Cabinet Decision No. (13) of 2009
Approving the General Standards Manual for Group Labor Accommodation and Related Services

The Cabinet,

- Upon consideration of the Constitution,
- And Federal Law No. (1) of 1972 concerning the Jurisdictions of Ministries and the Powers of Ministers, as amended,
- And Federal Law No. (8) of 1980 Regulating Labor Relations, as amended,
- And Ministerial Council for Services Decision No. (214/4) of 2008,
- And based upon the proposal of the Minister of Labor and the approval of the Cabinet,

Has issued the following Decision:

**Article one**
The General Standards Manual for Group Labor Accommodation and Related Services, attached hereto, shall be approved and applied to group labor accommodations with five hundred or more laborers.

**Article two**
Effective 1/9/2009, the authorities concerned with granting group labor accommodation licenses shall not grant licenses for this type of accommodation except in accordance with this Decision.

**Article three**
within a maximum period of five years from 1/9/2009, any establishment operating in the UAE and having a group labor accommodation for five hundred or more laborers shall ensure that the conditions at the accommodation are in accordance with Article one hereinabove.
**Article four**
The Minister of Labor shall issue the necessary decisions concerning the following:

- Laying down general criteria for group accommodation for less than five hundred laborers;
- Implementing the provisions hereof, provided that the respective decisions issued by the Minister of Labor shall include transitional provisions and the appropriate rules for execution, incentives and administrative penalties.

**Article five**
The provisions of this Decision, including the decisions issued by the Minister of Labor under Article four hereof, shall apply to all UAE zones including the free zones.

**Article six**
This Decision shall be published in the official gazette and shall come into effect on the date that is issued subject to the dates set out in Articles two and three hereof.

**Mohammad Bin Rashed al-Maktoum**
Prime Minister

**Issued by Us in Abu Dhabi:**
The General Standards Manual for Group Labor Accommodation and Related Services in the United Arab Emirates
Approved by Cabinet Decision No. (13) of 2009
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English Translation provided courtesy of the Health Authority Abu Dhabi. Please direct any queries or questions regarding this Standard to the Ministry of Labour Offices and not the Health Authority Abu Dhabi.
**Introduction**

The requirements in this Manual are the basic standard for planning and building new labor accommodation compounds, areas or cities and the related services. They are addressed to consulting engineers and competent local authorities. Before issuing any work drawings and detailed specifications for the housing compounds as part of the tendering process, the design review process should be completed to ensure compliance with these specifications before submitting the design to the concerned authority for approval.

For the purposes of these standards, the following definitions shall be adopted with regard to labor accommodation:

1. **Group accommodation**, means any residential building or set of residential buildings intended for labor accommodation and housing more than 500 persons;
2. **Residential unit**, means any building intended for labor accommodation and housing a maximum of 1,000 persons;
3. **Residential compound**, means a site consisting of a number of residential units and housing 1,000 – 5,000 persons, and surrounded by 2.2m high iron fencing;
4. **Residential area/residential quarter**, means a site consisting of a number of residential compounds and housing a maximum of 35,000 persons;
5. **Labor city**, means a site consisting of a number of residential areas separated by main roads and housing a maximum of 240,000 persons.

**Note:** The specifications and requirements of these standards shall apply to all residential units and compounds. The specifications and requirements marked with an asterisk (*) are additions that shall apply to residential compounds only.
1. **Planning Standards**

1.1. **Site Standards**
When choosing the sites intended for labor accommodation, the following standards should be observed:

1. The site should be at a distance of at least 5km from family residences;
2. The site should be far from major tourist roads / arteries;
3. The site should be far from the existing investment compounds, whether of tourist or commercial nature;
4. The site should be far from environmental pollution sources (clear of garbage and far from animal farms) and from storm water and flood drainage systems as per the standards approved by the competent local authorities;
5. The site should preferably be close to industrial areas or areas presenting job opportunities with a buffer zone in between;
6. The site should preferably be close to an active road network with several entrances and exits in different directions to facilitate entry and exit of buses particularly at peak hours;
7. The site should be connected to a sanitary drainage and potable water system.

1.2. **Site Coverage**

1.2.1. Land construction percentage: The percentage covered by constructions over the total land area where the constructions are set up.

The following table states the permitted percentages on the site:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total constructions</td>
<td>60-65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads, pedestrian sidewalks, parking spaces, recreational spaces, yards, planted areas and paved roads between the buildings</td>
<td>35-40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.2.2. The maximum building height should be compliant with the standards approved by the competent local authorities.

1.2.3. The space in between the residential units should be compliant with the building conditions and specifications adopted by the local department and shall be not less than 5m.

2. **Unit Design Requirements**

2.1. **General Design Requirements**

2.1.1. The general design requirements stated below are applicable to all the units designed as part of the site development process. The additional requirements applicable to the residential compounds have been detailed under these standards, so that all the designs shall observe the municipal bylaws and the laws and standards of the competent authority.

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2.1.2. All the units should be designed according to the engineering standards and specifications adopted by the competent local authorities.

2.1.3. The building should be compliant with all the sanitary and environmental conditions and safety requirements to preserve the health and safety of its residents and protect its internal and surrounding environment, such as the building materials, the drinking water and sanitary drainage systems, the air conditioning systems, the elevators, the emergency exits, the firefighting systems, internal air quality and the common service utilities, according to the standards of the competent local authorities and international specifications.

2.1.4. Periodical maintenance is required to ensure the fulfillment of all such requirements throughout the occupation period thereof.

2.2. **Materials**

2.2.1. The units shall have concrete or cement blocks walls, and the flooring should be made of concrete as well. The construction methods used for all buildings should be compliant with the regulations, legislation and standards provided for under the laws adopted by the competent local authorities.

2.2.2. All the building materials used should be environment-friendly and public health-friendly. They shall not be flammable and should comply with the standards of the Civil Defense Directorate.

2.2.3. The doors should be fireproof as per the standards of the Civil Defense Directorate.

2.2.4. In case of absence of regulations / legislations / competent local laws, the applicable international standards shall govern.

2.3. **Outdoor Requirements (*)**

2.3.1. The area should be sufficient for safe movement within the facility.

2.3.2. The area should be sufficient for vehicle movement and parking, taking into consideration the following:
- Control of site entrances and exits;
- Accessibility by emergency cars to all buildings;
- Food delivery, provision and storage;
- Garbage management (storage, collection and transportation);
- Bus stops and car parking;
- Fire prevention and alarm systems;
- Emergency exits and assembly points;
- Outdoor lighting.

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2.3.3. The safe passages of the facility should be indicated with instruction signs, and waiting places should be provided at the bus stations and car stops for workers pick-up and assembly after drop-off.

2.4. **Ventilation and Air Conditioning**

2.4.1. All the rooms, kitchens, mess halls, corridors, offices and halls should be provided with ventilation and central air conditioning systems as per the standards and conditions adopted by the competent local authorities. In case there is no central air conditioning system, the rooms should be supplied with individual air conditioning. Condensation discharge pipes should be installed inside the vertical service poles for water drainage.

2.4.2. The window area should take at least 10% of the room floor area, where 50% of the windows should be openable.

2.4.3. A ventilation system should be installed in the bathrooms to discharge the air outside the building and replace it with external air using the proper methods.

2.4.4. An aluminum window with curved sides for ventilation shall be fixed at the bottom part of the door of every room or bathroom, to provide ventilation and create an air current with the air coming from the adjacent area.

2.4.5. The internal air quality of the building should be preserved and external air should be provided according to the averages stated in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of Occupation</th>
<th>Liters/seconds/persons</th>
<th>Category of Occupation</th>
<th>Liters/seconds/persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mess Halls</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>Laundry rooms</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchens</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Bathrooms</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bedrooms</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>Toilets</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lobby and corridors</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>Security office</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offices</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>Prayer room</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TV &amp; entertainment rooms</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>First aid room</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.4.6. Ventilation systems should be available in the bathrooms, storerooms, copy rooms, computer rooms, kitchens, toilets, furnaces, changing/bathing rooms, swimming pools and other areas that contain pollution sources. Pressure in these areas should be lower than that in the adjacent internal areas and higher than that in the external areas. The ventilation systems should directly lead outside the building and should be
installed in a way to prevent the return of pollutants into the building, at a distance of at least 25 feet from air inlets.

2.4.7. The air in the kitchens, bathrooms and toilets should be renewed at the minimum averages stated in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Ventilation Average (liter/second/unit)</th>
<th>Ventilation Average (liter/second/m²)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kitchens</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bathrooms</td>
<td>35/25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toilets</td>
<td>35/25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.4.8. A control system should be available to control the temperature, humidity and air speed and provide a comfortable ambience, fulfill the requirements and reduce microbes and pollutants in all air-conditioned places.

2.4.9. The relative humidity average should vary between 30% and 60% in all air-conditioned areas.

2.5. Lighting

2.5.1. All lighting units fixed in occupied areas should provide minimum lighting levels as stated hereunder (as per safety considerations).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Area / Activity</th>
<th>Minimum / Average (Lux)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>Passages, corridors, lobby, stairs, entrance, reception etc...</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential units</td>
<td>Bedrooms</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kitchens</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cool storage</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General work places</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Entertainment places</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ablution places</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shops, storerooms, warehouses</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First aid room</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laundry</td>
<td>Receiving, sorting, washing, drying</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dry cleaning</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ironing, inspection, repair</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.5.2. All the bulbs used should be low consumption light bulbs. Light fittings installed into false ceilings should be used.

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2.5.3. The outdoor lighting should allow the pedestrians to distinguish the borders of the sidewalks, direction changes, crossroads and any obstacles or potential risks.

2.5.4. The street alleys, changes in street gradation and any other potentially dangerous locations should have more lighting than the passages.

2.5.5. The lighting poles/shafts should be placed in a way so as not to obstruct pedestrian movement.

2.6. **Firefighting Equipment and Emergency Exits**
2.6.1. The firefighting equipment and emergency exits should comply with the civil defense standards (NFPA 101).

2.6.2. The emergency roads and passages should be provided with chargeable lighting devices to be operated in case of power outage.

3. **Residential Units Design**

The residential units should be designed, built and equipped to ensure that occupants have an acceptable level of comfort and safety in a clean and healthy environment.

3.1. **General Requirements**
3.1.1. The accommodation management, security office, workers equipment room, kitchens, cafeterias, prayer room, first aid room and any other services should be located on the ground floor.

3.1.2. In case of extra space available, after providing all the aforementioned services, this space should be used for constructing bedrooms for the workers on the ground floor.

3.1.3. The drawings submitted for licensing should indicate the general location, horizontal projections, facades, sections, constructional and electric plans, civil defense, sanitary drainage, thermal insulation, roads, all the details regarding workshops, doors, windows and installations and all that is required as per the engineering standards adopted by the competent local authority.

3.2. **Bedrooms**
3.2.1. Each worker shall have a space of not less than 3m².

3.2.2. The number of workers allowed per bedroom shall be 8 to 10 workers while observing the specified space area for each worker.

3.2.3. The bedroom ceiling should be not less than 7 feet high.
3.2.4. Each person should be provided with his own sleeping area even in the case of shifts.

3.2.5. Each person should be provided with a bed, side table and a 2m high closet with a lock.

3.2.6. The space in between the beds should be not less than 36 inches from both sides and from the upper and bottom sides. The bed height should be not less than 12 inches from the ground. In case of bunk beds, the distance between the beds should be not less than 48 inches from both sides and the rear side, provided that the distance between the upper and the bottom bed shall be not less than 27 inches. Triple bunk beds are not permitted.

3.2.7. The shoe racks should be placed at the entrance of every room for the workers to place their shoes before going into the sleeping area.

3.2.8. No cooking stoves or washing machines may be used inside the bedrooms.

3.3. **Sanitary Facilities (Bathrooms)**

3.3.1. Access to the sanitary facilities should be easy without the need to pass through the bedrooms. No private bathroom may be located at a distance of less than 100 feet from any bedroom, mess hall or kitchen.

3.3.2. In the case of common bathrooms, one toilet should be available for every 8 people, and any common bathroom should have at least 2 toilets.

3.3.3. One urinal should be provided for every 25 persons. If there is not enough water pressure, the urinals should be supplied with enough water to be used after finishing.

3.3.4. One shower and one washbasin should be provided for every 8 people.

3.3.5. Cold and hot water should be provided.

3.3.6. The washbasins should have mixers to control the temperature of the water used.

3.3.7. The toilet and bathroom designs should include fixtures to hang clothes and towels and place the soap as well as mirrors and cabinets. Clothes and towel hangers made of solid materials such as stainless steel should be available in sufficient quantities for the number of intended users.

3.3.8. The window area should take at least 10% of the bathroom floor area, where at least 50% of the windows should be opened to the outside.
3.3.9. No toilet, bathroom chemical substances or urinals may be placed in any room that is used for other than toilet purposes.

3.3.10. Sufficient quantities of toilet paper should be available in the toilets.

3.3.11. The bathrooms and toilets should enjoy sanitary conditions and should be cleaned at least once a day. Detergents should be used in the toilets.

3.4. **Kitchens**

3.4.1. Each residential unit should have a kitchen that is compliant with the public health standards provided for by the concerned authority.

3.4.2. The kitchen should be managed by a licensed food service company or by a food staff appointed by the accommodation facility management.

3.4.3. The kitchen should be provided with washable tables.

3.4.4. The kitchen should be equipped with a proper drainage system and a ventilation outlet and/or a funnel, and the funnel should be at least 2m higher than the closest building to the unit.

3.4.5. The gas cylinders should be placed outside the building and shaded from sunlight.

3.4.6. The kitchen should be equipped with pest control means.

3.4.7. The kitchen should be kept clean.

3.5. **Mess Hall**

3.5.1. The mess hall should be close to the kitchen and should be supplied with enough tables and chairs in addition to a water cooler and washbasin (with cold and hot water, liquid soap and tissues).

3.5.2. Each person should have an area of his own of at least 1.4m² in the mess hall (and in the TV and rest halls), which should accommodate at least one third of the total number of residents in the unit.

3.5.3. A schedule specifying the meal times should be placed at the entrance of the mess hall.

3.5.4. The mess hall should be kept clean at all times.

3.6. **Services**
3.7. **Rest halls**
3.7.1. The workers should have a rest hall with comfortable seats and a TV (within the mess hall).

3.8. **Medical Services**
3.8.1. Each residential unit should have one first aid room to be supplied with enough furniture, materials and a drug cabinet, as per Table 3 under Article 4 of Minister of Labor Decision No. 32 of 1982 determining the preventive methods and measures for protecting workers from the risks at work.

3.8.2. Each residential compound should have a medical clinic that is capable of providing health services to all the residents and deal with the cases that require medical care except for the cases requiring hospitalization. (*)

3.8.3. An isolation room for patients should be provided and equipped with all the necessary furniture and equipment.

3.8.4. The clinic should be ready for operation 24/7 including the weekends, official holidays and religious and national holidays. (*)

The clinic should have the following specifications:
- Easy access (it should be provided with an inclined staircase if necessary).
- A waiting area with sufficient space for patients.
- A number of rooms / offices with sufficient spaces for several uses:
  - Consulting and treatment room;
  - Convalescence room;
  - Medical records room;
  - Equipment, bandages and drugs room.
- An adequate number of employees (including an on-duty physician and a nurse).
- Bathrooms and washbasins with hot and cold water for patients and visitors.
- An onsite ambulance for transporting patients to offsite hospitals.

3.9. **Laundry**
3.9.1. Laundry services may be outsourced.

3.9.2. If laundry services are not outsourced, the accommodation management should carry out the following:
- Provide laundry services according to an announced schedule and appoint a person to be in charge of these services;
- Provide the unit with communal laundry facilities;

3.9.3. The communal laundry facilities should be on the ground floor of the residential unit.

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3.9.4. The communal laundry facilities should be designed according to the technical specifications of the competent local authority.

3.9.5. The communal laundry facilities should be provided with all the required services such as hot and cold water connections, ventilation and air conditioning, drainage system and sufficient lighting.

3.10. Other Services

3.10.1. Courts should be provided for the workers who wish to exercise in their free time. (*)

3.10.2. Each residential unit should have a barber salon and a grocery store to be used only by the residents and not by the public. In case a grocery store exists, it shall not be allowed to sell food that spoil fast or that needs to be cooked before consumption. Food preparation and packaging is permitted inside the grocery store.

3.10.3. The compound should be provided with an ATM to enable the workers to withdraw and transfer money. (*)

3.10.4. Each residential unit shall have a prayer room.

4. Public Health Requirements

4.1. Waste Disposal

4.1.1. The waste disposal mechanism should observe the environmental and health conditions established by the concerned authority.

4.1.2. Sealed and washable trash containers should be provided in sufficient quantities.

4.1.3. At least one trash container should be provided and placed on a wooden, metal or concrete stand, and the trash container and the surrounding area shall be kept clean at all times.

4.1.4. The containers should be emptied and cleaned daily.

4.1.5. The residential units should be cleaned daily.

4.2. Public Health Hazards

4.2.1. All the necessary and effective measures should be taken to prevent public health hazards such as insects and rodents from existing or multiplying.
4.2.2. A company specialized in controlling public health hazards and licensed by the competent local authority should be contracted to carry out extermination activities as per an approved program. Records and reports of completed extermination works should be kept.

5. **Public Health Management**

5.1. **Accommodation Management Office**

5.1.1. The accommodation manager shall manage all the facilities in a safe and effective manner as per the standards and procedures in force, including the maintenance activities.

5.1.2. The accommodation manager should keep a register of the residents in an updated database.

5.1.3. The accommodation manager shall be responsible for:
- Appointing employees / workers inside the residential units;
- Providing proper training for the employees / workers;
- Providing all the services and requirements under these standards;
- Coordinating inspection of all units;
- Controlling and managing the planned occupation percentage against actual occupation (population density);
- Issuing instructions and following up:
  - Onsite maintenance;
  - Food catering;
  - Unit management;
- Ensuring observance of housing instructions by all the employees, contractors and occupants;
- Managing the inspection activities and correctional actions;
- Managing the housing budget;
- Organizing and holding periodic training sessions on evacuation in case of emergency and supervising the introductory training program.

5.2. **Health, Safety and Security**

5.2.1. Each occupant should, within one week from the commencement of his occupation of a residential unit, join an awareness program that covers the following:
- Instructions of the unit management / residential compound;
- House rules;
- Proper use of services and facilities;
- Personal hygiene;
- Waste disposal;
- Preventing pollution;
- Pest control;

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English Translation provided courtesy of the Health Authority Abu Dhabi. Please direct any queries or questions regarding this Standard to the Ministry of Labour Offices and not the Health Authority Abu Dhabi.
- Fire prevention and proper use of firefighting equipment;
- Responsibilities during emergency cases.

5.2.2. Copies of house rules signed by the accommodation manager should be printed and placed in a visible manner on every floor, provided that the rules are in the language understood by the residents of the units.

5.2.3. The house rules shall at least include the following points:
- Cleanliness;
- Clear prohibitions (smoking, cooking);
- Storage rule;
- Trash;
- Loud music;
- Tampering with the building equipment;
- Trash disposal;
- Water preservation;
- Visitors;
- Any other matter deemed necessary by the manager.

5.2.4. The employees, workers and visitors are not permitted to use tobacco products whether for smoking or for other purposes inside the residential units, at 20 feet from any entrance or at 20 feet from fresh air inlets. Using tobacco products is permitted outdoors or in designated smoking places that are completely isolated from non-smoking areas by walls from ground to ceiling.

5.2.5. An electricity and water control option from outside the residential compound should be available. (*)

5.2.6. The residential compound should be provided with surveillance cameras to monitor every section in addition to the public announcement system. (*)

6. Utility Requirements

6.1. Water Supply
6.1.1. Observance of the technical and health conditions related to the water system installations and reservoirs is necessary, where such installations and reservoirs should be compliant with the specifications and standards of the competent authorities.

6.1.2. The following should be available in the residential units: underground reservoirs and adjacent water pumps to supply drinking water to the entire site as well as underground reservoirs and water pumps to feed the fire extinguishing systems, outdoor hoses, indoor hoses and fire hose reel cabinets in each residential unit.

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6.1.3. The water systems should be installed, operated and maintained in a way to prevent the growth of bacteria and other air carried microbes, as per the local laws and regulations.

6.2. **Drinking Water**
6.2.1. The design and installation of the pipes, valves, fittings and pressure reducing valves required for the distribution of hot and cold water should be compliant with the regulations and standards of the concerned electricity and water authority.

6.2.2. The water supply average to the residential unit should be based on the total number of workers that the unit can accommodate, at an average of 35 gallons for each person per day, and based on 2.5 times the consumption average per hour at peak times.

6.2.3. All the bathrooms, showers, washbasins and kitchens should be supplied with hot and cold water.

6.2.4. The water systems should be designed and supplied with water conservation methods.

6.2.5. The water service poles should be separated from the electric service poles.

6.3. **Drinking Water Reservoirs**
6.3.1. A water supply service should be available around the clock. The water is stored in a central underground reservoir, which is simultaneously supplied with the required compensatory quantities for the water consumed.

6.3.2. The reservoir shall be filled at least to the level of the maximum water consumption of the residential unit.

6.3.3. A pipe shall be installed to discharge overflow water in the reservoir.

6.4. **Water Pumps**
6.4.1. Water should be distributed to all occupied buildings through an underground pipeline system. The water is pumped by means of two electric pumps for drinking water, each with a capacity equaling the total consumption average to ensure the supply of sufficient quantities of hot and cold water at peak times in each building.

6.4.2. A reserve diesel-driven pump for drinking water with a capacity equaling that of the main pump should be installed to operate simultaneously with the two main electric pumps. The reserve pump will operate automatically in case of interruption of the electric generator that feeds the electric drinking water pumps.

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6.4.3. Sufficient quantities of diesel fuel should be provided to operate the reserve pump at full capacity and without interruption for 24 hours.

6.4.4. Each of the electric and diesel-driven water pumps should have a reserve capacity of 135% compared to the normal pumping average of approximately 85% of the generated capacity without overcharging the pump or the gear.

6.5. **Cold Water Supply**

6.5.1. Each residential unit should be supplied with cold water at an average of 35 liters/minute per person every 24 hours, taking into consideration the increase in demand for drinking water at peak times especially in the early morning and evening.

6.5.2. The outdoor water reservoirs should be covered with sunshades to guarantee cold water in the summer.

6.5.3. Water coolers should be available in each residential unit according to the number of workers per unit and/or the number of persons expected to use the unit.

6.5.4. The units should have separate cold water feeders with valves.

6.6. **Hot Water Supply**

6.6.1. Each unit should be supplied with hot water at an average of 20 liters/person every 24 hours, taking into consideration the increase in demand at peak hours especially in the early morning and evening.

6.6.2. Hot water storage of a capacity of 1000 liters should be provided for kitchen use and 600 liters for ablution.

**Note:** It is recommended to use solar water systems for power conservation; electric heaters may also be used. Modern technology has allowed the installation of a double heating system that operates on both solar / and electric energy, where the heater starts by heating the solar plates during the daytime and is electrically operated at other times.

6.7. **Firefighting Water Reservoirs**

6.7.1. The total capacity of the firefighting water reservoir is calculated according to the requirements of the water hose system, in addition to the requirements of the automatic water sprinkles, as set out in the following schedule:

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water Hoses</td>
<td>2000 liter/minute x 240 minutes</td>
<td>480 m³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sprinklers</td>
<td>3000 liter/minute x 120 minutes</td>
<td>360 m³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Capacity</td>
<td></td>
<td>840 m³</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

English Translation provided courtesy of the Health Authority Abu Dhabi. Please direct any queries or questions regarding this Standard to the Ministry of Labour Offices and not the Health Authority Abu Dhabi.
6.7.2. An underground firefighting water reservoir shall be built and supplied with a clean water pump of a capacity up to 1000 liter/minute.

6.7.3. The concrete firefighting water reservoir shall be built as per the international water storage standards. The reservoir shall be supplied with galvanized joints made of mild steel to enable the installation of a withdrawal pump as well as an overflow water pipe.

6.7.4. An overflow water connection, incoming water connection and withdrawal pump connection should be installed.

6.7.5. An outflow prevention device should be installed on the withdrawal tube inside the drain with the following dimensions of 1m x 2m x 1.5 m deep at the bottom of the reservoir.

6.8. **Firefighting Water Supply**

6.8.1. Sufficient water quantities should be supplied for extinguishing fires and feeding the water hoses outside the buildings, in addition to all the fire hoses and the winded fire hoses inside the buildings.

6.8.2. The store and warehouse areas should be supplied with automatic sprinkler systems. The quantity of water required by the sprinkler systems is based on the water hose system demand.

6.8.3. The outdoor and indoor hose systems installed in all the buildings are supplied with an average of 2000 liters/minute for a period of 4 hours (240 minutes). Sufficient water quantities shall be provided for the winded 30m long fire hoses fixed inside the buildings.

6.8.4. The fire-extinguishing water overflow can be added to the sprinkler systems at an average of 3000 liters/minute for a period of two hours (120 minutes). The engineer should verify the sprinklers’ ultimate need for water before finishing his work on the fire pump.

6.8.5. The fire pumps should have a reserve capacity of 135% of the flow compared to approximately 85% of the generated capacity without overcharging the pump or the gear.

6.9. **Fire Water Pumps**

6.9.1. The fire water pumps should be compliant with the civil defense standards.

6.9.2. Two double fire pumps shall be installed, one is diesel operated and the other electricity-operated, in addition to a reserve pump installed in the underground fire
pump station, provided that these pumps have all the operation and control accessories and devices as per the international fire prevention standards for fixed pump installation.

6.10. The double pumps, reserve pump tubes, valves and backflow prevention valves are installed near the firefighting water reservoir. A water flow detector with 2% accuracy should be installed to test the flow process of the individual fire pumps.

6.11. Firefighting Water System

6.11.1. A main firefighting system shall be installed around the site to supply firefighting water through an underground pipeline network. The firefighting water pipes shall supply the outdoor and indoor hoses with the required water amount in addition to the water supply required by the sprinkler systems installed in the stores... when necessary.

6.11.2. The firefighting system should have sufficient diameter to allow the transportation of water at the required average to the farthest point of the pipeline system from both sides. These pipes should be installed by a contractor specialized in fire prevention.

6.11.3. The firefighting pipeline system and isolation valve system should be installed as per the international inspection, testing and maintenance standards for firefighting pipes.

6.11.4. All the pipes, fittings and isolation valves shall be installed and tested based on a pressure of 16 bars (1600 Pa).

6.11.5. The pipes and fittings shall be installed using a black steel tube with welded fittings and fittings screwed on small pipes of less than 80mm diameter. All the pipes shall be corrosion resistant. The hidden outdoor pipe shall be a 16 PVC pipe instead of a steel pipe.

6.11.6. All the section isolation valves, withdrawal pumps and distribution pumps shall have opening/closing indicators. These indicators shall turn in clockwise motion upon closing.

6.11.7. All the joints shall be fixed to the fire nozzles used by firefighters, and a closing valve and a backflow prevention valve shall be fixed to the lower side of the nozzles. These nozzles should be accessible from the ground floor by the service passage to allow the easy connection of the pumps and use them to support the pumping of the water towards the building on fire.

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6.11.8. The hose valve shall be installed to the underground fire pipeline system, at a maximum distance of 15m from the nozzle joints used by the firefighters.

6.12. **Electricity Supply**

6.12.1. All the electricity supply and wiring systems should be designed and installed according to the requirements set out by the Electricity and Water Authority.

6.12.2. The submission and approval regulations of the Electricity and Water Authority shall be strictly observed.

6.12.3. The power substations shall be installed and supplied with power, step-down transformers and a switchboard etc.

6.12.4. One electrical room shall be constructed on the ground floor per occupied unit and shall be completely equipped with a switchboard and an engine control device.

6.12.5. The devices and power distribution panels shall be distributed among the floors, and separate isolating switches shall be installed for each light and electric circuit across the area.

6.12.6. Separate electrical isolation devices shall be installed for the ventilation and air conditioning systems. These devices shall be installed in the control rooms, kitchens and other service areas.

6.12.7. Separate electrical isolation devices shall be installed for every heating device installed inside the heaters.

6.12.8. The main air conditioning / cooling units shall be supplied with three-phase electric power systems that are disconnected individually in the relevant unit location.

6.12.9. Electrical outlets shall be installed in the wall (5 AMP plug) as follows:
- In all bedrooms:
  - A plug near every bed for personal use;
  - In each room for electric appliances;
- Plugs shall be installed to the wall of each main corridor, with a 15m distance in between the plugs, for the purpose of plugging in floor cleaning devices.
- In all the occupied rooms such as the offices, warehouses, security offices, control rooms, workshops, stores... to plug in cleaning devices, small electric tools and electric appliances.
- In all communal areas to plug in the required number of washing machines, refrigerators, in-wall air conditioners, vending machines and water coolers.

6.13. **Gas Supply**
6.13.1. Gas supply shall be compliant with the civil defense requirements.

6.14. **Sanitary Drainage**
6.14.1. All the occupied residential units shall be supplied with a sanitary drainage system that is compliant with the regulations of the local municipality and the laws and standards of the competent authority.

6.15. **Telecommunication Services**
6.15.1. The landline phones and cable distribution cabinet shall be placed on the ground floor of each residential unit to be used by the telecommunications authority.

6.15.2. Public phones shall be installed near each residential unit, mess halls and other common facilities. They shall be installed in weather-tolerant booths covered with sunshades. The telecommunications authority shall determine the proper locations and number of public phones.

7. **Firefighting Systems**

All the fire prevention, detection and alarm systems, including the monitors, electric installations and sprinkler systems, should be designed and installed as per the Civil Defense standards.

7.1. **Alarm Systems**
7.1.1. Each floor of a residential unit, whose area is more than 1000 m² should be divided into fire sectors.

7.1.2. Each unit should be provided with a fully systematic alarm system controlled from within the unit by means of a systematic fire alarm panel. The alarm panels shall be installed in secure places such as the security office on the ground floor /or the kitchen.

7.1.3. Each fire alarm panel should be connected to a printer that will print out a summary of the incident that occurred. This printer shall be fixed on the front side of the panel, in addition to a plasma screen to determine the devices that have been activated in each area.

7.1.4. All the fire alarm panels shall be supplied with 24V reserve batteries, provided that these batteries are continuously charged by means of an internal charge unit,
allowing these batteries to operate the panel and the fire detectors in case of power cut for a minimum period of 12 hours.

7.1.5. The fire monitors shall be installed on all the fire detectors so as to connect the cables to each floor of the concerned unit. These monitors assist in instant alarm reception in case the fire detector fails or its cable is cut off. They also replace any defected area in the fire detector cable system.

7.1.6. The early detection systems shall be installed as per the international standards for fire detection and alarm systems designed for buildings.

7.1.7. All the substations containing the pipes, the pump stations and other occupied facilities shall be provided with an early fire detection system similar to the aforementioned system.

7.1.8. The substation containing the pipes and the switchboard rooms in the residential units shall have a firefighting system relying on the use of clean gas and that is activated automatically by the early detection system.

7.1.9. The gas extinguishing system shall be installed as per the international standards on gas extinguishing systems.

7.1.10. All the rooms where gas extinguishing systems are installed shall be insulated in a way to ensure the preservation of the extinguishing gas in the secure area at the proper concentration for at least 10 minutes.

7.1.11. In the case where sprinkler systems are installed in the building, separate water connections should be installed for every set of control valves of the sprinkler valves.

7.1.12. The main passages should be equipped with water spray nozzles.

7.2. Public Announcement and Fire Alarm System

7.2.1. A public announcement system should be installed in every residential unit.

7.2.2. The fire alarm system shall be activated manually by pressing the button/switch fixed by the systematic fire alarm panel.

7.2.3. Alarm sirens shall be installed in all the occupied units, at a distance of 75m from each other, with an intensity of 75dB across the unit.

7.2.4. The residential compound shall be equipped with a security system to monitor all the sections of the unit and apply the public announcement system.

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8. **Power Transformers**

8.1. The oil-cooled power transformers shall be placed as per the standards of the Electricity and Water Authority.

9. **Transportation and Vehicle Safety Standards**

9.1. The vehicles shall be subject to annual inspection by the competent local authority.

9.2. The vehicle should be surrounded by suitable lighting to help show its dimensions.

9.3. The name of the company employing the workers should be visibly placed on the vehicle.

9.4. The maximum number of passengers allowed shall be clearly stated, where each passenger shall have one seat.

9.5. Smoking inside the vehicle is prohibited as clearly stated by sticking a “No Smoking” sign.

9.6. A “Frequent Stop” sign should be placed on the rear of the vehicle for warning.

9.7. A contact number should be clearly placed on the vehicle for remarks and complaints.

9.8. The vehicle should be driven according to the speed signs on the road.

9.9. The vehicle should be air-conditioned.

9.10. All the seats should have belts and handgrips.

9.11. The vehicles should have handgrips from the inside to make it easier for the passengers to get off.

9.12. The vehicle should have a first aid kit with easy access thereto. The kit should be placed in a visible place.

9.13. The vehicle should have two fire extinguishers of at least 5kg each, one placed in the front and the other at the back of the vehicle.

9.14. The vehicle should have at least six hammers to break the window glass in case of emergency.
9.15. Emergency windows should be placed in the front, middle and back of the vehicle. The emergency exits should be indicated with signs.

9.16. The interior light should not disturb the driver.

9.17. The vehicle exit door should have a lighting system.

9.18. The tires should have an adaptive breaking system that allows the vehicle to stop in slippery places.

9.19. The vehicle should have tubeless tires.

9.20. The vehicle should be at least semi-automatic.

9.21. The passengers stop should be near their destination to avoid crossing the main roads, unless pedestrian lanes are available.

9.22. During the weekends, transportation to and from the nearest public transportation point should be provided, unless the transportation point is close to the residential unit where the worker can reach it on foot (2km).

10. Onsite Rest Periods

• Shades should be available at the work sites for the workers who wish to take a rest period or eat.
• Food and drinking water should be available onsite and should be preserved in proper health conditions.
• Toilets should be available near the work site.
• Proper sanitary ware should be available within the workers’ rest areas.