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What changes in your job when you move from installing to supervising a fire alarm installation?

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Which documents make up the contract documents, and how should you read them?

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Why is a phrase like "provide a complete system to code" in a specification a risk for the installing company?

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The specification cites an older NFPA 72 edition than the one the jurisdiction enforces. What do you do?

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Which book answers "must a system be provided here", and which answers "how is it installed and tested"?

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Name four interfaces to assign an owner for at the pre-construction meeting.

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The drawings, specification, addenda and change orders, read as one set. Where they disagree, find the clause that says which one governs before you need it.

Good practice (no code section)

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You answer for work you did not touch. You read the contract, line up the permit, trades and AHJ, and decide whether other people's work is ready to show the inspector.

Good practice (no code section)

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Send an RFI to the engineer that names the adopted edition and asks which applies. Hold the shop drawing submittal until the answer comes, because the design basis may change.

Good practice (no code section)

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It makes your company responsible for gaps the engineer missed. Find those gaps early and raise them in writing.

Good practice (no code section)

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Any four of: elevator recall, HVAC shutdown, door release, sprinkler monitoring and the supervising station connection. An interface nobody owns is found at the final test.

Good practice (no code section)

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The adopted building or life safety code (IBC, NFPA 101 and its occupancy chapter) decides what is required and where. NFPA 72 decides installation, testing and documentation. NFPA 70 covers wiring methods. The AHJ settles acceptance and conflicts.

IBC 2021 fire alarm and detection section; NFPA 101-2021 fire detection, alarm and communications section

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Nobody's drawings show who wires the damper control relays. Should your crew just wire them?

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On a supervisor walk, which wiring and support items do you check?

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Your crew installed horn-strobes from a different maker than the accepted submittal. What is their status?

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What is the difference between shop drawings and record drawings?

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What is a simple test of whether a record drawing set is good enough?

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Name five things on record drawings that must match the field.

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Pathway class against the riser diagram, cable supported by the structure and not resting on ceiling tiles, neat and workmanlike work, and listed firestopping at rated penetrations.

NFPA 72-2022 Chapter 12; NFPA 70-2020 fire alarm article
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No. Raise an RFI to the engineer and general contractor, propose a scope split and log it. Cost and testing responsibility follow the wiring, so wait for a change order.

Good practice (no code section)
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Shop drawings show intent. Record drawings (as-builts) show the system as actually installed, including every change made on site.

NFPA 72-2022 Chapter 7
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A deficiency until the engineer accepts the change, even if they work. First check they are listed to synchronize with the power supply, then submit the substitution for review.

NFPA 72-2022 Chapter 10
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Device locations and addresses, circuit routing and class, end-of-line and junction locations, control unit and power supply locations with what each feeds, and labeled interface modules. Every RFI and change order that moved something must show too.

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Could a technician who has never seen the building find any device, box or circuit from the drawings alone?

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