

# TekTone® Tek-SAFE™

AREA OF  
RESCUE  
ASSISTANCE



**Area of rescue  
assistance system**

**W**hat is an area of rescue assistance (ARA)? The Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) defines it as a fire protected area that has direct access to an exit, where people who are unable to use stairs may remain temporarily in safety to await further instructions or assistance during emergency evacuation. ADAAG requires ARAs in new construction and additions to multi-story commercial facilities and public accommodations, unless the building has a supervised automatic sprinkler system.

Typically located in or adjacent to protected stairwells, an ARA must be large enough to accommodate at least two wheelchair users out



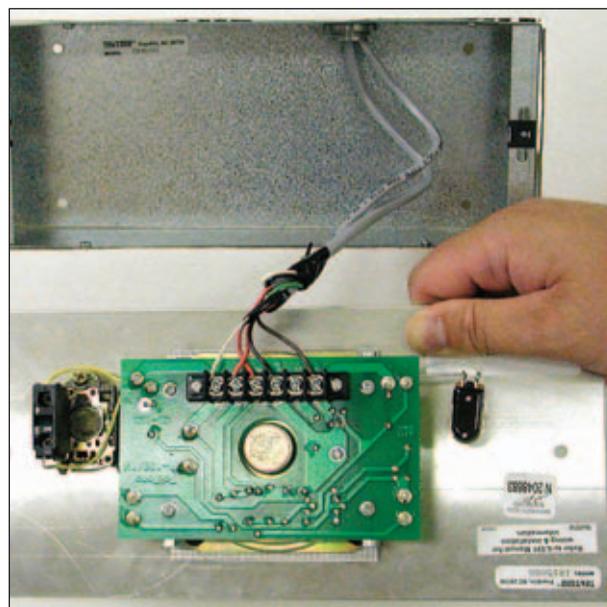
**1. Install the OH150 master station housing and master frame.**



**2. Install one OH600 remote call station.**

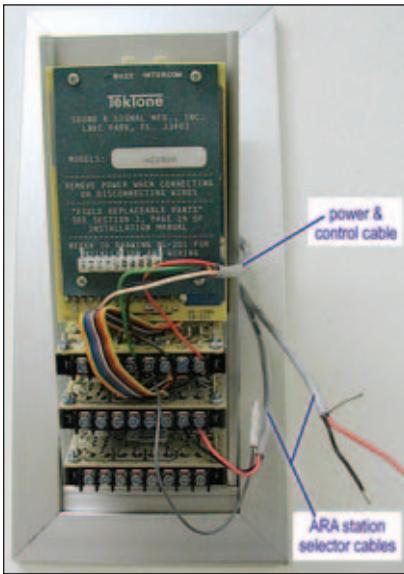


**3. The IH151NK includes a transformer and an annunciator power and control unit.**

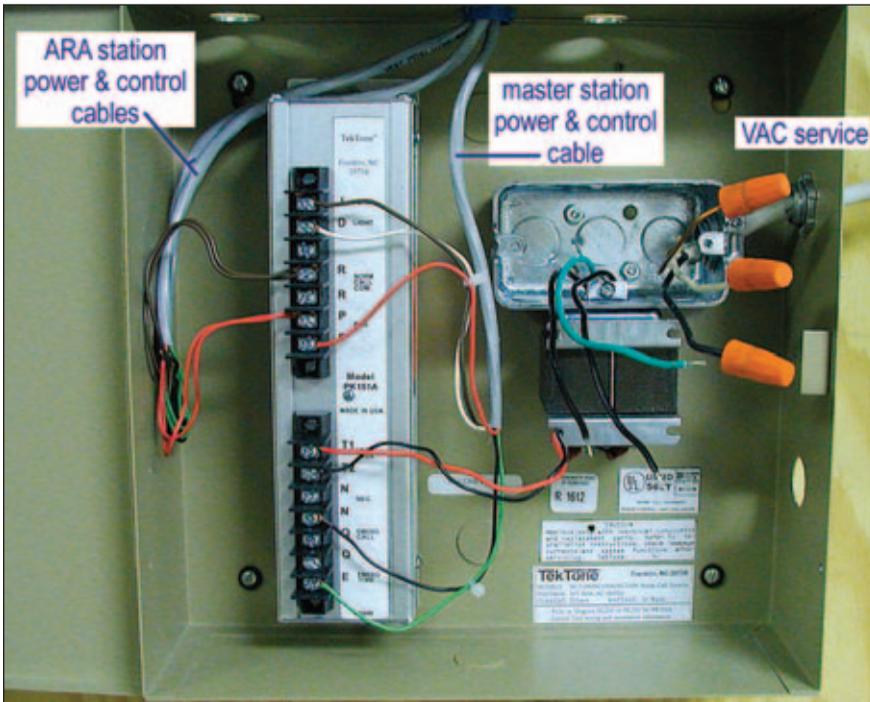


**4. Connect all wires at each ARA station.**

of the path of traffic. Each ARA must also have two-way communication with the building's lobby, as well as adequate signage that directs users to the ARA. TekTone®'s Tek-SAFE™ area of rescue assistance system is one such communication system.



**5. Connect all wires at the master station.**



**6. Connect all wires at the power & control unit.**

Tek-SAFE™ includes a lobby master annunciator, signs, and a choice of ARA remote stations—plastic, aluminum or stainless steel—that may be flush or surface mounted to accommodate new or retrofit construction. The new IR150SS stainless steel ARA remote station is both vandal resistant and weather resistant, and may be located under an overhanging roof—in a parking garage stairwell, for example.

Directional signs and location signs direct tenants to the ARA, where they will press the ARA remote station call button. A call-

placed lamp lights on the ARA remote station, to assure tenants that a call has been placed. The NC150R lobby master annunciator sounds a pulsing tone and lights a button for each ARA remote station that has placed a call.

Arriving emergency responders use the Tek-SAFE™ system to quickly determine how many people need assistance and where they are located. By pressing a couple of buttons on the lobby master annunciator, emergency personnel can converse with tenants in ARAs, reassuring them that help is on the way.

The Tek-SAFE™ ARA communication system is a low voltage system, and installing one is similar to

installing a hard-wired intercom system:

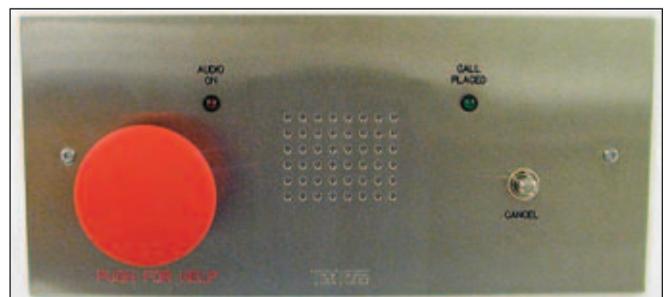
- Install the OH150 master station housing and master frame in the building lobby, 66” high and within easy reach of rescue personnel. (See *photograph 1.*)
- Install one OH600 remote call station housing in each area of rescue assis-



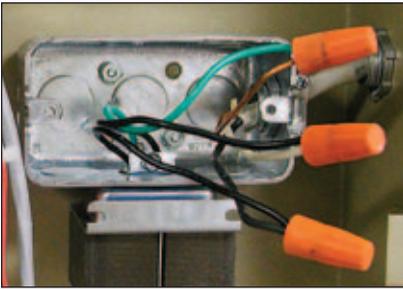
**7. Install master station.**

tance (ARA) no more than 48” high on the wall for a forward reach, or 54” high for a side reach. (See *photograph 2.*)

- Have an electrician run 117 VAC service (40 watts maximum) to the IH151NK junction box location.
- Mount the IH151NK junction box in a closet or other service area, within 100’ of the lobby master station. The IH151NK includes a transformer and an annunciator power and control unit, pre-installed in a junction box. (See *photograph 3.*)
- Run all cable in wiring conduit, where possible:
  - a.** Use 4 cond. #18 cable to run power & control risers from the junc-



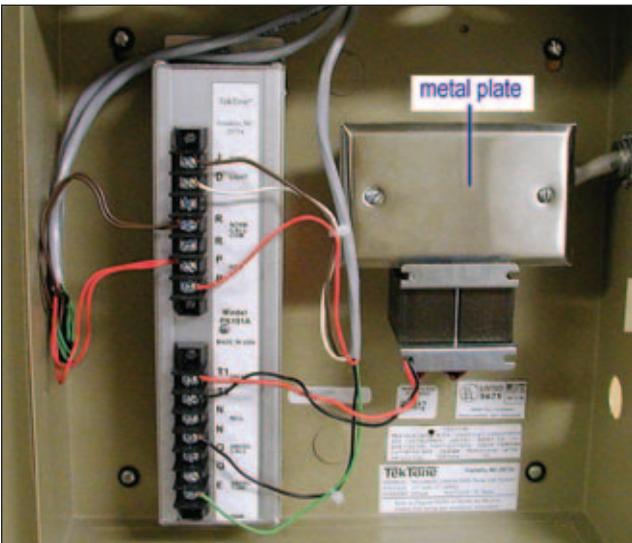
**8. Install ARA station.**



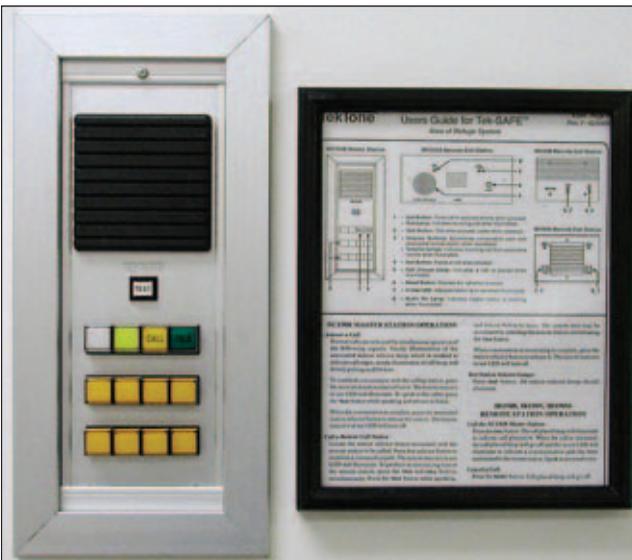
**9. Connect primary power source to the transformer in the IH151NK junction box.**

tion box to the ARA stations. (This includes two spare conductors.) ARA stations can be wired either in series or home run. Number of risers depends on the building layout and ARA station locations.

**b.** Use 6 cond. #18 cable to run power & control from the junction



**10. Cover power-wire box with included metal plate.**



**11. Install users guides.**



**12. Install location and direction signs.**

box to the lobby master station. Cable run must not exceed 100'.

**c.** Run 2 cond. #22 twisted shielded cable from each ARA station to a unique selector button at the master station. Use the shield drain wire as the audio common.

- Use an ohmmeter to test wires for shorts or grounds, and find and correct any problems.

- Connect all wires at each ARA station (see photograph 4), the master station (see photograph 5), and the power & control unit (see photograph 6) to the terminals shown in the system installation manual (part number IL591). Recheck all connections as necessary.

- Install master station into housing using scrulox driver and screw

to hold in place. (See photograph 7.) Install ARA station into housing using scrulox driver and screws. (See photograph 8.)

- Connect primary power source to the transformer in the IH151NK junction box (see photograph 9) and cover power-wire box with included metal plate. (See photograph 10.)

- To test the system, press the large red button at an ARA station, and check for lamp indications, call tone and audio communication with the lobby master station. Test each ARA station.

- Install users guides (see photograph 11) and location and direction signs. (See photograph 12.) (Verify sign requirements with local code and fire authorities.)

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For more information on the Tek-SAFE™ system, contact TekTone® Sound & Signal Mfg., Inc., 277 Industrial Park Road, Franklin, NC 28734; phone (828) 524-9967; toll-free (800) 327-8466 or visit [www.tektone.net/teksafe.htm](http://www.tektone.net/teksafe.htm).

For complete ARA sign and communication system requirements, visit [www.access-board.gov/adaag/html/adaag.htm](http://www.access-board.gov/adaag/html/adaag.htm).