STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-51-99

November 9, 1999

Question: "Does Section 702.6, of the 1999 National Electrical Code portion of the 1999 State Building Code, allow a Kirk Key Lock Out System to be installed to satisfy the intent of the above-mentioned code section?"

Answer: After discussion with an Electrical Specialist from NFPA, it was explained that the Kirk Key Lock Out System would meet the intent of Section 702-2, of the abovementioned code, which states in part that optional standby systems are intended to supply on-site generator power to selected loads, either automatically or manually, and the fact that the Kirk Key System allows for only one switch to be in the closed position (energized) at any one time, it would meet the intent of Section 702-6, of the 1999 National Electrical Code.

The NFPA representative also stated that such system could not be used for emergency or legally required standby systems since the Kirk Key System does not comply with Section 700-6, for emergency systems, and Section 701.7, for legally required standby systems, since the switch is not automatic.