FIRE AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

In the interest of life safety and fire prevention in the MBCC, the following minimum fire safety requirements shall apply to all events, private or public.

Vehicles: All vehicles on display within an exhibition facility shall comply with the following:

- All fuel tank openings shall be locked and sealed in an approved manner to prevent the escape of gas vapors. Fuel tanks shall not be more than ¼ full or contain more than 4 gallons of fuel, whichever is less. The screw in type cap located on the gunnels is considered sealed.
- At least 1 battery cable shall be removed from the batteries used to start the vehicle engine. The disconnected battery cable shall then be taped.
- Fueling or defueling of vehicles is prohibited.
- Vehicles shall not be moved during show hours, block emergency exits or firefighting equipment (i.e., fire extinguishers, fire hose connections, standpipes, or fire alarm pull stations.)
- All temporary stairs/platforms shall have a guardrail installed to prevent persons from falling off the edge.
- The use of flammable liquids inside the MBCC is strictly prohibited (i.e., paints, solvents and cleaning products).
- Fuel tanks must be emptied prior to entering the MBCC (except by permit from the Fire Prevention Bureau).

Combustibles: Compressed flammable gases, flammable or combustible liquids, open flame devices, hazardous chemicals or materials, Class II or greater lasers, blasting agents, explosives and pyrotechnic devices shall be prohibited within the exhibit halls. Under special circumstances, limited use of the above items may be permitted by the authority having jurisdiction and permits, provided adequate precautions are taken to prevent the accidental ignition of any materials. Application for permit(s) shall be made to the Miami Beach Fire Department through the Event Manager, and a copy of the approved permit must be maintained on the premises throughout the event.

Cooking: No gas cooking appliances or deep fryers are allowed in the MBCC. Small electric cook tops, grills and ovens will be allowed for cooking. No cooking appliance is to be placed on combustible furnishings or too close to any combustible materials. Cooking areas must have 2A10BC type fire extinguishers provided by show management or the exhibitor. Butane is okay but an application must be submitted to the Fire Marshal.
**Exhibit Structures:** Exhibit structures should be made of fireproof/flame retardant or treated materials not given to flammability. Expanded foam materials should be fire-retardant.

Structurally, any "built-up" booth should have the seal of a qualified Florida structural engineer attesting to its construction standards.

All electrical installation should be of standard 3-wire grounded wire in conduit. Particular attention should be paid to neon electrical installation due to high voltage and breakable nature of this type of lighting. Exposed wire of any sort is never allowed.

All booths constructed within an exhibit hall should provide for the safe exit of occupants. Two means of exit are required from exhibits, rooms, decks, or platform areas where:

- a) The intended occupant load of the exhibit exceeds 50 persons.
- b) The floor area exceeds 1,000 square feet.
- c) The distance from any point in the floor area to an aisle exceeds 50 ft. (15.24m).

Stairs should be:

- a) A minimum of 36" (91.44cm) wide.
- b) Stair risers should be between 7 and 4 inches in height (17.78cm & 10.16cm). Treads should have a minimum run of 11" (27.94cm), exclusive of nosing.
- c) Curved or spiral stairs should not be used unless approved by the local Fire Department.
- d) Handrails should be provided on at least one side of every stairway.

- Structures up to 12 feet (3.66m) high must withstand a wind force of 5 pounds per square foot (24.41 kg/sq. m).
- All construction shall meet applicable local, state, and federal codes.
- Guardrails, and hand and eye shields will be provided for all moving equipment and heat generating devices.
- All exhibits, towers, and other components over 12 feet (3.66m) high will be engineered appropriate to their use and constructed from drawings bearing the stamp of a reviewing structural engineer.

**Exhibits with Enclosed Areas, with Ceilings:**

1. Covered or roofed areas with materials that do not allow fire sprinkler water to penetrate should be furnished with acceptable (and tested) battery-powered smoke detectors which emit alarms audible outside of the enclosed or covered area.

2. There must be fire extinguishers, minimum class 2A10BC*, in each enclosed area.

3. There shall be a locally approved Fire Watch for enclosures larger than 300 square feet (92.90 sq. m).
Exhibits Booths:

1. Covered ceiling areas over 299 square feet (92.90 sq. m) will require a Fire Watch.
2. Raised platforms over 30” in height will need guardrails that should be at least 42 inches (1.07m) in height and have intermediate rails through which a four inch sphere cannot pass.
3. Covered or roofed area should be furnished with acceptable (and tested) battery-powered smoke detectors which emit alarms audible outside of the enclosed or covered area.
4. A clear firebreak of at least 10 ft.(3.04m) wide should be provided between covered areas that are in excess of 1,000 sq. ft. (92.90 sq. m).
5. Stages or raised platforms must have stairways that must be at least 36 inches (9.15dm) wide for occupancies of less than 50 people. Stairways should be at least 44 inches (1.12m) wide for occupancies of 50 people or more.
6. Stairways should support a live load of 75 pounds per square foot (366 kg/sq. m).
7. There should be fire extinguishers, minimum class 2A10BC*, in each enclosed area covered by the floor above.
8. There should be a licensed Florida structural engineer’s seal and signature of approval on all plans.

Note: A 2A10BC refers to a capability and capacity rating of an extinguisher able to put out a fire 10 sq. ft. (.93 sq. m) in area of normal combustible material, flammable liquid, or electrical.

Exits: The travel distance within the exhibit booth or exhibit enclosure to an exit access aisle shall not exceed 50 ft. (15m). No display or exhibit shall be so installed or operated as to interfere in any way with access to any required exit or with visibility of any required exit sign. All required exits, including entrance/exit and lobby areas of each hall, the center exit pod, and all corridors/aisles shall be unlocked and kept free of exhibits, booths, tables, registration desks, and all other obstructions during show hours.

Fire Fighting Equipment: All fire hose cabinets, fire extinguishers, manual pull stations, and any other fire protection equipment, including those inside exhibit/booth space, shall be visible and accessible at all times.

Flame Retardant Treatment: All decorations, drapes, signs, banners, acoustical materials, hay, moss, split bamboo, plastic cloth, and similar decorative materials shall be flame retardant and resistant as demonstrated by passing both the small-scale and large-scale tests of NFPA 701, Standards Methods of Fire Tests. Oilcloth, tar paper, sisal paper, nylon, orlon, and other plastic materials that are not retardant are prohibited. The Fire Prevention Bureau will test any questionable material.

Floor Plans: All diagrams must be submitted to the facility for fire marshal approval prior to the sale of exhibit space or tickets. Plans should indicate: location of aisles, utility floor ports, exits,
exhibit booths, registration areas, service contractor areas, concession stands, seating areas, and information booths. All aisles must be a minimum of 10’ in width, and a 20’ clearance at the main entrance and exits of the hall (be aware of pinch points during max floor layouts).

All column locations with fire extinguishers and fire hose cabinets must be noted. There must be a 3’ clearance at every column marked with a fire hose. (NO EXCEPTIONS)

Submit the first draft plans for approval 6 months to 1 year out. With the final revision required 60 days out from show date. Indicate a booth inventory key list, which also displays the Event Name and Date. Allow 7 days for Fire Marshal approval. (Note: Fire Marshal out on Fridays)

Provide EM with (4) 32” scale size drawings. (ok to provide pdf, as well)

We recommend that your initial floor plan be reviewed by your electrical contractor and MBCC Telecommunications Department, prior to release for the sale of exhibit space.

Once a floor plan has been approved, any adjustment or obstruction to approved aisles must be reviewed and approved by the MBCC and the Fire Marshal. This review shall occur prior to entering into a contractual agreement with the exhibitor.

**Floor Plan Check Fee:** Rate is once a year to include revisions within the same plan year.
- 1 Hall - $150
- 2 Hall - $300
- 3 Hall - $450
- 4 Hall - $600

**Hurricane:** The City of Miami Beach in conjunction with Miami Dade County has an extensive hurricane preparedness plan. The main goal is to protect life and property within the confines of the City of Miami Beach using both departmental resources and those additional resources made available to the Miami Beach Police Department. A hurricane watch would be implemented within 36-48 hours prior to estimate landfall. Facility staff will work with you to establish a plan of action should a hurricane warning be issued. A hurricane warning would be issued 12-24 hours prior to estimated land fall by the Chief of Police (winds of 74MPH and higher). At this time the MBCC would be secured and closed. The Category 1-5 of the hurricane will determine whether a mandatory evacuation goes into effect. If this should occur, your hotel will work with guests to provide accommodations on the mainland. In addition, the City of Miami Beach provides shuttles to shelter located East of Biscayne Boulevard.
Motor Vehicles: All vehicles parked in the MBCC during an event shall have locking gas caps or gas caps which are taped over their fuel supplies: Gas tanks must be reduced to less than one-fourth (¼) tank full not to exceed (4) gallons. The positive lead to the battery must be disconnected. (15.14 liters = 4 gallons). All other gasoline powered equipment shall be gas and vapor free.

Note: Certain vehicles (Porsche, Ferrari etc…) require a factory trained technician to restart the vehicles if the battery is disconnected. In this case, see if the exhibitor can remove the starter relay, a fuse or disable the vehicle in some other way so that it cannot be moved or started.

Obstructions: Aisles and exits as designated on approved plans must be kept clean and clear of obstructions. Booth construction must be substantial and fixed in a specified area for the duration of the show. Easels, signs, products, chairs, etc., must not be placed beyond the booth area into aisles.

All fire hose cabinets, fire extinguishers, pull stations, and emergency exits, including those inside an exhibit space, must be visible and accessible at all times. All column locations with fire extinguishers and fire hose cabinets must be noted, and there must be a 3’ clearance at every column marked with a fire hose. (NO EXCEPTIONS)

Painting: Minor painting (non-flammable) will be permitted, only if the following guidelines are followed:
- Permission from Fire Department personnel on duty.
- Rope off or barricade area
- No Smoking
- Have a 2A10BC type fire extinguisher on-site and properly maintained (serviced within one (1) year)
- Have only combustible materials on hand to perform operation

Permits: Applications for a permit for the following shall be made to the Miami Beach Fire Marshal fifteen (15) days in advance of the event. Once issued, copies of approved permits shall be kept on the premises throughout the event:
- Display and operate any open flame, flammable liquid device, candles, lanterns, torches, pyrotechnic displays, etc.
- Display or operate an electrical, mechanical or chemical device may be deemed hazardous by the Fire Department.
- No use of flammable liquids, compressed gases or dangerous chemicals inside the Halls.

No flammable liquids, compressed gases, or dangerous chemicals shall be stored in the MBCC. Compressed gas cylinders must be secured to prevent toppling. Flammable compressed gas containers are not allowed in the facility.