

**SECTION 27 51 16**  
**PUBLIC ADDRESS AND MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS**

**PART 1 - GENERAL**

**1.1 SECTION SUMMARY**

- A. Work covered by this document includes design, engineering, labor, material, products, guaranty, training and services for, and incidental to, the complete installation of a new and fully operating National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Listed Emergency/Public Safety Public Address and Mass Notification communication (PA) system as detailed herein.
- B. Work shall be complete, tested, labeled, certified and ready for operation

**1.2 RELATED SECTIONS**

- A. Section 01 33 23, SHOP DRAWINGS, PRODUCT DATA AND SAMPLES
- B. Section 26 05 21, LOW-VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL POWER CONDUCTORS AND CABLES (600 Volts and Below)
- C. Section 27 05 26, GROUNDING AND BONDING FOR COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS
- D. Section 27 05 11, REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATIONS
- E. Section 27 10 00, STRUCTURED CABLING
- F. Section 27 05 33, RACEWAYS AND BOXES FOR COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS

**1.3 DEFINITIONS**

- A. Provide: Design, engineer, furnish, install, connect complete, test, certify and ~~guarantee~~warranty.
- B. Work: Materials furnished and completely installed.
- C. Review of contract drawings: A service by the engineer to reduce the possibility of materials being ordered which do not comply with contract documents. The engineer's review shall not relieve the Contractor of responsibility for dimensions or compliance with the contract documents. The reviewer's failure to detect an error does not constitute permission for the Contractor to proceed in error.
- D. Headquarters Technical Review, for National and VA communications and security, codes, frequency licensing, standards, guidelines compliance:
  - Office of Telecommunications
  - Special Communications Team (0050P2B)
  - 1335 East West Highway - 3rd Floor
  - Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

(O) 301-734-0350, (F) 301-734-0360

H. Contractor: Radio Contractor; you; successful bidder

#### 1.4 REFERENCES

A. The installation shall comply fully with all governing authorities, laws and ordinances, regulations, codes and standards, including, but not limited to:

1. United States Federal Law/Codes:

a. Departments of:

1) CFR, Title 15 - Department of Commerce, Under the Information Technology Management Reform Act (Public Law 104-106), the Secretary of Commerce approves standards and guidelines that are developed by the:

a) Chapter II, National Institute of Standards Technology (NIST - formerly the National Bureau of Standards). Under Section 5131 of the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 and the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-347), NIST develops - Federal Information Processing Standards Publication (FIPS) 140-2-Security Requirements for Cryptographic Modules.

b) Chapter XXIII, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA - aka 'Red Book') Chapter 7.8/9 Federal communications Commission (FCC) Title 47 (CFR), Part 15, Radio Frequency Restriction of Use and Compliance in "Safety of Life" Functions and Locations.

2) CFR, Title 29, Department of Labor, Chapter XVII - Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Part 1910 - Occupational Safety and Health Standard:

a) Subpart 7 - Definition and requirements for a National Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL - 15 Laboratory's, for complete list, contact [http://www.osha.gov/dts/otpc/nrtl/faq\\_nrtl.html](http://www.osha.gov/dts/otpc/nrtl/faq_nrtl.html))

(1) Underwriter's Laboratories (UL):

65	Standard for Wired Cabinets.
468	Standard for Grounding and Bonding

	Equipment.
1449	Standard for Transient Voltage Surge Suppressors.
1069	Hospital Signaling and Nurse Call Equipment.
60950-1/2	Information Technology Equipment - Safety.

- (2) Canadian Standards Association (CSA): same tests as for UL.
- (3) Communications Certifications Laboratory (CCL): same tests as for UL.
- (4) Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc. (ITSNA formerly Edison Testing Laboratory [ETL]): Same tests as for UL.
- b) Subpart 35, Compliance with NFPA101, Life Safety Code.
- c) Subpart 36, Design and construction requirements for exit routes.
- d) Subpart 268, Telecommunications.
- e) Subpart 305, Wiring methods, components, and equipment for general use.
- 3) Title 42, CFC, Department of Health, Chapter IV Health and Human Services, Subpart 1395(a) (b) Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) "a hospital that meets JCAHO accreditation is deemed to meet the Medicare conditions of Participation by meeting Federal Directives:" All guidelines for Life, Personal and Public Safety; and, Essential and Emergency Communications.
- 4) All guidelines for Life, Personal and Public Safety; and, Essential and Emergency Communications.
- 5) CFR, Title 47 - Telecommunications, FCC: Part 15 - Restrictions of use for Part 15 listed Radio Equipment in Safety of Life/Emergency Functions/Equipment/Locations (also see CFR, Title 15 - Department of Commerce, Chapter XXIII - NTIA).
- 6) Public Law No. 100-527, Department of Veterans Affairs:
  - a) Office of Telecommunications:
    - (1) Handbook 6100, Telecommunications.
  - b) Office of Cyber and Information Security (OCIS):

(1) Handbook 6500, Information Security Program.

(2) Wireless and Handheld Device Security Guideline Version 3.2, August 15, 2005.

c) Spectrum Management FCC and NTIA Radio Frequency Compliance and Licensing Program.

2. National Codes:

a. American Institute of Architects (AIA): Guidelines for Healthcare Facilities.

b. American National Standards Institute/Electronic Industries Association and Telecommunications Industry Association (ANSI/EIA/TIA):

568-B	Commercial Building Telecommunications Wiring Standards:
569	Commercial Building Standard for Telecommunications Pathways and Spaces.
606	Administration Standard for the Telecommunications Infrastructure of Communications Buildings.
607	Commercial Building Grounding and Bonding Requirements for Telecommunications.
REC 127-49	Power Supplies.
RS 27	Tools, Crimping, Solderless Wiring Devices, Recommended Procedures for User Certification.

c. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE):

SO/TR 21730:2007	Use of mobile wireless communication and computing technology in healthcare facilities - Recommendations for electromagnetic compatibility (management of unintentional electromagnetic interference) with medical devices.
0739- 5175/08/\$25. 00©2008IEEE	Medical Grade - Mission Critical - Wireless Networks.
C62.41	Surge Voltages in Low-Voltage AC Power Circuits.

d. NFPA:

70	National Electrical Code (current date of issue) - Articles 517, 645 and 800.
75	Standard for Protection of Electronic Computer Data- Processing Equipment.
77	Recommended Practice on Static Electricity.
99	Healthcare Facilities.
101	Life Safety Code.

3. State Hospital Code(s).

4. Local Codes.

**1.5 QUALIFICATIONS**

- A. The OEM shall have had experience with 3 or more installations of Public Address Systems of comparable size and complexity with regards to type and design as specified herein. Each of these installations shall have performed satisfactorily for at least 1 year after final acceptance by the user. Include the names, locations and point of contact for these installations as a part of the submittal.
- B. The Contractor shall submit certified documentation that they have been an authorized distributor and service organization for the OEM for a minimum of 3 years. The Contractor shall be authorized by the OEM to pass thru the OEM's warranty of the installed equipment to VA. In addition, the OEM and Contractor shall accept complete responsibility for the design, installation, certification, operation, and physical support for the system. This documentation, along with the system Contractor and OEM certifications must be provided in writing as part of the Contractor's Technical submittal.
- C. The Contractor's Communications Technicians assigned to the system shall be fully trained, qualified, and certified by the OEM on the engineering, installation, operation, and testing of the system. The Contractor shall provide formal written evidence of current OEM certification(s) for the installer(s) as a part of the submittal or to the Resident Engineer before being allowed to commence work on the system.
- D. Applicable national, state and local licenses.

- E. Certificate of successful completion of OEM's installation/training school for installing technicians of the equipment being proposed.

#### **1.6 CODES AND PERMITS**

- A. Provide all necessary permits and schedule all inspections as identified in the contract's milestone chart, so that the system is proof of performance tested and ready for operation on a date directed by the Owner.
- B. The Contractor is responsible to adhere to all codes described herein and associated contractual, state and local codes.

#### **1.7 SCHEDULING**

- A. After the award of contract, the Contractor shall prepare a detailed schedule (aka milestone chart) using "Microsoft Project" software or equivalent. The Contractor Project Schedule (CPS) shall indicate detailed activities for the projected life of the project. The CPS shall consist of detailed activities and their restraining relationships. It will also detail manpower usage throughout the project.
- B. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to coordinate all work with the other trades for scheduling, rough-in, and finishing all work specified. The owner will not be liable for any additional costs due to missed dates or poor coordination of the supplying contractor with other trades.

#### **1.8 REVIEW OF CONTRACT DRAWINGS AND EQUIPMENT DATA SUBMITTALS**

- A. Submit at one time within 10 days of contract awarding, drawings and product data on all proposed equipment and system. Check for compliance with contract documents and certify compliance with Contractor's "APPROVED" stamp and signature.
- B. Support all submittals with descriptive materials, i.e., catalog sheets, product data sheets, diagrams, and charts published by the manufacturer. These materials shall show conformance to specification and drawing requirements.
- C. Where multiple products are listed on a single cut-sheet, circle or highlight the one that you propose to use. Provide a complete and thorough equipment list of equipment expected to be installed in the system, with spares, as a part of the submittal. Special Communications (0050P3B - herein after referred to as 0050P3B) will not review any submittal that does not have this list.

- D. Provide four copies to the PM for technical review. The PM will provide a copy to the offices identified in Paragraph 1.3.C and D, at a minimum for compliance review as described herein where each responsible individual(s) shall respond to the PM within 10 days of receipt of their acceptance or rejection of the submittal(s).

#### **1.9 PROJECT RECORD DOCUMENTS (AS BUILTS)**

- A. Throughout progress of the work, maintain an accurate record of changes in Contract Documents. Upon completion of Work, transfer recorded changes to a set of Project Record Documents.
- B. The floor plans shall be marked in pen to include the following:
1. All device locations with labels.
  2. Conduit locations.
  3. Head-end equipment and specific location.
  4. Wiring diagram.
  5. Labeling and administration documentation.
  6. Warranty certificate.
  7. System test results.

#### **1.10 WARRANTIES ~~AND GUARANTY~~**

- A. The Contractor shall warrant the installation to be free from defect in material and workmanship for a period of 1 year from the date of acceptance of the project by the owner. The Contractor shall agree to remedy covered defects within eight (8) hours of notification of major failures or within twenty-four (24) hours of notification for individual station related problems.
- B. Refer to Part 4 for applicable System ~~Guarantee~~Warranty requirements.

#### **1.11 USE OF THE SITE**

- A. Use of the site shall be at the GC's direction.
- B. Coordinate with the GC for lay-down areas for product storage and administration areas.
- C. Coordinate work with the GC and their sub-contractors.
- D. Access to buildings wherein the work is performed shall be directed by the GC.

#### **1.12 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING**

- A. Deliver, store, and handle products using means and methods that will prevent damage, deterioration, and loss, including theft.
- B. Store products in original containers.

- C. Coordinate with the GC for product storage. There may be little or no storage space available on site. Plan to potentially store materials off site.
- D. Do not install damaged products. Remove damaged products from the site and replaced with new product at no cost to the Owner.

#### **1.13 PROJECT CLOSE-OUT**

- A. Prior to final inspection and acceptance of the work, remove all debris, rubbish, waste material, tools, construction equipment, machinery and surplus materials from the project site and thoroughly clean your work area.
- B. Before the project closeout date, the Contractor shall submit:
  - 1. Warranty certificate.
  - 2. Evidence of compliance with requirements of governing authorities such as the Low Voltage Certificate of Inspection.
  - 3. Project record documents.
  - 4. Instruction manuals and software that is a part of the system.
- C. Contractor shall submit written notice that:
  - 1. Contract Documents have been reviewed.
  - 2. Project has been inspected for compliance with contract.
  - 3. Work has been completed in accordance with the contract

### **PART 2 - PRODUCTS AND FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

#### **2.1 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS**

- A. Coordinate features and select components to form an integrated system. Match components and interconnections for optimum performance of specified functions.
- B. Expansion Capability: Increase number of stations in the future by 25 percent above those indicated without adding any internal or external components or main trunk cable conductors.
- C. Equipment: Modular type using solid-state components, fully rated for continuous duty unless otherwise indicated. Select equipment for normal operation on input power usually supplied at 110 to 130 V, 60 Hz.
- D. Weather-Resistant Equipment: Listed and labeled by an OSHA certified National Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL - i.e. UL) for duty outdoors or in damp locations.

#### **2.2 SYSTEM DESCRIPTION**

- A. System hardware shall consist of a public address communications network comprised of amplifiers, mixers, speakers, volume controls,



test sets, telephone private branch exchange (PBX) interface equipment, equipment cabinets/racks, wiring and other options such as, sub zoning in addition to "all call" functions, computer interfaces, printer interfaces and wireless network interfaces, (when specifically approved by 0050P3B and VA Headquarters Spectrum Management 0050P2B - herein after referred to as 0050P2B) as shown on drawings. All necessary equipment required to meet the intent of these specifications, whether or not enumerated within these specifications, shall be supplied and installed to provide a complete and operating nurse/patient communications network that is completely compatible with the existing systems to which it will be connected and required to interface.

B. Systems firmware shall be the product of a reputable firmware OEM of record with a proven history of product reliability and sole control over all source code. Manufacturer shall provide, free of charge, product firmware/software upgrades for a period of two year from date of acceptance by VA for any product feature enhancements. System configuration programming changes shall not require any exchange of parts and shall be capable of being executed remotely via a modem connection (when specifically approved by 0050P3B). All firmware shall be completely compatible to existing systems with which it will be connected and required to interface.

C. The Public Address System (PAS) shall be connected to building PAS at location shown on drawing. The PAS shall cover floor 2 Ward B. The PAS shall provide zoned, one-way voice paging through distributed, ceiling mounted loudspeakers. Voice input into the PAS shall be by zone using the telephone system. The Nurse Call/Code Blue System may interface the PAS system when specifically approved by VA Headquarters Spectrum Management 0050P3B during the project approval process prior to contract bidding.

D. The PAS System is defined as an Emergency Communications Systems by NFPA and VA elevates it to Life Safety Communications System when carrying Code Blue signal and so evaluated by JCAHCO. Therefore, the system shall have a minimum of 2 remote enunciation points in order to satisfy NFPA's Life Safety Code 101.

1. These functions shall be the minimum required of the PAS system:

- a. The Microphone Control Console locations shall be fully manned as long as the Facility is in operation.

- b. One global (aka "all call") hard wired zone shall be provided that connects to every system speaker.
- 2. The PAS shall allow voice pages to be made within a single zone, across programmed multiple zones or a global page (all zones) by using preset codes entered into the keypad of any telephone attached to the PBX.
- E. The PAS shall interface with any existing paging system so that a global page (aka "all call" page) is communicated to the existing paging system and the new PAS of this project. Arrangements for interconnection of the PAS and the telephone system(s) shall be coordinated with the owner and the PBX provider.
- F. Each PAS system shall be designed to provide continuous electrical supervision of the complete and entire system (i.e. light bulbs, wires, contact switch connections, master control stations, wall stations, circuit boards, data, audio, and communication busses, main and UPS power, etc.). All alarm initiating and signaling circuits shall be supervised for open circuits, short circuits, and system grounds. Main and UPS power circuits shall be supervised for a change in state (i.e. primary to backup, low battery, UPS on line, etc.). When an open, short or ground occurs in any system circuit, an audible and visual fault alarm signal shall be initiated at the nurse control station and all remote locations.
- G. When the PAS system is approved to connect to a separate communications system (i.e. LAN, WAN, Telephone, Nurse Call, radio raging, wireless systems, etc) the connection point shall meet the following minimum requirements for each hard wired connection (note each wireless system connection must be approved prior to contract bid by VA Headquarters Spectrum Management 0050P3B and 0050P2B):
  - 1. UL 60950-1/2.
  - 2. FIPS 142.
  - 3. FCC Part 15 Listed Radio Equipment is not allowed.
- H. Contractor is responsible for pricing all accessories and miscellaneous equipment required to form a complete and operating system.

### **2.3 MANUFACTURERS**

- A. The products specified shall be new, UL Listed, and produced by OEM manufacturer of record.

B. The following equipment items are the salient requirements of VA to provide an acceptable system described herein.

#### **2.4 TELEPHONE INTERFACE EQUIPMENT**

A. Paging Adaptor:

1. The Contractor shall coordinate the installation of the paging adapter(s) designed for use with the Facility's telephone system with the Facility Telephone Contractor or local telephone company.
2. The Contractor shall provide and install a paging adapter(s) for each zone and sub zone. The paging adapter(s) shall be accessible by dialing a telephone number provided by the Facility's Telephone Contractor. The Paging Adapter shall:
  - a. Monitor each audio input and output on the unit.
  - b. Be provided with an electrical supervision panel to provide both audio and visual trouble alarms.
  - c. Be provided as part of the Head End equipment and shall be located in the Telephone Switch Room.
  - d. Be provided with Executive Paging Override of all routine paging calls in progress or being accessed to allow system "all call" (aka global) and radio paging calls designated as **CODE ONE** Blue) functions.
  - e. Be capable of internal time out capability.
  - f. Function completely with the interface module.

#### **2.5 SYSTEM SPEAKERS**

A. Ceiling Cone-Type:

1. Minimum Axial Sensitivity: 91 dB at one meter, with 1-W input.
2. Frequency Response: Within plus or minus 3 dB from 70 to 15,000 Hz.
3. Minimum Dispersion Angle: 100 degrees.
4. Line Transformer: Maximum insertion loss of 0.5 dB, power rating equal to speaker's, and at least four level taps.
5. Enclosures: Steel housings or back boxes, acoustically dampened, with front face of at least 0.0478-inch steel and whole assembly rust proofed and factory primed; complete with mounting assembly and suitable for surface ceiling, flush ceiling, pendant or wall mounting; with relief of back pressure.
6. Baffle: For flush speakers, minimum thickness of 0.032-inch aluminum with textured white finish. Completely fill the baffle with fiberglass.

7. Vandal-Proof, High-Strength Baffle: For flush-mounted speakers, self-aging cast aluminum with tensile strength of 44,000 psi, 0.025-inch minimum thickness; countersunk heat-treated alloy mounting screws; and textured white epoxy finish.
8. Size: 8 inches with 1-inch voice coil and minimum 5-oz. ceramic magnet.
9. Have a minimum of 2 safety wires installed to a solid surface or use a flexible conduit from ceiling/wall back box to the speaker back box.
10. The speakers and mounting shall be self contained and wall mounted with flush back box at a minimum of 10 meter intervals and shall match (or contrast with, at the direction of the Resident Engineer) the color of the adjacent surfaces.
11. Provide one spare speaker, mount, and back box for each 50 speakers or portion thereof.

## **2.6 SYSTEM CABLES**

- A. Refer to OFM approved Construction Specification 27 10 00, STRUCTURED CABLING for specific installation and testing requirements.
- B. Line Level Audio and Microphone Cable:
  1. Line level audio and microphone cable for inside racks and conduit.
  2. Shielded, twisted pair Minimum 22AWG, stranded conductors and 24AWG drain wire with overall jacket.
- C. Speaker Level Audio Cable (70v):
  1. For use with 70-volt speaker circuits.
  2. 18AWG stranded pair, minimum.
- D. Speaker Level Audio Cable, Plenum Rated (70v):
  1. For use with 70-volt speaker circuits.
  2. 18AWG stranded pair, minimum.
- E. All cabling shall be riser rated.

## **2.7 RACEWAYS**

- A. Intercommunication and Program System Raceways and Boxes: Comply with requirements in Division 16 Section "Raceway and Boxes for Electrical Systems."
- B. Each raceway that is open top, shall be: UL certified for telecommunications systems, partitioned with metal partitions in order to comply with NEC Parts 517 and 800 to "mechanically separate telecommunications systems of different service, protect the installed

cables from falling out when vertically mounted and allow junction boxes to be attached to the side to interface "drop" type conduit cable feeds.

- C. Intercommunication System cable infrastructure: EMT or in J-hooks above accessible ceilings, 24 inches on center.
- D. Junction boxes shall be not less than 2-1/2 inches deep and 6 inches wide by 6 inches long.
- E. Flexible metal conduit is prohibited unless specifically approved by 0050P3B.

## **2.8 CONDUIT SLEEVES**

- B. The contractor is responsible for installing conduit sleeves and fireproofing where necessary. It is often the case, that due to field conditions, the nurse-call cable may have to be installed through an alternate route. Any conduit sleeves required due to field conditions or those omitted by the engineer shall be provided by the cabling contractor.

## **PART 3 - EXECUTION**

### **3.1 PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

- A. Assign a single project manager to this project who will serve as the point of contact for the Owner, the General Contractor, and the Engineer.
- B. The Contractor shall be proactive in scheduling work at the hospital, specifically the Contractor will initiate and maintain discussion with the general contractor regarding the schedule for ceiling cover up and install cables to meet that schedule.
- C. Contact the Office of Telecommunications, Special Communications Team (0050P3B) at (301) 734-0350 to have a VA Certified Telecommunications COTR assigned to the project for telecommunications review, equipment and system approval and co-ordination with VA's Spectrum Management and OCIS Teams.

### **3.2 COORDINATION WITH OTHER TRADES**

- A. Coordinate with the cabling contractor the location of the faceplate and the faceplate opening for the MATV backbox.
- B. Coordinate with the cabling contractor the location of MATV equipment in the Telecommunications Closets.
- C. Before beginning work, verify the location, quantity, size and access for the following:

Isolated ground AC power circuits provided for systems.

Primary, emergency and extra auxiliary AC power generator requirements.

Junction boxes, wall boxes, wire troughs, conduit stubs and other related infrastructure for the systems.

System components installed by others.

Overhead supports and rigging hardware installed by others.

- D. Immediately notify the Owner, General Contractor and Consultant in writing of any discrepancies.

### **3.3 INSTALLATION**

A. General:

1. Execute work in accordance with National, State and local codes, regulations and ordinances.
2. Install work neatly, plumb and square and in a manner consistent with standard industry practice. Carefully protect work from dust, paint and moisture as dictated by site conditions. The Contractor will be fully responsible for protection of his work during the construction phase up until final acceptance by the Owner.
3. Install equipment according to OEM's recommendations. Provide any hardware, adaptors, brackets, rack mount kits or other accessories recommended by OEM for correct assembly and installation.
4. Secure equipment firmly in place, including receptacles, speakers, equipment racks, system cables, etc:
  - a. All supports, mounts, fasteners, attachments and attachment points shall support their loads with a safety factor of at least 5:1.
  - b. Do not impose the weight of equipment or fixtures on supports provided for other trades or systems.
  - c. Any suspended equipment or associated hardware must be certified by the OEM for overhead suspension.
  - d. The Contractor is responsible for means and methods in the design, fabrication, installation and certification of any supports, mounts, fasteners and attachments.
5. Locate overhead ceiling-mounted loudspeakers as shown on drawings, with minor changes not to exceed 12" in any direction:
  - a. Mount transformers securely to speaker brackets or enclosures using screws. Adjust torsion springs as needed to securely support speaker assembly.

- b. Speaker back boxes shall be completely filled with fiberglass insulation.
- c. Seal cone speakers to their enclosures to prevent air passing from one side of the speaker to the other.
- 6. Finishes for any exposed work such as plates, racks, panels, speakers, etc. shall be approved by the Architect, Owner and 0050P3B.
- 7. Coordinate cover plates with field conditions. Size and install cover plates as necessary to hide joints between back boxes and surrounding wall. Where cover plates are not fitted with connectors, provide grommets holes in size and quantity required. Do not allow cable to leave or enter boxes without cover plates installed.

B. Equipment Racks:

- 1. Fill unused equipment mounting spaces with blank panels or vent panels. Match color to equipment racks.
- 2. Provide security covers for all devices not requiring routine operator control.
- 3. Provide vent panels and cooling fans as required for the operation of equipment within the OEM' specified temperature limits. Provide adequate ventilation space between equipment for cooling. Follow manufacturer's recommendations regarding ventilation space between amplifiers.
- 4. Provide insulated connections of the electrical raceway to equipment racks.
- 5. Provide continuous raceway/conduit with no more than 40 percent fill between wire troughs and equipment racks for all non-plenum-rated cable. Ensure each system is mechanically separated from each other in the wireway.

C. Wiring Practice: In addition to the mandatory infrastructure requirements outlined in VA Construction Specification, Section 27 10 00, STRUCTURED CABLING, the following additional practices shall be adhered to:

- 1. Comply with requirements for raceways and boxes specified in Division 26 Section "Raceway and Boxes for Electrical Systems."
- 2. Execute all wiring in strict adherence to the National Electrical Code, applicable local building codes and standard industry practices.

3. Wiring shall be classified according to the following low voltage signal types:
  - a. Balanced microphone level audio (below -20dBm) or Balanced line level audio (-20dBm to +30dBm)
  - b. 70V loudspeaker level audio.
  - c. Low voltage DC control or power (less than 48VDC)
4. Where raceway is to be EMT (conduit), wiring of differing classifications shall be run in separate conduit. Where raceway is to be an enclosure (rack, tray, wire trough, utility box) wiring of differing classifications which share the same enclosure shall be mechanically partitioned and separated by at least four inches. Where Wiring of differing classifications must cross, they shall cross perpendicular to one another.
5. Do not splice wiring anywhere along the entire length of the run. Make sure cables are fully insulated and shielded from each other and from the raceway for the entire length of the run.
6. Do not pull wire through any enclosure where a change of raceway alignment or direction occurs. Do not bend wires to less than radius recommended by manufacturer.
7. Replace the entire length of the run of any wire or cable that is damaged or abraided during installation. There are no acceptable methods of repairing damaged or abraided wiring.
8. Use wire pulling lubricants and pulling tensions as recommended by the OEM.
9. Use grommets around cut-outs and knock-outs where conduit or chase nipples are not installed.
10. Do not use tape-based or glue-based cable anchors.
11. Ground shields and drain wires as indicated by the drawings.
12. Field wiring entering equipment racks shall be terminated as follows:
  - a. Provide ample service loops at harness break-outs and at plates, panels and equipment. Loops should be sufficient to allow plates, panels and equipment to be removed for service and inspection.
  - b. Line level and speaker level wiring may be terminated inside the equipment rack using specified terminal blocks (see "Products"). Provide 15percent spare terminals inside each rack. Microphone level wiring may only be terminated at the equipment served.



- c. If specified terminal blocks are not designed for rack mounting, utilize 3/4" plywood or 1/8" thick aluminum plates/blank panels as a mounting surface. Do not mount on the bottom of the rack.
  - d. Employ permanent strain relief for any cable with an outside diameter of 1" or greater.
- 13. Use only balanced audio circuits unless noted otherwise
- 14. Make all connections as follows:
  - a. Make all connections using rosin-core solder or mechanical connectors appropriate to the application.
  - b. For crimp-type connections, use only tools that are specified by the manufacturer for the application.
  - c. Use only insulated spade lugs on screw terminals. Spade lugs shall be sized to fit the wire gauge. Do not exceed two lugs per terminal.
  - d. Wire nuts, electrical tape or "Scotch Lock" connections are not acceptable for any application.
- D. Cable Installation: In addition to the mandatory infrastructure requirements outlined in VA Construction Specification, Section 27 10 00, STRUCTURED CABLING, the following additional practices shall be adhered to:
  - 1. Support cable on maximum 4'-0" centers. Acceptable means of cable support are cable tray, j-hooks, and bridal rings. Velcro wrap cable bundles loosely to the means of support with plenum rated Velcro straps. Plastic tie wraps are not acceptable as a means to bundle cables.
  - 2. Run cables parallel to walls.
  - 3. Install maximum of 10 cables in a single row of J-hooks. Provide necessary rows of J-hooks as required by the number of cables.
  - 4. Do not lay cables on top of light fixtures, ceiling tiles, mechanical equipment, or ductwork. Maintain at least 2'-0" clearance from all shielded electrical apparatus.
  - 5. All cables shall be tested after the total installation is fully complete. All test results are to be documented. All cables shall pass acceptable test requirements and levels. Contractor shall remedy any cabling problems or defects in order to pass or comply with testing. This includes the re-pull of new cable as required at no additional cost to the Owner.

6. Ends of cables shall be properly terminated on both ends per industry and OEM's recommendations.
7. Provide proper temporary protection of cable after pulling is complete before final dressing and terminations are complete. Do not leave cable lying on floor. Bundle and tie wrap up off of the floor until you are ready to terminate.
8. Cover the end of the overall jacket with a 1" (minimum) length of transparent heat-shrink tubing. Cut unused insulated conductors 2" (minimum) past the heat-shrink, fold back over jacket and secure with cable-tie. Cut unused shield/drain wires 2" (minimum) past the Heat-shrink and serve as indicated below.
9. Cover shield/drain wires with heat-shrink tubing extending back to the overall jacket. Extend tubing ¼" past the end of unused wires, fold back over jacket and secure with cable tie.
10. For each solder-type connection, cover the bare wire and solder connection with heat-shrink tubing.
11. Terminate conductors; no cable shall contain unterminated elements. Make terminations only at outlets and terminals.
12. Splices, Taps, and Terminations: Arrange on numbered terminal strips in junction, pull, and outlet boxes; terminal cabinets; and equipment enclosures. Cables may not be spliced.
13. Bundle, lace, and train conductors to terminal points without exceeding OEM's limitations on bending radii. Install lacing bars and distribution spools.
14. Cold-Weather Installation: Bring cable to room temperature before dereeling. Heat lamps shall not be used.
15. Cable shall not be run through structural members or be in contact with pipes, ducts, or other potentially damaging items.
16. Separation of Wires: (REFER TO RACEWAY INSTALLATION) Separate speaker-microphone, line-level, speaker-level, and power wiring runs. Install in separate raceways or, where exposed or in same enclosure, separate conductors at least 12 inches apart for speaker microphones and adjacent parallel power and telephone wiring. Separate other intercommunication equipment conductors as recommended by equipment manufacturer.
17. Serve all cables as follows:

- a. Cover the end of the overall jacket with a 1" (minimum) length of transparent heat-shrink tubing. Cut unused insulated conductors 2" (minimum) past the heat-shrink, fold back over jacket and secure with cable-tie. Cut unused shield and drain wires 2" (minimum) past the Heat-shrink and serve as indicated below.
  - b. Cover shield/drain wires with heat-shrink tubing extending back to the overall jacket. Extend tubing ¼" past the end of unused wires, fold back over jacket and secure with cable tie.
  - c. For each solder-type connection, cover the bare wire and solder connection with heat-shrink tubing.
- E. Labeling:
1. Clearly, consistently, logically and permanently mark switches, connectors, jacks, relays, receptacles and electronic and other equipment.
  2. Engrave and paint fill all receptacle panels using 1/8" (minimum) high lettering and contrasting paint.
  3. For rack-mounted equipment, use engraved Lamacoid labels with white 1/8" (minimum) high lettering on black background. Label the front and back of all rack-mounted equipment.
  4. Where multiple pieces of equipment reside in the same rack group, clearly and logically label each indicating to which room, channel, receptacle location, etc. they correspond.
  5. Permanently label cables at each end, including intra-rack connections. Labels shall be covered by the same, transparent heat-shrink tubing covering the end of the overall jacket. Alternatively, computer generated labels of the type which include a clear protective wrap may be used.
  6. Contractor's name shall appear no more than once on each continuous set of racks. The Contractor's name shall not appear on wall plates or portable equipment.
  7. Ensure each OEM supplied equipment has appropriate UL Labels/Marks for the service the equipment is performed permanently attached/marked. Equipment installed not bearing these UL marks will not be allowed to be part of the system. The Contractor shall bear all costs required to provide replacement equipment with approved UL marks.

### **3.4 PROTECTION OF NETWORK DEVICES**

Contractor shall protect network devices during unpacking and installation by wearing manufacturer approved electrostatic discharge (ESD) wrist straps tied to chassis ground. The wrist strap shall meet OSHA requirements for prevention of electrical shock, should technician come in contact with high voltage.

### **3.5 CLEANING AND PATCHING**

- A. It shall be the responsibility of the contractor to keep their work area clear of debris and clean area daily at completion of work.
- B. It shall be the responsibility of the contractor to patch and paint any wall or surface that has been disturbed by the execution of this work.
- C. The Contractor shall be responsible for providing any additional cutting, drilling, fitting or patching required that is not indicated as provided by others to complete the work or to make its parts fit together properly.
- D. The Contractor shall not damage or endanger a portion of the work or fully or partially completed construction of the Owner or separate contractors by cutting, patching or otherwise altering such construction, or by excavation. The Contractor shall not cut or otherwise alter such construction by the Owner or a separate contractor except with written consent of the Owner and of such separate contractor; such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. The Contractor shall not unreasonably withhold from the Owner or a separate Contractor, the Contractor's consent to cutting or otherwise altering the work.
- E. Where coring of existing (previously installed) concrete is specified or required, including coring indicated under unit prices, the location of such coring shall be clearly identified in the field and the location shall be approved by the Project Manager prior to commencement of coring work.

### **3.6 FIREPROOFING**

- A. Where MATV cables penetrate fire rated walls, floors and ceilings, fireproof the opening.
- B. Provide conduit sleeves (if not already provided by Electrical Contractor) for cables that penetrate fire rated walls. After the cabling installation is complete, install fire proofing material in and

around all conduit sleeves and openings. Install fire proofing material thoroughly and neatly. Seal all floor and ceiling penetrations.

- C. Use only materials and methods that preserve the integrity of the fire stopping system and its rating.

### **3.7 GROUNDING**

- A. Ground cable shields and equipment to eliminate shock hazard and to minimize ground loops, commonmode returns, noise pickup, cross talk, and other impairments.
- B. Signal Ground Terminal: Locate at main equipment cabinet. Isolate from power system and equipment grounding.
- C. Install grounding electrodes as specified in Division 26, Section 26 05 26, GROUNDING AND BONDING FOR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS.
- D. Do not use "3rd or 4th" wire internal electrical system conductors for ground.
- E. Do not connect system ground to the building's external lightning protection system.
- F. Do not "mix grounds" of different systems.

## **PART 4 - TESTING/GUARANTY/TRAINING**

### **4.1 SYSTEM CLASSIFICATION**

The PAS System is NFPA listed as an "Emergency and Public Safety" Communications system. Where Code Blue signals are transmitted, that listing is elevated to "Life Support." Therefore, the following testing and guaranty provisions are the minimum to be performed and provided by the contractor and OEM.

### **4.2 PROOF OF PERFORMANCE TESTING**

- A. Intermediate Testing:
  - 1. After completion of 25 - 30 percent the installation of a head end cabinet(s) and equipment, one microphone console, local and remote enunciation stations, 2 zones, 2 sub zones prior to any further work, this portion of the system must be pre-tested, inspected, and certified. Each item of installed equipment shall be checked to ensure appropriate UL certification labels are affixed, NFPA, Life Safety, and JCAHCO guidelines are followed, and proper installation practices are followed. The intermediate test shall include a full operational test.
  - 2. The inspection and test will be conducted by a factory-certified representative and witnessed by a Government Representative. The

results of the inspection will be officially recorded by the Government Representative and maintained on file by the Resident Engineer (RE), until completion of the entire project. The results will be compared to the Acceptance Test results. An identical inspection may be conducted between the 65 - 75 percent of the system construction phase, at the direction of the Resident Engineer.

B. Pretesting:

1. Upon completing installation of the PAS System, the Contractor shall align, balance, and completely pretest the entire system under full operating conditions.
2. Pretesting Procedure:
  - a. During the system pretest the Contractor shall verify (utilizing approved test equipment) that the system is fully operational and meets all the system performance requirements of this standard.
  - b. The Contractor shall pretest and verify that all system functions and specification requirements are met and operational, no unwanted aural effects, such as signal distortion, noise pulses, glitches, audio hum, poling noise, etc., are present. At a minimum, each of the following locations shall be fully pre-tested:
    - 1) Central Control Cabinets.
    - 2) PA Control Stations.
    - 3) Zone Equipment/Systems.
    - 4) Sub-Zone Equipment/Systems.
    - 5) Local and Remote Enunciation Panels.
    - 6) All Networked locations.
    - 7) System interface locations (i.e. TELCO, two way radio, etc.).
    - 8) System trouble reporting.
    - 9) System Electrical Supervision.
    - 10) UPS operation.
3. The Contractor shall provide four copies of the recorded system pretest measurements and the written certification that the system is ready for the formal acceptance test shall be submitted to the Resident Engineer.

C. Acceptance Test:

1. After the system has been pre-tested and the Contractor has submitted the pretest results and certification to the Resident Engineer, then the Contractor shall schedule an acceptance test date and give the Resident Engineer 30 days written notice prior to the date the acceptance test is expected to begin. The system shall be tested in the presence of a Government Representative and an OEM certified representative. The system shall be tested utilizing the approved test equipment to certify proof of performance and Emergency and Public Safety compliance. The test shall verify that the total system meets all the requirements of this specification. The notification of the acceptance test shall include the expected length (in time) of the test.
2. The acceptance test shall be performed on a "go-no-go" basis. Only those operator adjustments required to show proof of performance shall be allowed. The test shall demonstrate and verify that the installed system does comply with all requirements of this specification under operating conditions. The system shall be rated as either acceptable or unacceptable at the conclusion of the test. Failure of any part of the system that precludes completion of system testing, and which cannot be repaired in 4 hours, shall be cause for terminating the acceptance test of the system. Repeated failures that result in a cumulative time of 8 hours to affect repairs shall cause the entire system to be declared unacceptable. Retesting of the entire system shall be rescheduled at the convenience of the Government.

D. Acceptance Test Procedure:

1. Physical and Mechanical Inspection:
  - a. The VACO Government Representative will tour all major areas where the system is and all sub-systems are completely and properly installed to insure they are operationally ready for proof of performance testing. A system inventory including available spare parts will be taken at this time. Each item of installed equipment shall be checked to ensure appropriate UL certification labels are affixed.
  - b. The system diagrams, record drawings, equipment manuals, Telecommunications Infrastructure Plant (TIP) Auto CAD Disks,

intermediate, and pretest results shall be formally inventoried and reviewed.

- c. Failure of the system to meet the installation requirements of this specification shall be grounds for terminating all testing.

2. Operational Test:

- a. After the Physical and Mechanical Inspection, the central terminating and nurse call master control equipment shall be checked to verify that it meets all performance requirements outlined herein. A spectrum analyzer and sound level meter may be utilized to accomplish this requirement.
- b. Following the central equipment test, a pillow speaker (or on board speaker) shall be connected to the central terminating and nurse call master control equipment's output tap to ensure there are no signal distortions such as intermodulation, data noise, popping sounds, erratic system functions, on any function.
- c. The distribution system shall be checked at each interface, junction, and distribution point, first, middle, and last intersectional, room, and bed dome light in each leg to verify that the nurse call distribution system meets all system performance standards.
- d. Each MATV outlet that is controlled by a nurse call pillow speaker shall be functionally tested at the same time utilizing the Contractor's approved hospital grade TV receiver and TV remote control cable.
- e. The red system and volume stepper switches shall be checked to insure proper operation of the pillow speaker, the volume stepper and the red system (if installed).
- f. Additionally, each installed head end equipment, microphone console, amplifier, mixer, distributed speaker/amplifier, monitor speaker, telephone interface, power supply and remote amplifiers shall be checked insuring they meet the requirements of this specification.
- g. Once these tests have been completed, each installed sub-system function shall be tested as a unified, functioning and fully operating system. The typical functions are: "all call," three sub-zoned, minimum of 10 minutes of UPS operation, electrical supervision, trouble panel, corridor speakers and audio paging.



- h. Individual Item Test: The Government Representative will select individual items of equipment for detailed proof of performance testing until 100 percent of the system has been tested and found to meet the contents of this specification. Each item shall meet or exceed the minimum requirements of this document.

3. Test Conclusion:

- a. At the conclusion of the Acceptance Test, using the generated punch list (or discrepancy list) the VA and the Contractor shall jointly agree to the results of the test, and reschedule testing on deficiencies and shortages with the Resident Engineer. Any retesting to comply with these specifications will be done at the Contractor's expense.
- b. If the system is declared unacceptable without conditions, all rescheduled testing expenses will be born by the Contractor.

E. Acceptable Test Equipment

- 1. The test equipment shall furnished by the Contractor shall have a calibration tag of an acceptable calibration service dated not more than 12 months prior to the test. As part of the submittal, a test equipment list shall be furnished that includes the make and model number of the following type of equipment as a minimum:
  - a. Spectrum Analyzer.
  - b. Signal Level Meter.
  - c. Volt-Ohm Meter.
  - d. Sound Pressure Level (SPL) Meter.
  - e. Oscilloscope.
  - f. Random Noise Generator.
  - g. Audio Amplifier with External Speaker.

**4.3 SYSTEM ~~GUARANTEE~~WARRANTY PERIOD OF SERVICE**

A. Contractor's Responsibility:

- 1. The Contractor shall ~~guarantee~~warranty that all provided material and equipment will be free from defects, workmanship and will remain so for a period of one year from date of final acceptance of the system by the VA. The Contractor shall provide OEM's equipment warranty documents, to the Resident Engineer (or Facility Contracting Officer if the Facility has taken possession of the building), that certifies each item of equipment installed conforms to OEM published specifications.

2. The Contractor's maintenance personnel shall have the ability to contact the Contractor and OEM for emergency maintenance and logistic assistance, remote diagnostic testing, and assistance in resolving technical problems at any time. This contact capability shall be provided by the Contractor and OEM at no additional cost to the VA.
3. All Contractor maintenance and supervisor personnel shall be fully qualified by the OEM and must provide 2 copies of current and qualified OEM training certificates and OEM certification upon request.
4. Additionally, the Contractor shall accomplish the following minimum requirements during the one ~~two~~-year warranty~~guarantee~~ period:
  - a. Response Time during the One ~~Two~~-Year Warranty~~Guarantee~~ Period:
    - 1) The Resident Engineer (or Facility Contracting Officer if the system has been turned over to the Facility) is the Contractor's only official reporting and contact official for MATV system trouble calls, during the guarantee period.
    - 2) A standard work week is considered 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. or as designated by the Resident Engineer (or Facility Contracting Officer), Monday through Friday exclusive of Federal Holidays.
    - 3) The Contractor shall respond and correct on-site trouble calls, during the standard work week to:
      - a) A routine trouble call within 1 working day of its report.  
A routine trouble is considered a trouble which causes a pillow speaker or cordset, 1 master IC control station, room station or emergency station to be inoperable.
      - b) Routine trouble calls in critical emergency health care facilities (i.e., cardiac arrest, intensive care units, etc.) shall also be deemed as an emergency trouble call. The Resident Engineer (or Facility Contracting Officer) shall notify the Contractor of this type of trouble call.
      - c) An emergency trouble call within 4 hours of its report. An emergency trouble is considered a trouble which causes a sub-system (ward), distribution point, terminal cabinet, or all call system to be inoperable at anytime.

- 4) If a PAS component failure cannot be corrected within four hours (exclusive of the standard work time limits), the Contractor shall be responsible for providing alternate nurse call equipment. The alternate equipment/system shall be operational within a maximum of 20 hours after the four hour trouble shooting time and restore the effected location operation to meet the system performance standards. If any sub-system or major system trouble cannot be corrected within one working day, the Contractor shall furnish and install compatible substitute equipment returning the system or sub-system to full operational capability, as described herein, until repairs are complete.

b. Required On-Site Visits during the ~~One~~Two Year ~~Warranty~~Guaranty Period

- 1) The Contractor shall visit, on-site, as necessary, during the guarantee period, to perform system preventive maintenance, equipment cleaning, and operational adjustments to maintain the system according the descriptions identified in this document.
- 2) The Contractor shall arrange all Facility visits with the Resident Engineer (or Facility Contracting Officer) prior to performing the required maintenance visits.
- 3) Preventive maintenance shall be performed by the Contractor in accordance with the OEM's recommended practice and service intervals during non-busy time agreed to by the Resident Engineer (or Facility Contracting Officer) and Contractor.
- 4) The preventive maintenance schedule, functions and reports shall be provided to and approved by the Resident Engineer (or Facility Contracting Officer).
- 5) The Contractor shall provide the Resident Engineer (or Facility Contracting Officer) a type written report itemizing each deficiency found and the corrective action performed during each required visit or official reported trouble call. The Contractor shall provide the Resident Engineer with sample copies of these reports for review and approval at the beginning of the Acceptance Test. The following reports are the minimum required:

- a) The Contractor shall provide a monthly summary all equipment and sub-systems serviced during this guarantee period to Resident Engineer (or Facility Contracting Officer) by the fifth (5th) working day after the end of each month. The report shall clearly and concisely describe the services rendered, parts replaced and repairs performed. The report shall prescribe anticipated future needs of the equipment and systems for preventive and predictive maintenance.
- b) The Contractor shall maintain a separate log entry for each item of equipment and each sub-system of the system. The log shall list dates and times of all scheduled, routine, and emergency calls. Each emergency call shall be described with details of the nature and causes of emergency steps taken to rectify the situation and specific recommendations to avoid such conditions in the future.
- 6) The Resident Engineer (or Facility Contracting Officer) shall convey to the Facility Engineering Officer, 2 copies of actual reports for evaluation.
  - a) The Resident Engineer (or Facility Contracting Officer) shall ensure a copy of these reports is entered into the system's official acquisition documents.
  - b) The Facility Chief Engineer shall ensure a copy of these reports is entered into the system's official technical record documents.
- B. Work Not Included: Maintenance and repair service shall not include the performance of any work due to improper use; accidents; other vendor, contractor, or owner tampering or negligence, for which the Contractor is not directly responsible and does not control. The Contractor shall immediately notify the Resident Engineer or Facility Contracting Officer in writing upon the discovery of these incidents. The Resident Engineer or Facility Contracting Officer will investigate all reported incidents and render

#### **4.4 TRAINING**

- A. Provide thorough training of the owner's engineering and maintenance staff.
- B. Provide the following minimum training times and durations:

Department of Veterans Affairs  
Medical Center - Batavia  
Ward B Renovation - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Building #1  
Project No. 528-352

7/6/10

1. 24 hours prior to opening
2. 24 hours during the opening week
3. 24 hours for supervisors and system administrators

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