

Standard for Fire Hose Connections

2019



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NFPA® 1963

Standard for

Fire Hose Connections

2019 Edition

This edition of NFPA 1963, *Standard for Fire Hose Connections*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Fire Hose. It was issued by the Standards Council on November 5, 2018, with an effective date of November 25, 2018, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 1963 was approved as an American National Standard on November 25, 2018.

Origin and Development of NFPA 1963

The development of a standard for screw threads and gaskets for fire hose connections began over a century ago. Specifications for hose couplings were drawn up by the NFPA as early as 1898. An NFPA committee appointed in 1905 established a national standard thread for $2^{1}/_{2}$ in. and larger hose connections. Work on smaller hose threads was started in 1916, and the standard was adopted in 1922. The standard for suction hose coupling threads was adopted in 1955. The present standard covers the 11 standard sizes of threaded connections from ${}^{3}/_{4}$ in. to 8 in. (19 mm to 200 mm).

See Annex B for a detailed history of fire hose coupling thread standardization in the United States.

In recent history, editions of this standard were published in 1979, 1985, 1993, 1998, and 2003. The 1979 edition included metric conversion figures where applicable. Also, the number designation of the document was changed from NFPA 194 to NFPA 1963. Changes in 1985 were editorial.

The 1993 edition was a major expansion of the standard. A new chapter was added to cover general requirements for couplings and adapters. Another was added to cover nonthreaded connections in the 4 in. and 5 in. (100 mm and 125 mm) sizes. New material was added to the chapter on gaskets to cover gaskets used with nonthreaded connections. Sections dealing with the threads on fire department pump discharges and intakes, portable pumps, and sprinkler and standpipe systems were deleted because requirements addressing those threads are covered in other NFPA standards. The title of the document was changed from *Standard for Screw Threads and Gaskets for Fire Hose Connections* to *Standard for Fire Hose Connections* to reflect the broader scope of the document.

In the 1998 edition, the requirement for locks on caps used with nonthreaded couplings was removed, and some editorial revisions were made to the document.

The 2003 edition added dimensioning for an 8 in. (200 mm) NH thread. Format revisions were made to meet the requirements of the *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents*.

The 2009 edition permitted the use of pressure-only gaskets in nonthreaded caps for known pressure-only applications.

For the 2014 edition, the committee brought the equations into conformity with the *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents*. The committee also permitted all nonthreaded adapters to have gaskets but not necessarily pressure gaskets.

For the 2019 edition, the committee added many new requirements that were in NFPA 1965 because the committee is withdrawing NFPA 1965. A thorough comparison of NFPA 1963 and NFPA 1965 was completed by the committee and, where applicable, those requirements that were in NFPA 1965 that would pertain to NFPA 1963 were added to NFPA 1963. Given the amount of material that was moved from NFPA 1965 to NFPA 1963 for the 2019 edition, it would be best to refer to the document information page at www.nfpa.org for all of the specific added requirements.

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