



COLORADO SPRINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT
Division of the Fire Marshal
Administrative Ruling/Interpretation

Number:	1991-3		
Subject:	Safety Factor for Fire Sprinkler System Hydraulic Calculations		
Reference:	2009 IFC, 903.3.5		
Effective Date:	8/15/91	Issued By:	Dave E. Linebaugh
Revision Date:	10/15/13	Revised By:	D. Withee, Fire Prot. Engr
Approval Date:	8/15/91	Approved By:	Dave E. Linebaugh

PURPOSE: To provide for a reasonable safety factor in water supplies when calculating fire sprinkler system demands.

SCOPE: All hydraulically calculated fire sprinkler systems.

DESCRIPTION OF ISSUE: The Fire Department has historically used a 20% safety factor when giving fire flow information to fire sprinkler contractors for hydraulic calculation purposes on fire sprinkler systems. This factor appears to be somewhat excessive given the excellent water system in Colorado Springs.

DECISION: The safety factor for fire flow readings used for the design of hydraulically calculated fire sprinkler systems will now be 10% in lieu of the 20% currently being used