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Carbon Monoxide Alarms Clear Hotel

System activates as designed

SeaTac, Wash. - November 1, 2014- A recently installed carbon monoxide (CO) alarm system at the Radisson Hotel in the 18100 block of International Boulevard did exactly what it was designed to do when it activated and warned the hotel guests of a possible CO leak this afternoon.

The Kent Fire Department RFA (which protects the City of SeaTac) was dispatched to the hotel at 1:47 pm for a possible carbon monoxide leak in the seven story building. When firefighters went into the building, they confirmed the presence of CO with their own hand held detectors. Levels ranged from zero to several hundred parts per million (ppm) depending on where they were in the building. Exposure to levels greater than 50 ppm for an extended period of time can cause illness in a person.

The building's top six floors, which house the guest rooms, were evacuated and all guests brought down to the lobby on the ground floor. All guests were checked out, but there were no reports of illness from the CO.

Firefighters spent the next two hours working with the hotel staff to determine where the CO was coming from. Eventually, the source of the CO was determined to be the swimming pool boiler system, which had recently been worked on.

The system has been shut down and will remain so until it can be repaired. Once all traces of CO have been cleared from the hotel rooms, guests will be allowed to reoccupy their rooms. This should be within the hour.

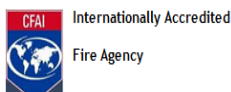
All of the guests have remained in the lobby or in a conference room for their comfort and for monitoring for signs of carbon monoxide poisoning. Hotel staff have worked hard to ensure the comfort and safety of their guests.

The Radisson's carbon monoxide system is an excellent example of the importance of having early warning from CO. Because CO is an odorless, colorless, and tasteless gas, an alarm system is the only way to know it is present. Exposure to CO can result in:

- Headaches
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Other flu-like symptoms
- Seizures
- Unconsciousness
- Death

As we enter November and the rainiest and windiest time of the year, the Kent Fire Department RFA recommends all residents purchase and install a carbon monoxide alarm to protect them from this silent killer.

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