



THE CODE ADVISOR

Approved Code
Services, Inc.
717-215-5849

April-June 2010
Volume IV
Issue III

*Professional Assistance in the Building Codes for
Architects, Engineers & Code Officials*

Question of the Month

From the "Quick Code Answers"
Telephone Support records.

Quick Code Answers is an annual subscription service that provides Phone & On-site technical support for your Building Code questions.

Call us to subscribe!

Q: The classroom hall doors on a new school addition are recessed into alcoves that only allow them to open to 90 degrees. They extend into the hallway by 12 inches at their full open position. Doesn't this violate the Door Encroachment section in *IBC 1005.2*? The corridor is 60 inches wide so the 50% rule is ok. But there doesn't seem to be any way around the 7 inch rule.

A: You would need one more piece of information to actually make this call. The 50% reduction in Means of Egress is determined when the door is fully extended into the corridor. That is usually at 90 degrees but it can be anywhere in the arc that produces the most reduction. The 7 inch reduction is measured when the door is at its fully opened position. Normally, that means it is opened to 180 degrees and parallel with the corridor wall. But in this case, fully opened is perpendicular to the corridor.



The missing piece of information is the required means of egress that the code uses to evaluate compliance. A 60 inch wide corridor is the provided means of egress but the required width could be much less. If the corridor served an occupant load of 120, the required width would be 24 inches ($120 \times 0.2 = 24$). Likely, this is an accessible route so 36" would become the minimum required width (*A117.1, 403.5*).

Client Highlight



Silver Spring Township

6475 Carlisle Pike

Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17050

www.silverspringtwp-pa.gov

In this case, the door swing would need to reduce the hallway width to 29 inches ($36'' - 7'' = 29''$) before there would be any compliance issues with door encroachment.

Code Tip

The 2008 NEC now requires GFCI protection in new locations:

1. All 15/20A receptacles in commercial food prep areas. NEC 210.8(B)(2)
2. All outdoor 15/20A receptacles NEC 210.8(B)(4)
3. All 15/20A receptacles within 6 Ft of non-residential sinks NEC 210.8(B)(5)
2. All vending machines and electric drinking fountains. NEC 422.51 & 52.
3. All 15/20A pool pump motors, cord-plug or hard-wires NEC 680.22
2. New storable pool pump cords (integral) NEC 680.31



Taken from our *Important Changes to the 2009 I-codes Seminar*.

Accessibility Corner

Accessible dwelling and sleeping units now have two bathing facility requirements (w/ roll-in showers & w/o roll-in showers). Previous code versions required all accessible units to have a minimum number of roll-in showers. The remainder of the accessible units could also be provided with roll-in showers or any other accessible bathing alternative. The 2009 IBC now requires a minimum number of units to have non-roll-in shower bathing facilities. (*IBC 1107.6.1*). This modification actually prohibits roll-in showers in the first two accessible units in favor of alternative bathing facilities such as accessible bathtubs.



Taken from our updated *De-Coding the ADA Code Seminar*.

Next public session is scheduled for Thursday, June 24th in our new training room!

Current Events



The latest news concerning the legal challenge to the 2009 I-code adoption in Pennsylvania comes from an L&I email on May 12th:

“The suit filed by the Pennsylvania Builders Association’s in Commonwealth Court (alleging the unconstitutional adoption of the 2009 International Codes) is scheduled for oral arguments during the week of June 21-24, in Harrisburg.

Unless and until the Court rules otherwise, the 2009 International Codes remain in effect.”

Details available at www.ApprovedCode.com

Recommended Resources

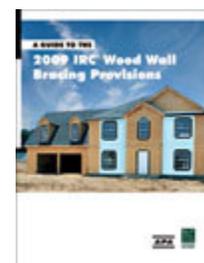
The new wall bracing section in the 2009 IRC is causing confusion with many designers and officials.

This could help:

A Guide to the 2009 IRC® Wood Wall Bracing Provisions

This book was jointly developed by ICC and APA—the Engineered Wood Association to help designers, builders, building officials and others effectively understand and apply the wood-frame lateral bracing requirements of the 2009 *International Residential Code*® (IRC). This new guide covers lateral forces on a house, the history of bracing provisions, code limitations, permissible bracing options, connection details for bracing systems, pony and cripple wall requirements, and whole house considerations using illustrated design examples. It also includes more than 200 full-color tables, figures, and photographs. 255 Pages Soft cover

Product Id: 7102S09 List \$41.00



Approved Code Product Highlight



Support services for the municipal AHJ

Accessibility Review and Inspection service

Municipal BCOs should be cautious when delegating the task of accessibility review and inspection in their jurisdiction. The BCO is ultimately responsible when L&I audits are performed concerning the enforcement of accessibility provisions in the UCC. If the reviewer or inspector is not knowledgeable about the technical requirements he will receive a citation for each infraction, which becomes part of his certification file. This report is also added to the BCO's record, along with any administration errors. Several poor audits can jeopardize a code officials UCC certification and tarnish his credibility with the municipal authority.

Understanding the accessibility regulations has been one of our primary focuses over the last 4 years. As a result, we have developed a UCC certified training course and review/inspection procedures that address Pennsylvania's unique requirements and high level of enforcement.

The service we offer encompasses the technical plan review and inspection. It also extends to the unique state administrative regulations and audit criteria aspects. There are literally thousands of interior and exterior accessible features to examine and many local officials are still unsure about them. Finally, we support the code department during the audit with a knowledgeable representative to answer questions about the review documents and to participate in the site visit.

Please call or write today for more details!

Got Code Questions?



Do you have a code question that is baffling you?

Submit your code question to code_question@ApprovedCode.com

Be sure to include a daytime telephone number in case we need more information.

We will respond to your question by e-mail or phone in a timely manner.

APPROVED Code Services, Inc. provides building code support services, training and products to assist design professionals and code officials in the proper application of the building code. Our staff is experienced and fully certified in all areas of the Pennsylvania State Building Code. Information provided in this newsletter is believed to be accurate and appropriate for the situation being presented. All information must be cross checked with a code book for suitability to the application. The local building code official and the appeals board have the final authority for interpreting the code in each jurisdiction.



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www.ApprovedCode.com