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**Building Codes Division****Statewide Code Interpretation**

*Working with Oregonians  
to ensure safe building  
construction while  
supporting a positive  
business climate.*

**March 6, 2007****No: 2004 OSSC 1109.14.2  
2004 Oregon Structural Specialty Code**

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**Code Section:** 1109.14.2**Code Edition:** 2004 Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC)**Date:** Original: 12/ 06/ 2005 Updated 3/06/2007**Subject:** Single Station Alarms / ADA**Question:** OSSC 1108.4.10 states: "If alarm systems are provided, then both audible and visual alarms shall be provided". When a single station alarm is provided (as may be required for a sprinkler flow alarm) does Chapter 11 then require that visual and audible alarms be provided throughout the building?**Answer:** No. OSSC Section 1109.14.2 is a specific requirement which states: "Where single-station audible alarms are provided, single-station visual alarm signals shall be provided".**Analysis:** In the scenario noted above, the only alarm required by code is a single station "audible" alarm. In such cases, only a single station "visual" alarm is required in the same location.

OSSC 1109.14.2 continues on to address additional specific requirements if alarms are required "throughout a building (i.e., NFPA 72)

*Editorial Note: ORS 447.220 directs the Department of Consumer and Business Services to adopt accessibility guidelines that are consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act. In keeping with this directive, BCD staff recently conferred with both the US Access Board (promulgators of the ADA Architectural Guidelines) and the US Department of Justice. Both entities concurred with the above analysis regarding "single station alarms".*

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