

Seattle Fire Prevention Division

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Submitting Acceptance Test Results Using www.thecomplianceengine.com

What System Types is this Required For?

Newly installed fire alarms (beginning 4/2022) and distributed antenna systems/bi-directional amplifiers (DAS/BDA) (as of 4/2021). We expect that in the future we will expand the approach to include more system types.

What is the New Form?

The form allows vendors to document that they performed full pre-testing as required for systems acceptance by Seattle Fire Code, NFPA 72, and other state and local codes. Inventory information is also required. Our website has a pdf of the [required fire alarm and BDA reports](#), that match the information vendors are required to submit using TCE.

How do I Use www.thecomplianceengine.com?

If you don't yet have a company account, your company will need to create one (free). After logging in, follow options to enter a report, then submit the "A-Fire Alarm Acceptance" or "A-DAS Acceptance" templates.

What's the Timeline for Submitting the Pre-Test Results Using the Acceptance Test Form?

Submit your results online prior to the inspection during which you are seeking a "fire final". Allow enough time so you can print a copy and bring it with you to the inspection. Seattle requires the printed version. Other jurisdictions may allow vendors to show the online version to inspectors using a tablet in the field. Please check with the local Fire Marshal's Office.

Why Do I Need to Have a Printed Copy on Site at the Time of Inspection?

We don't want connectivity or website issues to prevent our inspector from reviewing the report. This process helps ensure you receive a successful sign off by our SFD inspector.

How Soon After I Submit My Pre-Test Form Can I Print It?

You can generate and print a pdf of the report immediately after you submit it online. Bring this printed report to your inspection.

Is the Form Required for Tenant Improvements (TI's) and to receive Temporary Certificates of Occupancy (TCO)?

At this time, the form is only required when new (or replacement) fire alarm systems or DAS/BDA systems are being accepted.

The form is not required for tenant improvement projects, except if specifically directed by the AHJ. Do not use the form to report on changes to a part of the system that result from a tenant improvement.

We are aware that TI's change the device count and other inventory information stored in TCE, however the website does not yet offer a good way for the TI contractor to provide these updates. Instead, currently, the vendor performing annual testing and maintenance is responsible for verifying and updating inventory and device counts at the time of the confidence testing. Although the form does not need to be submitted to TCE, vendors and building owners remain responsible to perform all testing as required by Fire Code and NFPA 72 including Chapter 14 and ensure the systems remain fully code compliant.

The form is not required when requesting TCO. Once the system is ready for final acceptance, complete your pre-testing, upload results, and have a printed copy on site for your inspector.

Is the Form Required for Panel Replacements or Just Full New Systems?

In Seattle, [panel replacement projects](#) do not require the acceptance test to be submitted in TCE. Vendors and building owners are responsible to ensure the systems are replaced and maintained consistent with Fire Code and NFPA 72 including Chapter 14. In most other jurisdictions in the region, the acceptance test form is required for panel replacements. Please check with the local Fire Marshal's Office.

Is the Form Required for Projects with an Over-the-Counter (OTC) Permit?

That depends. What matters is not the type of permit, but whether a full new system is being "accepted". DAS/BDA systems are installed with low voltage electrical OTC permits. Fire Alarm systems are generally installed with a regular (not OTC) permit. In both cases, when new systems are being installed, pre-test results must be uploaded and printed for the SFD inspector at the time of the SFD inspection.

What are the Fees to Submit a Report?

The standard fee for report submittal in TCE will also be charged for Acceptance reports. The fee for reports submitted to Seattle is \$30. The fee is payable on the TCE website with a credit card at the time you are submitting the report.

Are there Consequences if the Report is not Submitted?

If the TCE report is not available at the time of the inspection, the inspector will not be able to accept the system. This means you will be delayed and may need to schedule another inspection to receive sign off. The inspector also has authority under the code to [fail the inspection](#) if the required pre-testing and documentation is not on site. There is a \$273 fee per hour for failed inspections.

What are the Benefits?

This form is used by 15 jurisdictions in the region and provides a predictable approach to working with your local fire department during system acceptance. Building owners and fire departments will have better access to information such as as-builts and system diagrams when those documents are uploaded to our system at time of acceptance. Once added to www.thecomplianceengine.com, the systems will also be scheduled for reminders and follow-up regarding all annual testing and maintenance, which will help ensure that systems are kept up to date and will work as designed to keep people and property safe in an emergency.