ALERTUS®

Layers of
Emergency Communication Systems

NFPA 72 National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code HANDBOOK
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2016
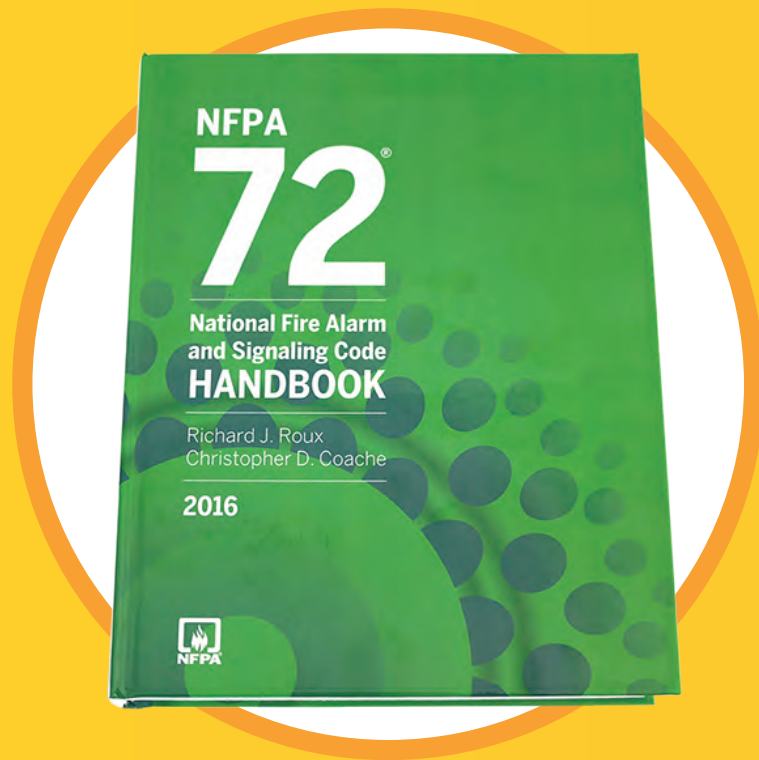
NFPA 72 Chapter 24 provides guidelines as to how Emergency Communication Systems (ECS) should be installed, function, and used. It is recommended that the ECS include two forms of communication, **at least one from Layer 1 and a secondary method from one of the other layers**

01
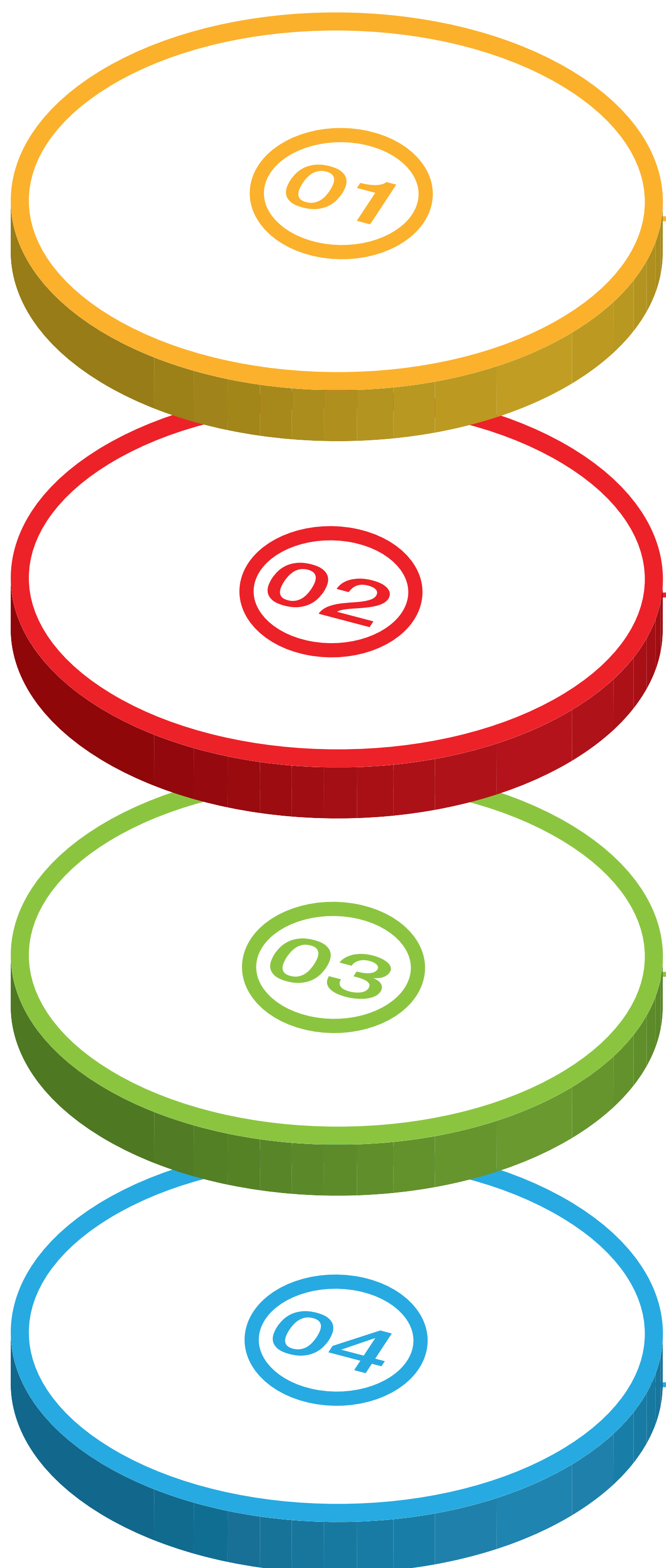
### Immediate and Intrusive Alerting

Layer 1 relates to means of notification of occupants by systems/equipment installed inside a building and controlled only by authorized users

· One-way voice communication systems (PA)
· Two-way voice communication systems
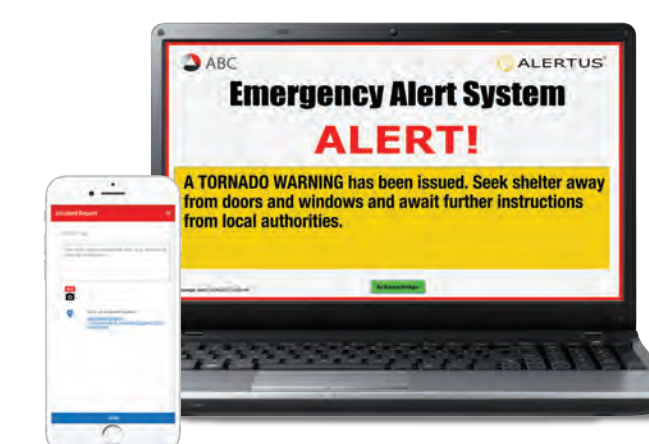· Visible notification appliances
· Textual/digital signage displays

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
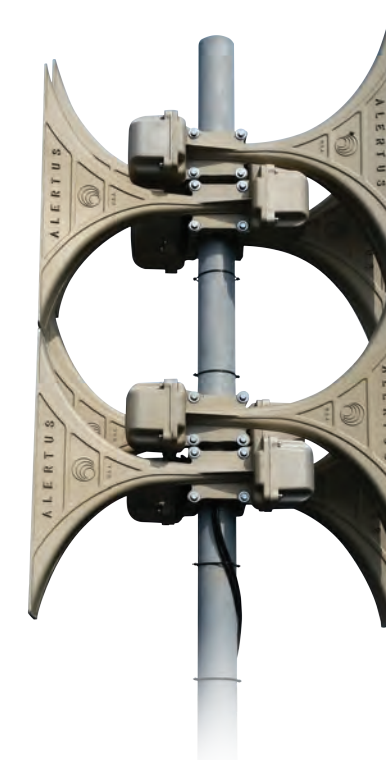
Distributed Recipient MNS

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)