Mr. Brooks,

The requirements for the protective features and systems, building services, operating features, maintenance activities, and other provisions that work toward achieving an acceptable degree of life safety depends on additional safeguards to provide adequate egress time or protection for people exposed to fire is within the purview of NFPA 101â’, Life Safety Code.

NFPA 72-2010, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code(tm), Chapter 17, provides requirements for the performance, selection, use, and location of automatic fire detection devices, sprinkler workflow detectors, manually activated fire alarm stations, and supervisory signal-initiating devices (including guard tour reporting used to ensure timely warning for the purposes of life safety and the protection of a building, a space, a structure, an area, or an object.)

As such, the need for smoke or heat detection comes from LSC 101. When these are required, LSC 101 refers to NFPA 72 for installation (performance, selection, use, and location). As you can see, the requirements for complete smoke detection, partial smoke detection, or the need for detection altogether, is from LSC 101. When LSC 101 requires complete smoke detection, the requirements of NFPA 72, Section 17.5.3.1 apply. NFPA 72 does not provide a minimum dimension defining a raised floor or suspended ceiling.

Other requirements such as those found in NFPA 75, Standard for the Protection of Information Technology Equipment, could require smoke detection above ceiling and below floor in these locations.

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Richard Roux
Sr. Electrical Engineer
-----Original Message-----
From: Henderson, Carol
Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2011 2:19 PM
To: Roux, Richard
Subject: FW: Concealed Under Floor Spaces, NFPA MEMBERSHIP 1106992 (Log #30584)

-----Original Message-----

Sent: Thursday, March 03, 2011 2:01 PM
To: Fire Alarm
Subject: Concealed Under Floor Spaces, NFPA MEMBERSHIP 1106992

I am using 2010 edition of 72. My question is, is there a particular distance that a floor must be raised before detection is required whether it's heat or smoke detection?

Thanks,