Standard on January 3, 2011.

Origin and Development of NFPA 418

The development of NFPA 418 began in 1965 after the NFPA Sectional Committee on Aircraft Hangars and Airport Facilities was asked to provide guidance on the construction and protection of elevated heliports. Earlier work had been done by the NFPA Sectional Committee on Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting with regard to fire protection in the event of accidents during flight operations, and the NFPA Sectional Committee on Aircraft Fuel Servicing developed the safeguards needed for the prevention of fire accidents during fueling operations at such locations.

In 1967, a *Tentative Standard on Elevated Heliport Construction and Protection* was approved at the NFPA Annual Meeting. The 1968 edition was a revision of the tentative standard, including a change in title, and the 1973 edition was a complete revision of the 1968 edition. The 1979 edition contained further amendments. The 1990 edition added chapters for land-based facilities and offshore heliports, and the title was changed from *Standard on Rooftop Heliport Construction and Protection*, to *Standard for Heliports*.

The standard was revised for the 1995 edition. Criteria for rooftop helicopter hangars were added for the 2001 edition.

The 2006 edition was a partial revision.

The 2011 edition revises the requirements for means of egress, fuel equipment locations, and suppression system design and testing, and a requirement for emergency response planning has been added.



Documents

Document Sharing Hub

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NOTE: Membership on a committee shall not in and of itself constitute an endorsement of the Association or any document developed by the committee on which the member serves.

Committee Scope: This Committee shall have primary responsibility for documents on the fire protection criteria for the design and construction of elevated and ground level heliports, helistops, and helipads; fire protection requirements for heliports, helistops, and helipads; and requirements for rescue and fire-fighting operations at heliports, helistops, and helipads.



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NOTICE: An asterisk (*) following the number or letter designating a paragraph indicates that explanatory material on the paragraph can be found in Annex A.

Changes other than editorial are indicated by a vertical rule beside the paragraph, table, or figure in which the change occurred. These rules are included as an aid to the user in identifying changes from the previous edition. Where one or more complete paragraphs have been deleted, the deletion is indicated by a bullet (•) between the paragraphs that remain.

Information on referenced publications can be found in Chapter 2 and Annex D.

Chapter 1 Administration**1.1 Scope.**

1.1.1 This standard specifies the minimum requirements for fire protection for heliports and rooftop hangars.

1.1.2 This standard does not apply to ground-level helicopter hangars.

1.1.3 All hangars not covered by this standard are required to comply with NFPA 409, *Standard on Aircraft Hangars*.

1.1.4 Temporary landing sites and emergency evacuation facilities are outside the scope of this standard.

1.2 Purpose. The purpose of this standard is to establish minimum fire safety requirements for operation at heliports for the protection of persons, aircraft, and other property. (See Annex B, *Heliport Emergency Planning and Training for Safety Personnel*.)

1.3 New Technology.

1.3.1 Nothing in this standard shall be intended to restrict new technologies or alternative arrangements, provided the level of safety prescribed by this standard is not lowered.

1.3.2 Materials or devices not specifically designated by this standard shall be utilized in complete accord with all conditions, requirements, and limitations of their listings.

Chapter 2 Referenced Publications

2.1 General. The documents or portions thereof listed in this chapter are referenced within this standard and shall be considered part of the requirements of this document.

2.2 NFPA Publications. National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471.

NFPA 10, *Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers*, 2010 edition.

NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*, 2010 edition.

NFPA 14, *Standard for the Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems*, 2010 edition.

NFPA 20, *Standard for the Installation of Stationary Pumps for Fire Protection*, 2010 edition.

NFPA 25, *Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems*, 2011 edition.

NFPA 30, *Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code*, 2008 edition.

NFPA 70®, *National Electrical Code®*, 2011 edition.

NFPA 72®, *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, 2010 edition.

NFPA 99, *Standard for Health Care Facilities*, 2005 edition.

NFPA 101®, *Life Safety Code®*, 2009 edition.

NFPA 220, *Standard on Types of Building Construction*, 2009 edition.

NFPA 407, *Standard for Aircraft Fuel Servicing*, 2007 edition.

NFPA 409, *Standard on Aircraft Hangars*, 2011 edition.

NFPA 780, *Standard for the Installation of Lightning Protection Systems*, 2011 edition.

2.3 Other Publications.

2.3.1 FAA Publications. Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, Distribution Unit, M-494.3, Washington, DC 20590.

FAA AC 150/5390-2B, *Heliport Design Advisory Circular*, September 30, 2004.

2.3.2 UL Publications. Underwriters Laboratories Inc., 333 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook, IL 60062-2096.

UL 162, *Standard for Foam Equipment and Liquid Concentrates*, 1994 with revisions through September 1999.

2.3.3 U.S. Government Publications. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Military Specification, MIL-F-24385 (Navy), “Fire Extinguishing Agent, Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) Liquid Concentrate, For Fresh and Sea Water,” 21 November, 1969 (and all revisions and amendments thereto).

2.3.4 Other Publications.

Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary, 11th edition, Merriam-Webster, Inc., Springfield, MA, 2003.

2.4 References for Extracts in Mandatory Sections. (Reserved)**Chapter 3 Definitions**

3.1 General. The definitions contained in this chapter shall apply to the terms used in this standard. Where terms are not defined in this chapter or within another chapter, they shall be defined using their ordinarily accepted meanings within the context in which they are used. *Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th edition, shall be the source for the ordinarily accepted meaning.

3.2 NFPA Official Definitions.

3.2.1* Approved. Acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

