

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Iowa City, IA :LOCATION

University of Iowa :CLIENT

PROJECT SERVICES PROVIDED BY

KOFFEL ASSOCIATES

- Code Consulting
- Plan Review
- Equivalency
- Life Safety Plan
- The Joint Commission Statement of Conditions

PROJECT SPECIFICS

Total Area: 3.5 Million Sq Ft

Hospital Size: 1,000-bed

Koffel Associates provides fire protection and life safety services in support of the Joint Commission's Statement of Conditions for the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics is a total of 3.5 million sq ft and includes 7 large buildings on the main campus. In addition, there are several small satellite facilities ranging in size from 5,000 to 20,000 sq ft. Suppression ranged from complete sprinkler protection to no sprinkler protection to special suppression systems. A total of 7 fire pumps are located on the main campus alone. Many occupancy types including health care, ambulatory health care, business, industrial, storage, and assembly exist within the facility. Several different fire alarm systems protect the facility and were all tied back to a proprietary station on site.

Koffel Associates is contracted directly by the University of Iowa to survey the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics for compliance with *NFPA 101*[®], *The Life Safety Code*[®], in order to maintain accreditation by the Joint Commission (TJC). The scope of this work includes:

- A complete life safety/fire protection survey of the entire hospital campus
- Development of a Statement of Conditions report that cited observed life safety/fire protection deficiencies
- Representation of the University of Iowa Medical Center before TJC inspectors. The primary purpose of this representation was to provide expert response on life safety/fire protection questions posed by the TJC inspectors.

Koffel Associates conducted the original survey of the facility in October 2003. Two teams of three people took 10 days to complete a thorough Life Safety Code survey. This included review of type of construction, egress, fire barriers, smoke barriers, occupancy determination and separation, zone sizing, suite location, corridors, and hazardous area location and protection. The survey also included review of all fire protection systems for system installation. These systems included sprinkler protection, special suppression systems, fire alarm system, emergency power systems, and medical gas systems.

From the survey, Koffel Associates developed a report of several thousand deficiencies, which is an average amount of deficiencies for such a large facility. The deficiencies were inputted into a database for ease in manipulation. We developed life safety plans detailing fire separations, smoke barriers, fire/building separations, use and occupancy classifications, suites, hazardous areas, linen and waste chutes, and exits. We continue to work with the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics to remedy the deficiencies and provide ongoing fire protection services.

