NFPA 72 Chapter 24 provides guidelines as to how Emergency Communication Systems (ECS) should be installed, function, and used. It is recommended that the ECS include two forms of communication, **at least one from Layer 1 and a secondary method from one of the other layers**.

**Layers of Emergency Communication Systems**

01 **Immediate and Intrusive Alerting**
- One-way voice communication systems (PA)
- Two-way voice communication systems
- Visible notification appliances
- Textual/digital signage displays

02 **Wide Area**
- Layer 2 relates to means of notification of occupants on the exterior of a building and controlled only by authorized users

03 **Distributed Recipient MNS**
- Layer 3 relates to means of notification of personnel through individual measures
  - Email
  - Computer pop-ups
  - Smartphone applications (apps)
  - Account for all individuals
  - Reverse 911 automated dialing

04 **Public Alerting**
- Layer 4 relates to means of notification of personnel by public measures
  - Radio/TV broadcasting
  - Social networks (Facebook/Twitter)