Fire Watch (as defined for fire protection system impairments)

A fire watch is a person(s) tasked with patrolling an area for signs of fire when a fire protection system (i.e. automatic sprinkler, fire alarm system, etc.) is out of service. Facility fire watch personnel understand the specific nature of the fire system impairment and the specific area(s) affected. This definition of a fire watch pertains to fire system impairment compensatory measures, not synonymous to the fire watch defined in Chapter 14, “Hot Work Management and Permit System”, of this Manual.

a. Facility fire watch personnel patrol all areas affected by a fire system impairment.

b. Facility fire watch personnel are instructed in the frequency of the facility fire watch tours by the OFMR Facility Manager or Safety Coordinator. The frequency of tours typically is as follows:
   • Continuous, when required by facility process standards or process controls.
   • Hourly, when automatic suppression systems are out of service.
   • Once every 2 hours if only automatic alarm capability is out of service.

c. Facility fire watch personnel are given instruction before standing facility fire watch. Each facility fire watch personnel is instructed on the following:
   • Areas to be watched.
   • Frequency of tours required.
   • Specifics of the fire protection impairment.
   • Appropriate emergency procedures and actions.
   • Methods for sounding the alarms.
   • Procedure for manually activating fire suppression systems.
   • Use of fire extinguishers (hands-on training required).
   • Methods for recording conduct of tours.
   • Other pertinent information in the log.

d. Facility Fire Watch Log or Equivalent Documentation. A log or other documentation system shall be established and used to provide an auditable record of compliance with the requirements of this standard. The log or other documentation shall include (but is not limited to) the following:
   • Facility, building, and area under facility fire watch.
   • Nature of fire protection impairment.
   • Date of first fire protection impairment.
   • Dates and times of facility fire watch tours.
   • Printed name and signatures of personnel serving as facility fire watch.
   • Date of fire protection restoration.