

# Fire Prevention

## Compliance Engine

### FAQ's

#### **1. What is Compliance Engine?**

Answer: Compliance Engine is a software program that manages the testing, maintenance and repair reports, required by the Fire Marshal under the International Fire Code, for all the fire protection systems in the City.

#### **2. What is a Fire Protection System?**

Answer: Fire Protection systems include:

- Building fire suppression
- Kitchen hood fire suppression
- Kitchen exhaust hood/cleaning
- Fire pumps
- Fire alarm systems
- Fire extinguishers
- Stand Pipe systems
- Smoke control systems and fire dampers
- Alternative fire suppression
- Emergency condition alarm system

#### **3. Why is it necessary to use Compliance Engine?**

Answer: The International Fire Code (IFC) requires that all fire Protection systems be maintained as installed, tested at regular intervals (see attached chart), and repaired as necessary. Not all systems in the City are being maintained and tested by the occupant as required by the IFC. This puts the occupant and the surrounding occupants at higher risk for a fire. Compliance Engine alerts the building occupant and the fire department that a fire protection system is due for service and tracks the progress of the service, notifying the fire department when testing or service is done, when maintenance is needed and when repairs are complete. The Compliance Engine application will assist the fire department in our efforts to obtain 100% compliance with the requirements of the IFC.

**4. What are some of the other advantages of using Compliance Engine?**

Answer:

- Compliance Engine is simple to use
- Reduces paper and saves file space
- Provides easy access to data both in the office and in the field
- Provides automatic notifications to business owners
- Provides automatic notifications to the fire department
- Standardized, easy to read forms
- Easy tracking and notification of system deficiencies
- Easy tracking of completed repairs
- Easy to read reports and monthly analysis of our data
- Creates departmental efficiencies

**5. When are business owners required to start reporting fire protection system testing, maintenance and repairs through Compliance Engine?**

Answer: January 1, 2015. The system is online now and can be used currently. All businesses are encouraged to use it now and there are a number of service companies already registered and currently using the Compliance Engine. January 1, 2015 use of the Compliance Engine becomes mandatory.

**6. Is there a cost for using Compliance Engine?**

Answer: Yes. Beginning January 1, 2015 there will be 2 ways for business owners to submit the required fire protection system maintenance and testing reports.

1. Use a registered service company. Registration for the service companies is free. Currently there is a \$10 fee per report filed by a service company on Compliance Engine.
2. For business owners choosing to use a vendor that is not registered and/or choose to submit a hard copy of the required reports to the fire department there is a \$50 administration fee per report charged by the fire department for entering the report on the Compliance Engine website.

**7. What is the penalty for non-compliance?**

Answer: The business owner can be issued a ticket. The ticket is a misdemeanor violation requiring an appearance in court and carries up to a \$500 fine and/or 90 days in jail.

**8. Can the business owner enter the information in Compliance Engine?**

Answer: No. In order maintain the integrity of the system it is necessary that the permission to enter information be limited to the service companies and the fire department.