

To: Stata Center Occupants  
From: Bill McShea  
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Subject: **Fire Safety Information for the Stata Center**

The MIT Stata Center is an architectural wonder, but because of its size and complexity, you should learn about the building's fire safety features and evacuation routes. Emergency Preparedness Coordinators in the building's various Departments, Labs and Centers (DLCs) will be providing emergency action information, evacuation routes, meeting locations, and related training to their employees.

There are several general things you should remember about Stata. There is a Service Area level (called the Basement) as well as two parking levels (called P1 and P2) below street level.

From the street level, the building rises 9 stories dividing into two towers called Dreyfoos (west) and Gates (east). The two towers are connected through the 6<sup>th</sup> floor, but are free standing above that.

### **Evacuation**

There are 3 fire exit stairwells that lead up from both Parking Levels and the Basement to the street.

There are two exit stairwells in each tower – numbered 1 and 2 in Dreyfoos tower and 3 and 4 in Gates tower. The vestibules leading into the stairwells #1 and #3 are pressurized and ventilated. Each vestibule has an emergency call box that connects with both the Fire Command Center in the Gates Lobby and the Department of Facilities Operations Center.

Occupants of the Dreyfoos tower can also evacuate horizontally to Building 36 on floors 3 through 8.

You should only evacuate your area (or the building) when the fire alarm system sounds on your floor, or when you are directed to do so by the fire department.

## **Fire Alarm System**

The Stata Center fire alarm system has been installed to meet fire and building code requirements for a high rise building.

The system is arranged so fire alarms – at a minimum – will sound on the floor of an incident, the floor above, and the floor below, and in some circumstances, will sound on several floors at the same time.

Alarms in the Stata Center may be activated by a smoke or heat detector, sprinkler head operation and/or sprinkler water flow, or by someone pulling a manual fire alarm pull station.

When activated, the fire alarm begins to sound (an intermittent horn) with a pre-tone, which is followed by a voice message, and then the alarm sounds continuously.

**If the fire alarm is sounding continuously and the fire alarm lights are flashing on your floor, please begin to evacuate immediately.**

**Do not use the elevator if the fire alarm is sounding.** Even if the elevator is available at your level, follow the route shown on the building evacuation plan posted on each floor, and use the stairs to leave the building.

Smoke detectors in the elevator lobbies are programmed to return (recall) some elevators to their lobby position, namely the elevators that serve the parking garage levels and the towers.

In addition to the fire alarm system providing an evacuation tone, it can also serve as an emergency public address system for use by the fire department.