

receivers required by Table 1108.2.7.1 to be hearing-aid compatible shall not be required.

- ❖ Table 1108.2.7.1 specifies the number of required receivers in an assembly area. Exception 1 states that if a facility has more than one assembly space with an audio amplification system, such as a multiplex theater, then the total seating for all the spaces may be used to determine the number of receivers required.

Exception 2 states that since induction loop technology renders an entire space accessible to the assistive listening system, the hearing-aid compatible receivers are not necessary.

TABLE 1108.2.7.1. See below.

- ❖ Table 1108.2.7.1 specifies the number of required receivers in an assembly occupancy. At least 25 percent of the receivers provided (but not less than two receivers) must be hearing-aid compatible, as persons with hearing aids typically cannot use earpieces or headphone-equipped receivers. When determining the general number of receivers required, the table is to be applied as though it read “2 plus 1 for each additional 25 over 50, or a fraction thereof.” For example, where 51 to 75 total seats are provided, three assistive listening devices are required. Where 76 to 100 total seats are provided, four assistive listening devices are required.

The number of required receivers is based on the capacity of the assembly areas. Note that as the size of the assembly area increases, the number of required receivers also increases; however, the percentage of receivers to seats decreases. This is based on the actual usage in large assembly areas.

1108.2.7.2 Ticket windows. Where ticket windows are provided in stadiums and arenas, at least one window at each location shall have an assistive listening system.

- ❖ An assistive-listening system is required at one window in each location where tickets are sold. Note that this is limited to stadiums and arenas where it is assumed that the technology is already provided for inside the space (see Section 1108.2.7). This will allow a person with a hearing impairment to be able to communicate with the ticket salesperson regarding date, cost and location of tickets being purchased. The New York Yankees and Minnesota Twin stadi-

ums are currently using an induction-loop system at their ticket windows.

1108.2.7.3 Public address systems. Where stadiums, arenas and *grandstands* have 15,000 fixed seats or more and provide audible public announcements, they shall also provide prerecorded or real-time captions of those audible public announcements.

- ❖ If stadiums, arenas or grandstands provide public announcements, the same information should be displayed on some type of electronic signage. With seating of 15,000 or more, most stadiums, arenas and grandstands have electronic scoreboards that are capable of displaying text messages. This is especially important when dealing with emergency evacuation situations. Prerecorded messages related to emergencies should be worked out with the fire department as part of the fire and safety evacuation plans [see Section 404 of the *International Fire Code*® (IFC®)]. Fire alarm systems for assembly occupancies (Section 907.2.1.1) with an occupant load of 1,000 or more must include an emergency voice/alarm communication system. Where captioned audible public announcements are required for stadiums by this section, the emergency voice/alarm communication system must also be captioned (see Section 907.2.1.2). Specific criteria is provided in Section 907.5.2.2.4.

ICC A117.1 has new provisions for variable message signs (VMS), which provides guidance for appropriate case, style, size, spacing, contrast and rate of change. There are special allowances that address large assembly occupancies and the distance from the viewer to the sign.

1108.2.8 Performance areas. An *accessible route* shall directly connect the performance area to the assembly seating area where a *circulation path* directly connects a performance area to an assembly seating area. An *accessible route* shall be provided from performance areas to ancillary areas or facilities used by performers.

- ❖ Performance areas, such as stages, orchestra pits, band platforms, choir lofts and similar spaces, must be accessible. If there is a direct route from the seating to the performance area, there must also be an accessible route. For example, if steps are provided from the assembly seating area to the stage within

**TABLE 1108.2.7.1
RECEIVERS FOR ASSISTIVE LISTENING SYSTEMS**

CAPACITY OF SEATING IN ASSEMBLY AREAS	MINIMUM REQUIRED NUMBER OF RECEIVERS	MINIMUM NUMBER OF RECEIVERS TO BE HEARING-AID COMPATIBLE
50 or less	2	2
51 to 200	2, plus 1 per 25 seats over 50 seats*	2
201 to 500	2, plus 1 per 25 seats over 50 seats*	1 per 4 receivers*
501 to 1,000	20, plus 1 per 33 seats over 500 seats*	1 per 4 receivers*
1,001 to 2,000	35, plus 1 per 50 seats over 1,000 seats*	1 per 4 receivers*
Over 2,000	55, plus 1 per 100 seats over 2,000 seats*	1 per 4 receivers*

Note: * = or fraction thereof