

## CHAPTER 4

# SPECIAL DETAILED REQUIREMENTS BASED ON USE AND OCCUPANCY

### SECTION 401 SCOPE

**401.1 Detailed use and occupancy requirements.** In addition to the occupancy and construction requirements in this code, the provisions of this chapter apply to the special uses and occupancies described herein.

### SECTION 402 COVERED MALL BUILDINGS

**402.1 Scope.** The provisions of this section shall apply to buildings or structures defined herein as covered mall buildings not exceeding three floor levels at any point nor more than three stories above grade. Except as specifically required by this section, covered mall buildings shall meet applicable provisions of this code.

**Exceptions:**

1. Foyers and lobbies of Groups B, R-1 and R-2 are not required to comply with this section.
2. Buildings need not comply with the provisions of this section where they totally comply with other applicable provisions of this code.

**402.2 Definitions.** The following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this chapter and as used elsewhere in this code, have the meanings shown herein.

**ANCHOR BUILDING.** An exterior perimeter building of a group other than H having direct access to a covered mall building but having required means of egress independent of the mall.

**COVERED MALL BUILDING.** A single building enclosing a number of tenants and occupants such as retail stores, drinking and dining establishments, entertainment and amusement facilities, passenger transportation terminals, offices, and other similar uses wherein two or more tenants have a main entrance into one or more malls. For the purpose of this chapter, anchor buildings shall not be considered as a part of the covered mall building.

**FOOD COURT.** A public seating area located in the mall that serves adjacent food preparation tenant spaces.

**GROSS LEASABLE AREA.** The total floor area designed for tenant occupancy and exclusive use. The area of tenant occupancy is measured from the centerlines of joint partitions to the outside of the tenant walls. All tenant areas, including areas used for storage, shall be included in calculating gross leasable area.

**MALL.** A roofed or covered common pedestrian area within a covered mall building that serves as access for two or more tenants and not to exceed three levels that are open to each other.

**402.3 Lease plan.** Each covered mall building owner shall provide both the building and fire departments with a lease plan showing the location of each occupancy and its exits after the certificate of occupancy has been issued. No modifications or changes in occupancy or use shall be made from that shown on the lease plan without prior approval of the building official.

**402.4 Means of egress.** Each tenant space and the covered mall building shall be provided with means of egress as required by this section and this code. Where there is a conflict between the requirements of this code and the requirements of this section, the requirements of this section shall apply.

**402.4.1 Determination of occupant load.** The occupant load permitted in any individual tenant space in a covered mall building shall be determined as required by this code. Means of egress requirements for individual tenant spaces shall be based on the occupant load thus determined.

**402.4.1.1 Occupant formula.** In determining required means of egress of the mall, the number of occupants for whom means of egress are to be provided shall be based on gross leasable area of the covered mall building (excluding anchor buildings) and the occupant load factor as determined by the following equation.

$$OLF = (0.00007) (GLA) + 25 \quad \text{(Equation 4-1)}$$

where:

*OLF* = The occupant load factor (square feet per person).

*GLA* = The gross leasable area (square feet).

**402.4.1.2 OLF range.** The occupant load factor (*OLF*) is not required to be less than 30 and shall not exceed 50.

**402.4.1.3 Anchor buildings.** The occupant load of anchor buildings opening into the mall shall not be included in computing the total number of occupants for the mall.

**402.4.1.4 Food courts.** The occupant load of a food court shall be determined in accordance with Section 1004. For the purposes of determining the means of egress requirements for the mall, the food court occupant load shall be added to the occupant load of the covered mall building as calculated above.

**402.4.2 Number of means of egress.** Wherever the distance of travel to the mall from any location within a tenant space used by persons other than employees exceeds 75 feet (22 860 mm) or the tenant space exceeds an occupant load of 50, not less than two means of egress shall be provided.

**402.4.3 Arrangements of means of egress.** Assembly occupancies with an occupant load of 500 or more shall be so located in the covered mall building that their entrance will be immediately adjacent to a principal entrance to the mall and shall have not less than one-half of their required

means of egress opening directly to the exterior of the covered mall building.

**402.4.3.1 Anchor building means of egress.** Required means of egress for anchor buildings shall be provided independently from the mall means of egress system. The occupant load of anchor buildings opening into the mall shall not be included in determining means of egress requirements for the mall. The path of egress travel of malls shall not exit through anchor buildings. Malls terminating at an anchor building where no other means of egress has been provided shall be considered as a dead-end mall.

**402.4.4 Distance to exits.** Within each individual tenant space in a covered mall building, the maximum distance of travel from any point to an exit or entrance to the mall shall not exceed 200 feet (60 960 mm).

The maximum distance of travel from any point within a mall to an exit shall not exceed 200 feet (60 960 mm).

**402.4.5 Access to exits.** Where more than one exit is required, they shall be so arranged that it is possible to travel in either direction from any point in a mall to separate exits. The minimum width of an exit passageway or corridor from a mall shall be 66 inches (1676 mm).

**Exception:** Dead ends not exceeding a length equal to twice the width of the mall measured at the narrowest location within the dead-end portion of the mall.

**402.4.5.1 Exit passageway enclosures.** Where exit passageway enclosures provide a secondary means of egress from a tenant space, doors to the exit passageway enclosures shall be 1-hour fire doors. Such doors shall be self-closing and be so maintained or shall be automatic-closing by smoke detection.

**402.4.6 Service areas fronting on exit passageways.** Mechanical rooms, electrical rooms, building service areas and service elevators are permitted to open directly into exit passageways provided that the exit passageway is separated from such rooms with 1-hour fire-resistance-rated walls and 1-hour opening protectives.

**402.5 Mall width.** For the purpose of providing required egress, malls are permitted to be considered as corridors but need not comply with the requirements of Section 1005.1 of this code where the width of the mall is as specified in this section.

**402.5.1 Minimum width.** The minimum width of the mall shall be 20 feet (6096 mm). The mall width shall be sufficient to accommodate the occupant load served. There shall be a minimum of 10 feet (3048 mm) clear exit width to a height of 8 feet (2438 mm) between any projection of a tenant space bordering the mall and the nearest kiosk, vending machine, bench, display opening, food court or other obstruction to means of egress travel.

**402.6 Types of construction.** The area of any covered mall building, including anchor buildings, of Type I, II, III and IV construction, shall not be limited provided the covered mall building and attached anchor buildings and parking garages are surrounded on all sides by a permanent open space of not less than 60 feet (18 288 mm) and the anchor buildings do not exceed

three stories in height. The allowable height and area of anchor buildings greater than three stories in height shall comply with Section 503, as modified by Sections 504 and 506. The construction type of open parking garages and enclosed parking garages shall comply with Sections 406.3 and 406.4, respectively.

**402.7 Fire-resistance-rated separation.** Fire-resistance-rated separation is not required between tenant spaces and the mall. Fire-resistance-rated separation is not required between a food court and adjacent tenant spaces or the mall.

**402.7.1 Attached garage.** An attached garage for the storage of passenger vehicles having a capacity of not more than nine persons and open parking garages shall be considered as a separate building where it is separated from the covered mall building by a fire barrier having a fire-resistance rating of at least 2 hours.

**Exception:** Where an open parking garage or enclosed parking garage is separated from the covered mall building or anchor building a distance greater than 10 feet (3048 mm), the provisions of Table 602 shall apply. Pedestrian walkways and tunnels which attach the open parking garage or enclosed parking garage to the covered mall building or anchor building shall be constructed in accordance with Section 3104.

**402.7.2 Tenant separations.** Each tenant space shall be separated from other tenant spaces by a fire partition complying with Section 708. A tenant separation wall is not required between any tenant space and the mall.

**402.7.3 Anchor building separation.** An anchor building shall be separated from the covered mall building by fire walls complying with Section 705.

**Exception:** Anchor buildings of not more than three stories above grade which have an occupancy classification of the same uses permitted as tenants of the covered mall building shall be separated by 2-hour fire-barriers complying with Section 706.

**402.7.3.1 Openings between anchor building and mall.** Except for the separation between Group R-1 sleeping units and the mall, openings between anchor buildings of Type IA, IB, IIA and IIB construction and the mall need not be protected.

**[F] 402.8 Automatic sprinkler system.** The covered mall building and buildings connected shall be equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1, which shall comply with the following:

1. The automatic sprinkler system shall be complete and operative throughout occupied space in the covered mall building prior to occupancy of any of the tenant spaces. Unoccupied tenant spaces shall be similarly protected unless provided with approved alternate protection.
2. Sprinkler protection for the mall shall be independent from that provided for tenant spaces or anchors. Where tenant spaces are supplied by the same system, they shall be independently controlled.

**Exception:** An automatic sprinkler system shall not be required in spaces or areas of open parking garages constructed in accordance with Section 406.2.

**402.8.1 Standpipe system.** The covered mall building shall be equipped throughout with a standpipe system as required by Section 905.3.3.

**402.9 Smoke control.** A smoke control system shall be provided where required for atriums in Section 404.

**402.10 Kiosks.** Kiosks and similar structures (temporary or permanent) shall meet the following requirements:

1. Combustible kiosks or other structures shall not be located within the mall unless constructed of any of the following materials:
  - 1.1. Fire-retardant-treated wood complying with Section 2303.2.
  - 1.2. Foam plastics having a maximum heat release rate not greater than 100kW (105 Btu/h) when tested in accordance with the exhibit booth protocol in UL 1975.
  - 1.3. Aluminum composite material (ACM) having a flame spread index of not more than 25 and a smoke-developed index of not more than 450 when tested as an assembly in the maximum thickness intended for use in accordance with ASTM E 84.
2. Kiosks or similar structures located within the mall shall be provided with approved fire suppression and detection devices.
3. The minimum horizontal separation between kiosks or groupings thereof and other structures within the mall shall be 20 feet (6096 mm).
4. Each kiosk or similar structure or groupings thereof shall have a maximum area of 300 square feet (28 m<sup>2</sup>).

**402.11 Security grilles and doors.** Horizontal sliding or vertical security grilles or doors that are a part of a required means of egress shall conform to the following:

1. They shall remain in the full open position during the period of occupancy by the general public.
2. Doors or grilles shall not be brought to the closed position when there are more than 10 persons occupying spaces served by a single exit or 50 persons occupying spaces served by more than one exit.
3. The doors or grilles shall be openable from within without the use of any special knowledge or effort where the space is occupied.
4. Where two or more exits are required, not more than one-half of the exits shall be permitted to include either a horizontal sliding or vertical rolling grille or doors.

**402.12 Standby power.** Covered mall buildings exceeding 50,000 square feet (4645 m<sup>2</sup>) shall be provided with standby power systems that are capable of operating the emergency voice/alarm communication system.

**[F] 402.13 Emergency voice/alarm communication system.** Covered mall buildings exceeding 50,000 square feet (4645 m<sup>2</sup>) in total floor area shall be provided with an emergency voice/alarm communication system. Emergency voice/alarm communication systems serving a mall, required or otherwise,

shall be accessible to the fire department. The system shall be provided in accordance with Section 907.2.12.2.

**402.14 Plastic signs.** Within every store or level and from side-wall to sidewall of each tenant space facing the mall, plastic signs shall be limited as specified in Sections 402.14.1 through 402.14.5.

**402.14.1 Area.** Plastic signs shall not exceed 20 percent of the wall area facing the mall.

**402.14.2 Height and width.** Plastic signs shall not exceed a height of 36 inches (914 mm), except if the sign is vertical, the height shall not exceed 96 inches (2438 mm) and the width shall not exceed 36 inches (914 mm).

**402.14.3 Location.** Plastic signs shall be located a minimum distance of 18 inches (457 mm) from adjacent tenants.

**402.14.4 Plastics other than foam plastics.** Plastics other than foam plastics used in signs shall be light-transmitting plastics complying with Section 2606.4 or shall have a self-ignition temperature of 650°F (343°C) or greater when tested in accordance with ASTM D 1929, and a flame spread index not greater than 75 and smoke-developed index not greater than 450 when tested in the manner intended for use in accordance with ASTM E 84 or meet the acceptance criteria of Section 803.2.1 when tested in accordance with NFPA 286.

**402.14.4.1 Encasement.** Edges and backs of plastic signs in the mall shall be fully encased in metal.

**402.14.5 Foam plastics.** Foam plastics used in signs shall have flame-retardant characteristics such that the sign has a maximum heat-release rate of 150 kilowatts when tested in accordance with UL 1975 and the foam plastics shall have the physical characteristics specified in this section. Foam plastics used in signs installed in accordance with Section 402.14 shall not be required to comply with the flame spread and smoke-developed indexes specified in Section 2603.3.

**402.14.5.1 Density.** The minimum density of foam plastics used in signs shall not be less than 20 pounds per cubic foot (pcf) (320 kg/m<sup>3</sup>).

**402.14.5.2 Thickness.** The thickness of foam plastic signs shall not be greater than 1/2-inch (12.7 mm).

**402.15 Fire department access to equipment.** Rooms or areas containing controls for air-conditioning systems, automatic fire-extinguishing systems or other detection, suppression or control elements shall be identified for use by the fire department.

## SECTION 403 HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS

**403.1 Applicability.** The provisions of this section shall apply to buildings with an occupied floor located more than 75 feet (22 860 mm) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access.

**Exception:** The provisions of this section shall not apply to the following buildings and structures:

1. Airport traffic control towers in accordance with Section 412.

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2. Open parking garages in accordance with Section 406.3.
3. Buildings with an occupancy in Group A-5 in accordance with Section 303.1.
4. Low-hazard special industrial occupancies in accordance with Section 503.1.2.
5. Buildings with an occupancy in Group H-1, H-2 or H-3 in accordance with Section 415.

**[F] 403.2 Automatic sprinkler system.** Buildings and structures shall be equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 and a secondary water supply where required by Section 903.3.5.2.

**Exception:** An automatic sprinkler system shall not be required in spaces or areas of:

1. Open parking garages in accordance with Section 406.3.
2. Telecommunications equipment buildings used exclusively for telecommunications equipment, associated electrical power distribution equipment, batteries and standby engines, provided that those spaces or areas are equipped throughout with an automatic fire detection system in accordance with Section 907.2 and are separated from the remainder of the building with fire barriers consisting of 1-hour fire-resistance-rated walls and 2-hour fire-resistance-rated floor/ceiling assemblies.

**403.3 Reduction in fire-resistance rating.** The fire-resistance-rating reductions listed in Sections 403.3.1 and 403.3.2 shall be allowed in buildings that have sprinkler control valves equipped with supervisory initiating devices and water-flow initiating devices for each floor.

**403.3.1 Type of construction.** The following reductions in the minimum construction type allowed in Table 601 shall be allowed as provided in Section 403.3:

1. Type IA construction shall be allowed to be reduced to Type IB.
2. In other than Groups F-1, M and S-1, Type IB construction shall be allowed to be reduced to Type IIA.
3. The height and area limitations of the reduced construction type shall be allowed to be the same as for the original construction type.

**403.3.2 Shaft enclosures.** The required fire-resistance rating of the fire barrier walls enclosing vertical shafts, other than exit enclosures and elevator hoistway enclosures, shall be reduced to 1 hour where automatic sprinklers are installed within the shafts at the top and at alternate floor levels.

**403.4 Emergency escape and rescue.** Emergency escape and rescue openings required by Section 1025 are not required.

**[F] 403.5 Automatic fire detection.** Smoke detection shall be provided in accordance with Section 907.2.12.1.

**[F] 403.6 Emergency voice/alarm communication systems.** An emergency voice/alarm communication system shall be provided in accordance with Section 907.2.12.2.

**[F] 403.7 Fire department communications system.** A two-way fire department communications system shall be pro-

vided for fire department use in accordance with Section 907.2.12.3.

**[F] 403.8 Fire command.** A fire command center complying with Section 911 shall be provided in a location approved by the fire department.

**403.9 Elevators.** Elevator operation and installation shall be in accordance with Chapter 30.

**403.10 Standby power.** A standby power system complying with Section 2702 shall be provided for standby power loads specified in Section 403.10.2.

**403.10.1 Special requirements for standby power systems.** If the standby system is a generator set inside a building, the system shall be located in a separate room enclosed with 2-hour fire-resistance-rated fire barrier assemblies. System supervision with manual start and transfer features shall be provided at the fire command center.

**403.10.2 Standby power loads.** The following are classified as standby power loads:

1. Power and lighting for the fire command center required by Section 403.8;
2. Electrically powered fire pumps;
3. Ventilation and automatic fire detection equipment for smokeproof enclosures.

Standby power shall be provided for elevators in accordance with Section 3003.

**403.11 Emergency power systems.** An emergency power system complying with Section 2702 shall be provided for emergency power loads specified in Section 403.11.1.

**403.11.1 Emergency power loads.** The following are classified as emergency power loads:

1. Exit signs and means of egress illumination required by Chapter 10;
2. Elevator car lighting;
3. Emergency voice/alarm communications systems;
4. Automatic fire detection systems; and
5. Fire alarm systems.

**403.12 Stairway door operation.** Stairway doors other than the exit discharge doors shall be permitted to be locked from stairway side. Stairway doors that are locked from the stairway side shall be capable of being unlocked simultaneously without unlatching upon a signal from the fire command center.

**403.12.1 Stairway communications system.** A telephone or other two-way communications system connected to an approved constantly attended station shall be provided at not less than every fifth floor in each required stairway where the doors to the stairway are locked.

**403.13 Smokeproof exit enclosures.** Every required stairway serving floors more than 75 feet (22 860 mm) above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access shall comply with Sections 909.20 and 1019.1.8.

**403.14 Seismic considerations.** For seismic considerations, see Chapter 16.

**403.15 Smoke control.** Either a smoke control system shall be installed in accordance with Section 909 or natural smoke venting shall be provided.

**403.15.1 Smoke venting.** Natural smoke venting, when provided, shall be installed in two or more exterior walls. Either fixed windows with tempered glass, or panels or windows which can be opened from the interior without the use of special devices shall be provided and identified. Such venting facilities shall be provided at the rate of 20 square feet (1.86 m<sup>2</sup>) per 50 lineal feet (15 240 mm) of exterior wall in each story and distributed around the perimeter at not more than 50-foot (15 240 mm) intervals.

## SECTION 404 ATRIUMS

**404.1 General.** Vertical openings meeting the requirements of this section are not required to be enclosed in other than Group H occupancies.

**404.1.1 Definition.** The following word and term shall, for the purposes of this chapter and as used elsewhere in this code, have the meaning shown herein.

**ATRIUM.** An opening connecting two or more stories other than enclosed stairways, elevators, hoistways, escalators, plumbing, electrical, air-conditioning or other equipment, which is closed at the top and not defined as a mall. Stories, as used in this definition, do not include balconies within assembly groups or mezzanines that comply with Section 505.

**404.2 Use.** The floor of the atrium shall not be used for other than low fire hazard uses and only approved materials and decorations in accordance with the *International Fire Code* shall be used in the atrium space.

**Exception:** The atrium floor area is permitted to be used for any approved use where the individual space is provided with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.

**[F] 404.3 Automatic sprinkler protection.** An approved automatic sprinkler system shall be installed throughout the entire building.

### Exceptions:

1. That area of a building adjacent to or above the atrium need not be sprinklered provided that portion of the building is separated from the atrium portion by a 2-hour fire-resistance-rated fire barrier wall or horizontal assembly or both.
2. Where the ceiling of the atrium is more than 55 feet (16 764 mm) above the floor, sprinkler protection at the ceiling of the atrium is not required.

**404.4 Smoke control.** A smoke control system shall be installed in accordance with Section 909.

### Exceptions:

1. Smoke control is not required for floor openings meeting the requirements of Section 707.2, Exception 2, 7, 8 or 9.

2. Smoke control is not required for floor openings meeting the requirements of Section 1019.1, Exception 8 or 9.

**404.5 Enclosure of atriums.** Atrium spaces shall be separated from adjacent spaces by a 1-hour fire barrier wall.

### Exceptions:

1. A glass wall forming a smoke partition where automatic sprinklers are spaced 6 feet (1829 mm) or less along both sides of the separation wall, or on the room side only if there is not a walkway on the atrium side, and between 4 inches and 12 inches (102 mm and 305 mm) away from the glass and so designed that the entire surface of the glass is wet upon activation of the sprinkler system. The glass shall be installed in a gasketed frame so that the framing system deflects without breaking (loading) the glass before the sprinkler system operates.
2. A glass-block wall assembly in accordance with Section 2110 and having a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -hour fire protection rating.
3. The adjacent spaces of any three floors of the atrium shall not be required to be separated from the atrium where such spaces are included in computing the atrium volume for the design of the smoke control system.

**404.6 Standby power.** Equipment required to provide smoke control shall be connected to a standby power system in accordance with Section 909.11.

**404.7 Interior finish.** The interior finish of walls and ceilings of the atrium shall not be less than Class B with no reduction in class for sprinkler protection.

**404.8 Travel distance.** In other than the lowest level of the atrium, where the required means of egress is through the atrium space, the portion of exit access travel distance within the atrium space shall not exceed 200 feet (60 960 mm).

## SECTION 405 UNDERGROUND BUILDINGS

**405.1 General.** The provisions of this section apply to building spaces having a floor level used for human occupancy more than 30 feet (9144 mm) below the lowest level of exit discharge.

### Exceptions:

1. One- and two-family dwellings, sprinklered in accordance with Section 903.3.1.3.
2. Parking garages with automatic fire suppression systems in compliance with Section 405.3.
3. Fixed guideway transit systems.
4. Grandstands, bleachers, stadiums, arenas and similar facilities.
5. Where the lowest story is the only story that would qualify the building as an underground building and has an area not exceeding 1,500 square feet (139 m<sup>2</sup>) and has an occupant load less than 10.

**405.2 Construction requirements.** The underground portion of the building shall be of Type I construction.

**[F] 405.3 Automatic sprinkler system.** The highest level of exit discharge serving the underground portions of the building and all levels below shall be equipped with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1. Water-flow switches and control valves shall be supervised in accordance with Section 903.4.

**405.4 Compartmentation.** Compartmentation shall be in accordance with Sections 405.4.1 through 405.4.3.

**405.4.1 Number of compartments.** A building having a floor level more than 60 feet (18 288 mm) below the lowest level of exit discharge shall be divided into a minimum of two compartments of approximately equal size. Such compartmentation shall extend through the highest level of exit discharge serving the underground portions of the building and all levels below.

**Exception:** The lowest story need not be compartmented where the area does not exceed 1,500 square feet (139 m<sup>2</sup>) and has an occupant load of less than 10.

**405.4.2 Smoke barrier penetration.** The separation between the two compartments shall be of minimum 1-hour fire barrier wall construction that shall extend from floor slab to floor deck above. Openings between the two compartments shall be limited to plumbing and electrical piping and conduit penetrations firestopped in accordance with Section 712. Doorways shall be protected by fire door assemblies that are automatic-closing by smoke detection in accordance with Section 715.3 and shall be provided with gasketing and a drop sill to minimize smoke leakage. Where provided, each compartment shall have an air supply and an exhaust system independent of the other compartments.

**405.4.3 Elevators.** Where elevators are provided, each compartment shall have direct access to an elevator. Where an elevator serves more than one compartment, an elevator lobby shall be provided and shall be separated from each compartment by a 1-hour fire barrier wall. Doors shall be gasketed, have a drop sill, and be automatic-closing by smoke detection installed in accordance with Section 907.10.

**[F] 405.5 Smoke control system.** A smoke control system shall be provided in accordance with Sections 405.5.1 and 405.5.2.

**405.5.1 Control system.** A smoke control system is required to control the migration of products of combustion in accordance with Section 909 and the provisions of this section. Smoke control shall restrict movement of smoke to the general area of fire origin and maintain means of egress in a usable condition.

**405.5.2 Smoke exhaust system.** Where compartmentation is required, each compartment shall have an independent smoke control system. The system shall be automatically activated and capable of manual operation in accordance with Section 907.2.18.

**[F] 405.6 Fire alarm systems.** A fire alarm system shall be provided where required by Section 907.2.19.

**[F] 405.7 Public address.** A public address system shall be provided where required by Section 907.2.19.1.

**405.8 Means of egress.** Means of egress shall be in accordance with Sections 405.8.1 and 405.8.2.

**405.8.1 Number of exits.** Each floor level shall be provided with a minimum of two exits. Where compartmentation is required by Section 405.4, each compartment shall have a minimum of one exit and shall also have an exit access doorway into the adjoining compartment.

**405.8.2 Smokeproof enclosure.** Every required stairway serving floor levels more than 30 feet (9144 mm) below its level of exit discharge shall comply with the requirements for a smokeproof enclosure as provided in Section 1019.1.8.

**[F] 405.9 Standby power.** A standby power system complying with Section 2702 shall be provided standby power loads specified in Section 405.9.1.

**405.9.1 Standby power loads.** The following loads are classified as standby power loads.

1. Smoke control system.
2. Ventilation and automatic fire detection equipment for smokeproof enclosures.
3. Fire pumps.

Standby power shall be provided for elevators in accordance with Section 3003.

**405.9.2 Pick-up time.** The standby power system shall pick up its connected loads within 60 seconds of failure of the normal power supply.

**[F] 405.10 Emergency power.** An emergency power system complying with Section 2702 shall be provided for emergency power loads specified in Section 405.10.1.

**405.10.1 Emergency power loads.** The following loads are classified as emergency power loads:

1. Emergency voice/alarm communications systems.
2. Fire alarm systems.
3. Automatic fire detection systems.
4. Elevator car lighting.
5. Means of egress and exit sign illumination as required by Chapter 10.

**405.11 Standpipe system.** The underground building shall be equipped throughout with a standpipe system in accordance with Section 905.

## SECTION 406 MOTOR-VEHICLE-RELATED OCCUPANCIES

### 406.1 Private garages and carports.

**406.1.1 Classification.** Buildings or parts of buildings classified as Group U occupancies because of the use or character of the occupancy shall not exceed 1,000 square feet (93 m<sup>2</sup>) in area or one story in height except as provided in Section 406.1.2. Any building or portion thereof that exceeds the limitations specified in this section shall be classified in the occu-

pancy group other than Group U that it most nearly resembles.

**406.1.2 Area increase.** Group U occupancies used for the storage of private or pleasure-type motor vehicles where no repair work is done or fuel dispensed are permitted to be 3,000 square feet (279 m<sup>2</sup>), when the following provisions are met:

1. For a mixed occupancy building, the exterior wall and opening protection for the Group U portion of the building shall be as required for the major occupancy of the building. For such mixed occupancy building, the allowable floor area of the building shall be as permitted for the major occupancy contained therein.
2. For a building containing only a Group U occupancy, the exterior wall and opening protection shall be as required for a Group R-1 or R-2 occupancy.

More than one 3,000-square-foot (279 m<sup>2</sup>) Group U occupancy shall be permitted to be in the same building, provided each 3,000-square-foot (279 m<sup>2</sup>) area is separated by fire walls complying with Section 705.

**406.1.3 Garages and carports.** Carports shall be open on at least two sides. Carport floor surfaces shall be of approved noncombustible material. Carports not open on at least two sides shall be considered a garage and shall comply with the provisions of this section for garages.

**Exception:** Asphalt surfaces shall be permitted at ground level in carports.

The area of floor used for parking of automobiles or other vehicles shall be sloped to facilitate the movement of liquids to a drain or toward the main vehicle entry doorway.

**406.1.4 Separation.** Separations shall comply with the following:

1. The private garage shall be separated from the dwelling unit and its attic area by means of a minimum 1/2-inch (12.7 mm) gypsum board applied to the garage side. Garages beneath habitable rooms shall be separated from all habitable rooms above by not less than 5/8-inch Type X gypsum board or equivalent. Door openings between a private garage and the dwelling unit shall be equipped with either solid wood doors, or solid or honeycomb core steel doors not less than 1 3/8 inches (34.9 mm) thick, or doors in compliance with Section 715.3.3. Openings from a private garage directly into a room used for sleeping purposes shall not be permitted.
2. Ducts in a private garage and ducts penetrating the walls or ceilings separating the dwelling unit from the garage shall be constructed of a minimum 0.019-inch (0.48 mm) sheet steel and shall have no openings into the garage.
3. A separation is not required between a Group R-3 and U carport provided the carport is entirely open on two or more sides and there are not enclosed areas above.

## 406.2 Parking garages.

**406.2.1 Classification.** Parking garages shall be classified as either open, as defined in Section 406.3, or enclosed and shall meet the appropriate criteria in Section 406.4. Also see Section 508 for special provisions for parking garages.

**406.2.2 Clear height.** The clear height of each floor level in vehicle and pedestrian traffic areas shall not be less than 7 feet (2134 mm). Vehicle and pedestrian areas accommodating van-accessible parking required by Section 1106.5 shall conform to ICC A117.1.

**406.2.3 Guards.** Guards shall be provided in accordance with Section 1012 at exterior and interior vertical openings on floor and roof areas where vehicles are parked or moved and where the vertical distance to the ground or surface directly below exceeds 30 inches (762 mm).

**406.2.4 Vehicle barriers.** Parking areas shall be provided with exterior or interior walls or vehicle barriers, except at pedestrian or vehicular accesses, designed in accordance with Section 1607.7. Vehicle barriers not less than 2 feet (607 mm) high shall be placed at the ends of drive lanes, and at the end of parking spaces where the difference in adjacent floor elevation is greater than 1 foot (305 mm).

**406.2.5 Ramps.** Vehicle ramps shall not serve as an exit element.

**406.2.6 Floor surface.** Parking surfaces shall be of concrete or similar noncombustible and nonabsorbent materials.

**Exception:** Asphalt parking surfaces are permitted at ground level.

The area of floor used for parking of automobiles or other vehicles shall be sloped to facilitate the movement of liquids to a drain or toward the main vehicle entry doorway.

**406.2.7 Mixed separation.** Parking garages shall be separated from other occupancies in accordance with Section 302.3.

**406.2.8 Special hazards.** Connection of a parking garage with any room in which there is a fuel-fired appliance shall be by means of a vestibule providing a two-doorway separation.

**Exception:** A single door shall be allowed provided the sources of ignition in the appliance are at least 18 inches (457 mm) above the floor.

**406.2.9 Attached to rooms.** Openings from a parking garage directly into a room used for sleeping purposes shall not be permitted.

## 406.3 Open parking garages.

**406.3.1 Scope.** Except where specific provisions are made in the following subsections, other requirements of this code shall apply.

**406.3.2 Definitions.** The following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this chapter and as used elsewhere in this code, have the meanings shown herein.

**MECHANICAL-ACCESS OPEN PARKING GARAGES.** Open parking garages employing parking machines, lifts, elevators or other mechanical devices for vehicles moving from and to street level and in which public occupancy is prohibited above the street level.

**OPEN PARKING GARAGE.** A structure or portion of a structure with the openings as described in Section 406.3.3.1 on two or more sides that is used for the parking or storage of private motor vehicles as described in Section 406.3.4.

**RAMP-ACCESS OPEN PARKING GARAGES.** Open parking garages employing a series of continuously rising floors or a series of interconnecting ramps between floors permitting the movement of vehicles under their own power from and to the street level.

**406.3.3 Construction.** Open parking garages shall be of Type I, II or IV construction. Open parking garages shall meet the design requirements of Chapter 16. For vehicle barriers, see Section 406.2.4.

**406.3.3.1 Openings.** For natural ventilation purposes, the exterior side of the structure shall have uniformly distributed openings on two or more sides. The area of such openings in exterior walls on a tier must be at least 20 percent of the total perimeter wall area of each tier. The aggregate length of the openings considered to be providing natural ventilation shall constitute a minimum of 40 percent of the perimeter of the tier. Interior walls shall be at least 20 percent open with uniformly distributed openings.

**Exception:** Openings are not required to be distributed over 40 percent of the building perimeter where the required openings are uniformly distributed over two opposing sides of the building.

**406.3.4 Uses.** Mixed uses shall be allowed in the same building as an open parking garage subject to the provisions of Sections 302.3, 402.7.1, 406.3.13, 508.3, 508.4 and 508.7.

**406.3.5 Area and height.** Area and height of open parking garages shall be limited as set forth in Chapter 5 for Group S-2 occupancies and as further provided for in Section 302.3.

**406.3.5.1 Single use.** When the open parking garage is used exclusively for the parking or storage of private motor vehicles, with no other uses in the building, the area and height shall be permitted to comply with Table 406.3.5, along with increases allowed by Section 406.3.6.

**Exception:** The grade-level tier is permitted to contain an office, waiting and toilet rooms having a total combined area of not more than 1,000 square feet (93 m<sup>2</sup>). Such area need not be separated from the open parking garage.

In open parking garages having a spiral or sloping floor, the horizontal projection of the structure at any cross section shall not exceed the allowable area per parking tier. In the case of an open parking garage having a continuous spiral floor, each 9 feet 6 inches (2896 mm) of height, or portion thereof, shall be considered a tier.

The clear height of a parking tier shall not be less than 7 feet (2134 mm), except that a lower clear height is permitted in mechanical-access open parking garages where approved by the building official.

**406.3.6 Area and height increases.** The allowable area and height of open parking garages shall be increased in accordance with the provisions of this section. Garages with sides open on three-fourths of the building perimeter are permitted to be increased by 25 percent in area and one tier in height. Garages with sides open around the entire building perimeter are permitted to be increased 50 percent in area and one tier in height. For a side to be considered open under the above provisions, the total area of openings along the side shall not be less than 50 percent of the interior area of the side at each tier, and such openings shall be equally distributed along the length of the tier.

Allowable tier areas in Table 406.3.5 shall be increased for open parking garages constructed to heights less than the table maximum. The gross tier area of the garage shall not exceed that permitted for the higher structure. At least three sides of each such larger tier shall have continuous horizontal openings not less than 30 inches (762 mm) in clear height extending for at least 80 percent of the length of the sides, and no part of such larger tier shall be more than 200 feet (60 960 mm) horizontally from such an opening. In addition,

**TABLE 406.3.5  
OPEN PARKING GARAGES AREA AND HEIGHT**

| TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION | AREA PER TIER<br>(square feet) | HEIGHT (in tiers) |                            |           |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------|
|                      |                                | Ramp access       | Mechanical access          |           |
|                      |                                |                   | Automatic sprinkler system |           |
|                      |                                |                   | No                         | Yes       |
| IA                   | Unlimited                      | Unlimited         | Unlimited                  | Unlimited |
| IB                   | Unlimited                      | 12 tiers          | 12 tiers                   | 18 tiers  |
| IIA                  | 50,000                         | 10 tiers          | 10 tiers                   | 15 tiers  |
| IIB                  | 50,000                         | 8 tiers           | 8 tiers                    | 12 tiers  |
| IV                   | 50,000                         | 4 tiers           | 4 tiers                    | 4 tiers   |

For SI: 1 square foot = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>.



each such opening shall face a street or yard accessible to a street with a width of at least 30 feet (9144 mm) for the full length of the opening, and standpipes shall be provided in each such tier.

Open parking garages of Type IB and II construction, with all sides open, shall be unlimited in allowable area where the height does not exceed 75 feet (22 860 mm). For a side to be considered open, the total area of openings along the side shall not be less than 50 percent of the interior area of the side at each tier, and such openings shall be equally distributed along the length of the tier. All portions of tiers shall be within 200 feet (60 960 mm) horizontally from such openings.

**406.3.7 Location on property.** Exterior walls and openings in exterior walls shall comply with Tables 601 and 602. The distance from an adjacent lot line shall be determined in accordance with Table 602 and Section 704.

**406.3.8 Means of egress.** Where persons other than parking attendants are permitted, open parking garages shall meet the means of egress requirements of Chapter 10. Where no persons other than parking attendants are permitted, there shall not be less than two 36-inch-wide (914 mm) exit stairways. Lifts shall be permitted to be installed for use of employees only, provided they are completely enclosed by noncombustible materials.

**406.3.9 Standpipes.** Standpipes shall be installed where required by the provisions of Chapter 9.

**406.3.10 Sprinkler systems.** Where required by other provisions of this code, automatic sprinkler systems and standpipes shall be installed in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 9.

**406.3.11 Enclosure of vertical openings.** Enclosure shall not be required for vertical openings except as specified in Section 406.3.8.

**406.3.12 Ventilation.** Ventilation, other than the percentage of openings specified in Section 406.3.3.1, shall not be required.

**406.3.13 Prohibitions.** The following uses and alterations are not permitted:

1. Vehicle repair work.
2. Parking of buses, trucks and similar vehicles.
3. Partial or complete closing of required openings in exterior walls by tarpaulins or any other means.
4. Dispensing of fuel.

#### 406.4 Enclosed parking garages.

**406.4.1 Heights and areas.** Enclosed vehicle parking garages and portions thereof that do not meet the definition of open parking garages shall be limited to the allowable heights and areas specified in Table 503. Roof parking is permitted.

**406.4.2 Ventilation.** A mechanical ventilation system shall be provided in accordance with the *International Mechanical Code*.

#### 406.5 Motor fuel-dispensing facilities.

**406.5.1 Construction.** Motor fuel-dispensing facilities shall be constructed in accordance with the *International Fire Code* and this section.

**406.5.2 Canopies.** Canopies under which fuels are dispensed shall have a clear, unobstructed height of not less than 13 feet 6 inches (4115 mm) to the lowest projecting element in the vehicle drive-through area. Canopies and their supports over pumps shall be of noncombustible materials, fire-retardant-treated wood complying with Chapter 23, wood of Type IV sizes or of construction providing 1-hour fire resistance. Combustible materials used in or on a canopy shall comply with one of the following:

1. Shielded from the pumps by a noncombustible element of the canopy, or wood of Type IV sizes;
2. Plastics covered by aluminum facing having a minimum thickness of 0.010 inch (0.30 mm) or corrosion-resistant steel having a minimum base metal thickness of 0.016 inch (0.41 mm). The plastic shall have a flame spread index of 25 or less and a smoke-developed index of 450 or less when tested in the form intended for use in accordance with ASTM E 84 and a self-ignition temperature of 650°F (343°C) or greater when tested in accordance with ASTM D 1929; or
3. Panels constructed of light-transmitting plastic materials shall be permitted to be installed in canopies erected over motor vehicle fuel-dispensing station fuel dispensers, provided the panels are located at least 10 feet (3048 mm) from any building on the same property and face yards or streets not less than 40 feet (12 192 mm) in width on the other sides. The aggregate areas of plastics shall not exceed 1,000 square feet (93 m<sup>2</sup>). The maximum area of any individual panel shall not exceed 100 square feet (9.3 m<sup>2</sup>).

#### 406.6 Repair garages.

**406.6.1 General.** Repair garages shall be constructed in accordance with the *International Fire Code* and this section. This occupancy shall not include motor fuel-dispensing facilities, as regulated in Section 406.5.

**406.6.2 Mixed uses.** Mixed uses shall be allowed in the same building as a repair garage subject to the provisions of Section 302.3.

**406.6.3 Ventilation.** Repair garages shall be mechanically ventilated in accordance with the *International Mechanical Code*. The ventilation system shall be controlled at the entrance to the garage.

**406.6.4 Floor surface.** Repair garage floors shall be of concrete or similar noncombustible and nonabsorbent materials.

**Exception:** Slip-resistant, nonabsorbent, interior floor finishes having a critical radiant flux not more than 0.45 W/cm<sup>2</sup>, as determined by NFPA 253, shall be permitted.

**406.6.5 Heating equipment.** Heating equipment shall be installed in accordance with the *International Mechanical Code*.

**[F] 406.6.6 Gas detection system.** Repair garages used for repair of vehicles fueled by nonodorized gases, such as hydrogen and nonodorized LNG, shall be provided with an approved flammable gas-detection system.

**[F] 406.6.6.1 System design.** The flammable gas-detection system shall be calibrated to the types of fuels or gases used by vehicles to be repaired. The gas detection system shall be designed to activate when the level of flammable gas exceeds 25 percent of the lower explosive limit. Gas detection shall also be provided in lubrication or chassis repair pits of garages used for repairing nonodorized LNG-fueled vehicles.

**[F] 406.6.6.2 Operation.** Activation of the gas detection system shall result in all of the following:

1. Initiation of distinct audible and visual alarm signals in the repair garage.
2. Deactivation of all heating systems located in the repair garage.
3. Activation of the mechanical ventilation system, where the system is interlocked with gas detection.

**[F] 406.6.6.3 Failure of the gas detection system.** Failure of the gas detection system shall result in the deactivation of the heating system, activation of the mechanical ventilation system when the system is interlocked with the gas detection system and cause a trouble signal to sound in an approved location.

## SECTION 407 GROUP I-2

**407.1 General.** Occupancies in Group I-2 shall comply with the provisions of this section and other applicable provisions of this code.

**407.2 Corridors.** Corridors in occupancies in Group I-2 shall be continuous to the exits and separated from other areas in accordance with Section 407.3 except spaces conforming to Sections 407.2.1 through 407.2.4.

**407.2.1 Spaces of unlimited area.** Waiting areas and similar spaces constructed as required for corridors shall be permitted to be open to a corridor, only where all of the following criteria are met:

1. The spaces are not occupied for patient sleeping units, treatment rooms, hazardous or incidental use areas as defined in Section 302.1.1.
2. The open space is protected by an automatic fire detection system installed in accordance with Section 907.
3. The corridors onto which the spaces open, in the same smoke compartment, are protected by an automatic fire detection system installed in accordance with Section 907, or the smoke compartment in which the spaces are located is equipped throughout with

quick-response sprinklers in accordance with Section 903.3.2.

4. The space is arranged so as not to obstruct access to the required exits.

**407.2.2 Nurses' stations.** Spaces for doctors' and nurses' charting, communications and related clerical areas shall be permitted to be open to the corridor, when such spaces are constructed as required for corridors.

**407.2.3 Mental health treatment areas.** Areas wherein mental health patients who are not capable of self-preservation are housed, or group meeting or multipurpose therapeutic spaces other than incidental use areas as defined in Section 302.1.1, under continuous supervision by facility staff, shall be permitted to be open to the corridor, where the following criteria are met:

1. Each area does not exceed 1,500 square feet (140 m<sup>2</sup>).
2. The area is located to permit supervision by the facility staff.
3. The area is arranged so as not to obstruct any access to the required exits.
4. The area is equipped with an automatic fire detection system installed in accordance with Section 907.2.
5. Not more than one such space is permitted in any one smoke compartment.
6. The walls and ceilings of the space are constructed as required for corridors.

**407.2.4 Gift shops.** Gift shops less than 500 square feet (46.5 m<sup>2</sup>) in area shall be permitted to be open to the corridor provided the gift shop and storage areas are fully sprinklered and storage areas are protected in accordance with Section 302.1.1.

**407.3 Corridor walls.** Corridor walls shall be constructed as smoke partitions.

**407.3.1 Corridor doors.** Corridor doors, other than those in a wall required to be rated by Section 302.1.1 or for the enclosure of a vertical opening or an exit, shall not have a required fire protection rating and shall not be required to be equipped with self-closing or automatic-closing devices, but shall provide an effective barrier to limit the transfer of smoke and shall be equipped with positive latching. Roller latches are not permitted. Other doors shall conform to Section 715.3.

**407.3.2 Locking devices.** Locking devices that restrict access to the patient room from the corridor, and that are operable only by staff from the corridor side, shall not restrict the means of egress from the patient room except for patient rooms in mental health facilities.

**407.4 Smoke barriers.** Smoke barriers shall be provided to subdivide every story used by patients for sleeping or treatment and to divide other stories with an occupant load of 50 or more persons, into at least two smoke compartments. Such stories shall be divided into smoke compartments with an area of not more than 22,500 square feet (2092 m<sup>2</sup>) and the travel distance from any point in a smoke compartment to a smoke barrier door

shall not exceed 200 feet (60 960 mm). The smoke barrier shall be in accordance with Section 709.

**407.4.1 Refuge area.** At least 30 net square feet (2.8 m<sup>2</sup>) per patient shall be provided within the aggregate area of corridors, patient rooms, treatment rooms, lounge or dining areas and other low-hazard areas on each side of each smoke barrier. On floors not housing patients confined to a bed or litter, at least 6 net square feet (0.56 m<sup>2</sup>) per occupant shall be provided on each side of each smoke barrier for the total number of occupants in adjoining smoke compartments.

**407.4.2 Independent egress.** A means of egress shall be provided from each smoke compartment created by smoke barriers without having to return through the smoke compartment from which means of egress originated.

**[F] 407.5 Automatic sprinkler system.** Smoke compartments containing patient sleeping units shall be equipped throughout with an automatic fire sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1. The smoke compartments shall be equipped with approved quick-response or residential sprinklers in accordance with Section 903.3.2.

**407.5.1 Dry pipe sprinkler system.** When dry pipe sprinkler systems are installed, upon activation, a full flow of water shall be delivered to the most remote point of the system in no more than 60 seconds.

**407.6 Automatic fire detection.** Corridors in Group I-2 and spaces permitted to be open to corridors by Section 407.2 shall be protected by an automatic fire detection system installed in accordance with Section 907.

**Exceptions:**

1. Corridor smoke detection is not required in smoke compartments that contain patient sleeping units where patient sleeping units are provided with smoke detectors that comply with UL 268. Such detectors shall provide a visual display on the corridor side of each patient unit and shall provide an audible and visual alarm at the nursing station attending each unit.
2. Corridor smoke detection is not required in smoke compartments that contain patient sleeping units where patient unit doors are equipped with automatic door-closing devices with integral smoke detectors on the unit sides installed in accordance with their listing, provided that the integral detectors perform the required alerting function.

**407.7 Secured yards.** Grounds are permitted to be fenced and gates therein are permitted to be equipped with locks, provided that safe dispersal areas having 30 net square feet (2.8 m<sup>2</sup>) for bed and litter patients and 6 net square feet (0.56 m<sup>2</sup>) for ambulatory patients and other occupants are located between the building and the fence. Such provided safe dispersal areas shall not be located less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) from the building they serve.

**407.8 Locks and latches.** Door-locking arrangements shall be permitted in Group I-2 where the clinical or security needs of the patients require specialized locking measures for their safety or the safety of others, provided keys are carried at all

times by all staff that are responsible for the evacuation of the occupants within the locked building or locked unit(s).

**407.9 Special locking arrangements for licensed Group I-2 and residential care facilities.** Buildings protected throughout by an automatic fire detection system or automatic sprinkler system and in compliance with the following may be equipped with approved, listed locking devices:

1. Doors shall unlock upon actuation of the automatic fire detection system or automatic sprinkler system.
2. Doors shall unlock upon loss of power controlling the locking device.

**Exception:** Independent standby power is acceptable as long as the automatic fire detection system, or automatic sprinkler system, when activated has precedence over the standby power and unlocks the door. If a nonemergency situation occurs, such as a power outage, the door shall be allowed to remain locked until detection system(s) operate, provided that the power outage does not disable these detection systems. If any of the detection systems are disabled in any way, standby power controlling the locking devices will be interrupted.

3. A special locking system of electromagnetic locks may be utilized when all of the following requirements are met:

- 3.1. These types of locks may be used only in wards and wings or other portions of a facility that require security provisions for the protection of its patients.

- 3.2. These systems may be used provided not more than one such system is located in any egress path.

- 3.3. A wiring diagram and system components location map shall be provided under glass adjacent to the fire alarm panel.

- 3.4. An on/off emergency release switch(es) must be capable of interrupting power to all electromagnetically locked doors in the facility. The release switch(es) shall be located and identified at each nurses station serving the locked unit and any other control station responsible for the evacuation of the occupants of the locked units which are manned 24 hours.

- 3.5. An additional emergency release switch shall be provided for each locked door and located within 3 feet (914 mm) of the door.

- 3.6. Any required emergency release switch shall interrupt the power to the locking device(s) and shall not depend on relays or other devices to cause the interruption of power. If any required emergency release switch is of the locking type, all staff that are responsible for the evacuation of the occupants of the locked unit must carry emergency release switch keys. Additional convenience release devices may be provided.

4. Each special locking installation shall be approved by the appropriate fire and building inspection authority prior to installation, after installation and prior to initial use and reviewed periodically thereafter.
5. Emergency lighting shall be provided at the door.

## SECTION 408 GROUP I-3

**408.1 General.** Occupancies in Group I-3 shall comply with the provisions of this section and other applicable provisions of this code (see Section 308.4).

**408.2 Mixed occupancies.** Portions of buildings with an occupancy in Group I-3 that are classified as a different occupancy shall meet the applicable requirements of this code for such occupancies. Where security operations necessitate the locking of required means of egress, provisions shall be made for the release of occupants at all times.

Means of egress from detention and correctional occupancies that traverse other use areas shall, as a minimum, conform to requirements for detention and correctional occupancies.

**Exception:** It is permissible to exit through a horizontal exit into other contiguous occupancies that do not conform to detention and correctional occupancy egress provisions but that do comply with requirements set forth in the appropriate occupancy, as long as the occupancy is not a high-hazard use.

**408.3 Means of egress.** Except as modified or as provided for in this section, the provisions of Chapter 10 shall apply.

**408.3.1 Door width.** Doors to resident sleeping units shall have a clear width of not less than 28 inches (711 mm).

**408.3.2 Sliding doors.** Where doors in a means of egress are of the horizontal-sliding type, the force to slide the door to its fully open position shall not exceed 50 pounds (220 N) with a perpendicular force against the door of 50 pounds (220 N).

**408.3.3 Spiral stairs.** Spiral stairs that conform to the requirements of Section 1009.9 are permitted for access to and between staff locations.

**408.3.4 Exit discharge.** Exits are permitted to discharge into a fenced or walled courtyard. Enclosed yards or courts shall be of a size to accommodate all occupants, a minimum of 50 feet (15 240 mm) from the building with a net area of 15 square feet (1.4 m<sup>2</sup>) per person.

**408.3.5 Sallyports.** A sallyport shall be permitted in a means of egress where there are provisions for continuous and unobstructed passage through the sallyport during an emergency egress condition.

**408.3.6 Vertical exit enclosures.** One of the required vertical exit enclosures in each building shall be permitted to have glazing installed in doors and interior walls at each landing level providing access to the enclosure, provided that the following conditions are met:

1. The vertical exit enclosure shall not serve more than four floor levels.
2. Vertical exit enclosure doors shall not be less than  $\frac{3}{4}$ -hour fire doors complying with Section 715.3.

3. The total area of glazing at each floor level shall not exceed 5,000 square inches (3.23 m<sup>2</sup>) and individual panels of glazing shall not exceed 1,296 square inches (0.84 m<sup>2</sup>).
4. The glazing shall be protected on both sides by an automatic fire sprinkler system. The sprinkler system shall be designed to wet completely the entire surface of any glazing affected by fire when actuated.
5. The glazing shall be in a gasketed frame and installed in such a manner that the framing system will deflect without breaking (loading) the glass before the sprinkler system operates.
6. Obstructions, such as curtain rods, drapery traverse rods, curtains, drapes or similar materials shall not be installed between the automatic sprinklers and the glazing.

**408.4 Locks.** Egress doors are permitted to be locked in accordance with the applicable use condition. Doors from an area of refuge to the exterior are permitted to be locked with a key in lieu of locking methods described in Section 408.4.1. The keys to unlock the exterior doors shall be available at all times and the locks shall be operable from both sides of the door.

**408.4.1 Remote release.** Remote release of locks on doors in a means of egress shall be provided with reliable means of operation, remote from the resident living areas, to release locks on all required doors. In Occupancy Conditions 3 or 4, the arrangement, accessibility and security of the release mechanism(s) required for egress shall be such that with the minimum available staff at any time, the lock mechanisms are capable of being released within 2 minutes.

**Exception:** Provisions for remote locking and unlocking of occupied rooms in Occupancy Condition 4 are not required provided that not more than 10 locks are necessary to be unlocked in order to move occupants from one smoke compartment to a refuge area within 3 minutes. The opening of necessary locks shall be accomplished with not more than two separate keys.

**408.4.2 Power-operated doors and locks.** Power-operated sliding doors or power-operated locks for swinging doors shall be operable by a manual release mechanism at the door, and either emergency power or a remote mechanical operating release shall be provided.

**Exception:** Emergency power is not required in facilities with 10 locks or less complying with the exception to Section 408.4.1.

**408.4.3 Redundant operation.** Remote release, mechanically operated sliding doors or remote release, mechanically operated locks shall be provided with a mechanically operated release mechanism at each door, or shall be provided with a redundant remote release control.

**408.4.4 Relock capability.** Doors remotely unlocked under emergency conditions shall not automatically relock when closed unless specific action is taken at the remote location to enable doors to relock.

**408.5 Vertical openings.** Vertical openings shall be enclosed in accordance with Section 707.

**Exception:** A floor opening between floor levels of residential housing areas is permitted without enclosure protection between the levels, provided that both of the following conditions are met:

1. The entire normally occupied areas so interconnected are open and unobstructed so as to enable observation of the areas by supervisory personnel.
2. Means of egress capacity is sufficient to provide simultaneous egress for all occupants from all interconnected levels and areas.

The height difference between the highest and lowest finished floor levels shall not exceed 23 feet (7010 mm). Each story, considered separately, has at least one-half of its individual required means of egress capacity provided by exits leading directly out of that story without traversing another story within the interconnected area.

**408.6 Smoke barrier.** Occupancies in Group I-3 shall have smoke barriers complying with Section 709 to divide every story occupied by residents for sleeping, or any other story having an occupant load of 50 or more persons, into at least two smoke compartments.

**Exception:** Spaces having direct exit to one of the following, provided that the locking arrangement of the doors involved complies with the requirements for doors at the compartment barrier for the use condition involved:

1. A public way.
2. A building separated from the resident housing area by a 2-hour fire-resistance-rated assembly or 50 feet (15 240 mm) of open space.
3. A secured yard or court having a holding space 50 feet (15 240 mm) from the housing area that provides 6 square feet (0.56 m<sup>2</sup>) or more of refuge area per occupant, including residents, staff and visitors.

**408.6.1 Smoke compartments.** The maximum number of residents in any smoke compartment shall be 200. The travel distance to a door in a smoke barrier from any room door required as exit access shall not exceed 150 feet (45 720 mm). The travel distance to a door in a smoke barrier from any point in a room shall not exceed 200 feet (60 960 mm).

**408.6.2 Refuge area.** At least 6 net square feet (0.56 m<sup>2</sup>) per occupant shall be provided on each side of each smoke barrier for the total number of occupants in adjoining smoke compartments. This space shall be readily available whenever the occupants are moved across the smoke barrier in a fire emergency.

**408.6.3 Independent egress.** A means of egress shall be provided from each smoke compartment created by smoke barriers without having to return through the smoke compartment from which means of egress originates.

**408.7 Subdivision of resident housing areas.** Sleeping areas and any contiguous day room, group activity space or other common spaces where residents are housed shall be separated from other spaces in accordance with Sections 408.7.1 through 408.7.4.

**408.7.1 Occupancy Conditions 3 and 4.** Each sleeping area in Occupancy Conditions 3 and 4 shall be separated from the adjacent common spaces by a smoke-tight partition where the travel distance from the sleeping area through the common space to the exit access corridor exceeds 50 feet (15 240 mm).

**408.7.2 Occupancy Condition 5.** Each sleeping area in Occupancy Condition 5 shall be separated from adjacent sleeping areas, corridors and common spaces by a smoke-tight partition. Additionally, common spaces shall be separated from the exit access corridor by a smoke-tight partition.

**408.7.3 Openings in room face.** The aggregate area of openings in a solid sleeping room face in Occupancy Conditions 2, 3, 4 and 5 shall not exceed 120 square inches (77 419 mm<sup>2</sup>). The aggregate area shall include all openings including door undercuts, food passes and grilles. Openings shall be not more than 36 inches (914 mm) above the floor. In Occupancy Condition 5, the openings shall be closeable from the room side.

**408.7.4 Smoke-tight doors.** Doors in openings in partitions required to be smoke tight by Section 408.7 shall be substantial doors, of construction that will resist the passage of smoke. Latches and door closures are not required on cell doors.

**408.8 Windowless buildings.** For the purposes of this section, a windowless building or portion of a building is one with nonopenable windows, windows not readily breakable or without windows. Windowless buildings shall be provided with an engineered smoke control system to provide ventilation (mechanical or natural) in accordance with Section 909 for each windowless smoke compartment.

## SECTION 409 MOTION PICTURE PROJECTION ROOMS

**409.1 General.** The provisions of this section shall apply to rooms in which ribbon-type cellulose acetate or other safety film is utilized in conjunction with electric arc, xenon or other light-source projection equipment that develops hazardous gases, dust or radiation. Where cellulose nitrate film is utilized or stored, such rooms shall comply with NFPA 40.

**409.1.1 Projection room required.** Every motion picture machine projecting film as mentioned within the scope of this section shall be enclosed in a projection room. Appurtenant electrical equipment, such as rheostats, transformers and generators, shall be within the projection room or in an adjacent room of equivalent construction.

**409.2 Construction of projection rooms.** Every projection room shall be of permanent construction consistent with the construction requirements for the type of building in which the projection room is located. Openings are not required to be protected.

The room shall have a floor area of not less than 80 square feet (7.44 m<sup>2</sup>) for a single machine and at least 40 square feet (3.7 m<sup>2</sup>) for each additional machine. Each motion picture projector, floodlight, spotlight or similar piece of equipment shall

have a clear working space of not less than 30 inches by 30 inches (762 mm by 762 mm) on each side and at the rear thereof, but only one such space shall be required between two adjacent projectors. The projection room and the rooms appurtenant thereto shall have a ceiling height of not less than 7 feet 6 inches (2286 mm). The aggregate of openings for projection equipment shall not exceed 25 percent of the area of the wall between the projection room and the auditorium. Openings shall be provided with glass or other approved material, so as to close completely the opening.

**409.3 Projection room and equipment ventilation.** Ventilation shall be provided in accordance with the *International Mechanical Code*.

#### 409.3.1 Projection room.

**409.3.1.1 Supply air.** Each projection room shall be provided with adequate air supply inlets so arranged as to provide well-distributed air throughout the room. Air inlet ducts shall provide an amount of air equivalent to the amount of air being exhausted by projection equipment. Air is permitted to be taken from the outside; from adjacent spaces within the building, provided the volume and infiltration rate is sufficient; or from the building air-conditioning system, provided it is so arranged as to provide sufficient air when other systems are not in operation.

**409.3.1.2 Exhaust air.** Projection rooms are permitted to be exhausted through the lamp exhaust system. The lamp exhaust system shall be positively interconnected with the lamp so that the lamp will not operate unless there is the required airflow. Exhaust air ducts shall terminate at the exterior of the building in such a location that the exhaust air cannot be readily recirculated into any air supply system. The projection room ventilation system is permitted to also serve appurtenant rooms, such as the generator and rewind rooms.

Each projection machine shall be provided with an exhaust duct that will draw air from each lamp and exhaust it directly to the outside of the building. The lamp exhaust is permitted to serve to exhaust air from the projection room to provide room air circulation. Such ducts shall be of rigid materials, except for a flexible connector approved for the purpose. The projection lamp or projection room exhaust system, or both, is permitted to be combined but shall not be interconnected with any other exhaust or return system, or both, within the building.

**409.4 Lighting control.** Provisions shall be made for control of the auditorium lighting and the means of egress lighting systems of theaters from inside the projection room and from at least one other convenient point in the building.

**409.5 Miscellaneous equipment.** Each projection room shall be provided with rewind and film storage facilities.

## SECTION 410 STAGES AND PLATFORMS

**410.1 Applicability.** The provisions of this section shall apply to all parts of buildings and structures that contain stages or platforms and similar appurtenances as herein defined.

**410.2 Definitions.** The following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this section and as used elsewhere in this code, have the meanings shown herein.

**FLY GALLERY.** A raised floor area above a stage from which the movement of scenery and operation of other stage effects are controlled.

**GRIDIRON.** The structural framing over a stage supporting equipment for hanging or flying scenery and other stage effects.

**PINRAIL.** A rail on or above a stage through which belaying pins are inserted and to which lines are fastened.

**PLATFORM.** A raised area within a building used for worship, the presentation of music, plays or other entertainment; the head table for special guests; the raised area for lecturers and speakers; boxing and wrestling rings; theater-in-the-round stages; and similar purposes wherein there are no overhead hanging curtains, drops, scenery or stage effects other than lighting and sound. An overhead valance, single retractable horizontal front opening curtain and legs shall be permitted. A temporary platform is one installed for not more than 30 days.

**PROSCENIUM WALL.** The wall that separates the stage from the auditorium or assembly seating area.

**STAGE.** A space within a building utilized for entertainment or presentations, which includes overhead hanging curtains, drops, scenery or stage effects other than lighting and sound. Stage area shall be measured to include the entire performance area and adjacent backstage and support areas not separated from the performance area by fire-resistance-rated construction. Stage height shall be measured from the lowest point on the stage floor to the highest point of the roof or floor deck above the stage.

**410.3 Stages.** Stage construction shall comply with Sections 410.3.1 through 410.3.7.

**410.3.1 Stage construction.** Stages shall be constructed of materials as required for floors for the type of construction of the building in which such stages are located.

#### Exceptions:

1. Stages of Type IIB or IV construction with a nominal 2-inch (51 mm) wood deck, provided that the stage is separated from other areas in accordance with Section 410.3.4.
2. In buildings of Type IIA, IIIA and VA construction, a fire-resistance-rated floor is not required, provided the space below the stage is equipped with an automatic fire-extinguishing system in accordance with Section 903 or 904.
3. In all types of construction, the finished floor shall be constructed of wood or approved noncombustible materials. Openings through stage floors shall be

equipped with tight-fitting, solid wood trap doors with approved safety locks.

**410.3.1.1 Stage height and area.** Stage areas shall be measured to include the entire performance area and adjacent backstage and support areas not separated from the performance area by fire-resistance-rated construction. Stage height shall be measured from the lowest point on the stage floor to the highest point of the roof or floor deck above the stage.

**410.3.2 Galleries, gridirons, catwalks and pinrails.** Beams designed only for the attachment of portable or fixed theater equipment, gridirons, galleries and catwalks shall be constructed of approved materials consistent with the requirements for the type of construction of the building; and a fire-resistance rating shall not be required. These areas shall not be considered to be floors, stories, mezzanines or levels in applying this code.

**Exception:** Floors of fly galleries and catwalks shall be constructed of any approved material.

**410.3.3 Exterior stage doors.** Where protection of openings is required, exterior exit doors shall be protected with fire doors that comply with Section 715. Exterior openings that are located on the stage for means of egress or loading and unloading purposes, and that are likely to be open during occupancy of the theater, shall be constructed with vestibules to prevent air drafts into the auditorium.

**410.3.4 Proscenium wall.** Where the stage height is greater than 50 feet (15 240 mm), all portions of the stage shall be completely separated from the seating area by a proscenium wall with not less than a 2-hour fire-resistance rating extending continuously from the foundation to the roof.

**410.3.5 Proscenium curtain.** The proscenium opening of every stage with a height greater than 50 feet (15 240 mm) shall be provided with a curtain of approved material or an approved water curtain complying with Section 903.3.1.1. The curtain shall be designed and installed to intercept hot gases, flames and smoke, and to prevent a glow from a severe fire on the stage from showing on the auditorium side for a period of 20 minutes. The closing of the curtain from the full open position shall be effected in less than 30 seconds, but the last 8 feet (2438 mm) of travel shall require not less than 5 seconds.

**410.3.5.1 Activation.** The curtain shall be activated by rate-of-rise heat detection installed in accordance with Section 907.10 operating at a rate of temperature rise of 15 to 20°F per minute (8 to 11°C per minute), and by an auxiliary manual control.

**410.3.5.2 Fire test.** A sample curtain with a minimum of two vertical seams shall be subjected to the standard fire test specified in ASTM E 119 for a period of 30 minutes. The curtain shall overlap the furnace edges by an amount that is appropriate to seal the top and sides. The curtain shall have a bottom pocket containing a minimum of 4 pounds per linear foot (5.9 kg/m) of batten. The exposed surface of the curtain shall not glow, and flame or smoke shall not penetrate the curtain during the test period. Unexposed surface temperature and hose stream test

requirements are not applicable to the proscenium fire safety curtain test.

**410.3.5.3 Smoke test.** Curtain fabrics shall have a smoke-developed rating of 25 or less when tested in accordance with ASTM E 84.

**410.3.5.4 Tests.** The completed proscenium curtain shall be subjected to operating tests prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy.

**410.3.6 Scenery.** Combustible materials used in sets and scenery shall be rendered flame resistant in accordance with Section 805 and the *International Fire Code*. Foam plastics and materials containing foam plastics shall comply with Section 2603 and the *International Fire Code*.

**410.3.7 Stage ventilation.** Emergency ventilation shall be provided for stages larger than 1,000 square feet (93 m<sup>2</sup>) in floor area, or with a stage height greater than 50 feet (15 240 mm). Such ventilation shall comply with Section 410.3.7.1 or 410.3.7.2.

**410.3.7.1 Roof vents.** Two or more vents constructed to open automatically by approved heat-activated devices and with an aggregate clear opening area of not less than 5 percent of the area of the stage shall be located near the center and above the highest part of the stage area. Supplemental means shall be provided for manual operation of the ventilator. Curbs shall be provided as required for skylights in Section 2610.2. Vents shall be labeled.

**[F] 410.3.7.2 Smoke control.** Smoke control in accordance with Section 909 shall be provided to maintain the smoke layer interface not less than 6 feet (1829 mm) above the highest level of the assembly seating or above the top of the proscenium opening where a proscenium wall is provided in compliance with Section 410.3.4.

**410.4 Platform construction.** Permanent platforms shall be constructed of materials as required for the type of construction of the building in which the permanent platform is located. Permanent platforms are permitted to be constructed of fire-retardant-treated wood for Type I, II, and IV construction where the platforms are not more than 30 inches (762 mm) above the main floor, and not more than one-third of the room floor area and not more than 3,000 square feet (279 m<sup>2</sup>) in area. Where the space beneath the permanent platform is used for storage or any other purpose other than equipment, wiring or plumbing, the floor construction shall not be less than 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction. Where the space beneath the permanent platform is used only for equipment, wiring or plumbing, the underside of the permanent platform need not be protected.

**410.4.1 Temporary platforms.** Platforms installed for a period of not more than 30 days are permitted to be constructed of any materials permitted by the code. The space between the floor and the platform above shall only be used for plumbing and electrical wiring to platform equipment.

**410.5 Dressing and appurtenant rooms.** Dressing and appurtenant rooms shall comply with Sections 410.5.1 through 410.5.4.

**410.5.1 Separation from stage.** Where the stage height is greater than 50 feet (15 240 mm), the stage shall be sepa-

rated from dressing rooms, scene docks, property rooms, workshops, storerooms and compartments appurtenant to the stage and other parts of the building by a fire barrier wall and horizontal assemblies, or both, with not less than a 2-hour fire-resistance rating with approved opening protectives. For stage heights of 50 feet (15 240 mm) or less, the required stage separation shall be a fire barrier wall and horizontal assemblies, or both, with not less a 1-hour fire-resistance rating with approved opening protectives.

**410.5.2 Separation from each other.** Dressing rooms, scene docks, property rooms, workshops, storerooms and compartments appurtenant to the stage shall be separated from each other by fire barrier wall and horizontal assemblies, or both, with not less than a 1-hour fire-resistance rating with approved opening protectives.

**410.5.3 Opening protectives.** Openings other than to trunk rooms and the necessary doorways at stage level shall not connect such rooms with the stage, and such openings shall be protected with fire door assemblies that comply with Section 715.

**410.5.4 Stage exits.** At least one approved means of egress shall be provided from each side of the stage; and from each side of the space under the stage. At least one means of escape shall be provided from each fly gallery and from the gridiron. A steel ladder, alternating tread stairway or spiral stairway is permitted to be provided from the gridiron to a scuttle in the stage roof.

**[F] 410.6 Automatic sprinkler system.** Stages shall be equipped with an automatic fire-extinguishing system in accordance with Chapter 9. The system shall be installed under the roof and gridiron, in the tie and fly galleries, in places behind the proscenium wall of the stage, and in dressing rooms, lounges, workshops and storerooms accessory to such stages.

**Exceptions:**

1. Sprinklers are not required under stage areas less than 4 feet (1219 mm) in clear height utilized exclusively for storage of tables and chairs, provided the concealed space is separated from the adjacent spaces by not less than 5/8-inch (15.9 mm) Type X gypsum board.
2. Sprinklers are not required for stages 1,000 square feet (93 m<sup>2</sup>) or less in area and 50 feet (15 240 mm) or less in height where curtains, scenery or other combustible hangings are not retractable vertically. Combustible hangings shall be limited to a single main curtain, borders, legs and a single backdrop.

**[F] 410.7 Standpipes.** Standpipe systems shall be provided in accordance with Section 905.

**SECTION 411  
SPECIAL AMUSEMENT BUILDINGS**

**411.1 General.** Special amusement buildings having an occupant load of 50 or more shall comply with the requirements for the appropriate Group A occupancy and this section. Amusement buildings having an occupant load of less than 50 shall

comply with the requirements for a Group B occupancy and this section.

**Exception:** Amusement buildings or portions thereof that are without walls or a roof and constructed to prevent the accumulation of smoke.

For flammable decorative materials, see the *International Fire Code*.

**411.2 Special amusement building.** A special amusement building is any temporary or permanent building or portion thereof that is occupied for amusement, entertainment or educational purposes and that contains a device or system that conveys passengers or provides a walkway along, around or over a course in any direction so arranged that the means of egress path is not readily apparent due to visual or audio distractions or is intentionally confounded or is not readily available because of the nature of the attraction or mode of conveyance through the building or structure.

**[F] 411.3 Automatic fire detection.** Special amusement buildings shall be equipped with an automatic fire detection system in accordance with Section 907.

**[F] 411.4 Automatic sprinkler system.** Special amusement buildings shall be equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1. Where the special amusement building is temporary, the sprinkler water supply shall be of an approved temporary means.

**Exception:** Automatic sprinklers are not required where the total floor area of a temporary special amusement building is less than 1,000 square feet (93 m<sup>2</sup>) and the travel distance from any point to an exit is less than 50 feet (15 240 mm).

**[F] 411.5 Alarm.** Actuation of a single smoke detector, the automatic sprinkler system or other automatic fire detection device shall immediately sound an alarm at the building at a constantly attended location from which emergency action can be initiated including the capability of manual initiation of requirements in Section 907.2.11.2.

**[F] 411.6 Emergency voice/alarm communications system.** An emergency voice/alarm communications system shall be provided in accordance with Sections 907.2.11 and 907.2.12.2, which is also permitted to serve as a public address system and shall be audible throughout the entire special amusement building.

**411.7 Exit marking.** Exit signs shall be installed at the required exit or exit access doorways of amusement buildings. Approved directional exit markings shall also be provided. Where mirrors, mazes or other designs are utilized that disguise the path of egress travel such that they are not apparent, approved low-level exit signs and directional path markings shall be provided and located not more than 8 inches (203 mm) above the walking surface and on or near the path of egress travel. Such markings shall become visible in an emergency. The directional exit marking shall be activated by the automatic fire detection system and the automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 907.2.11.2.

**411.8 Interior finish.** The interior finish shall be Class A in accordance with Section 803.1.



**SECTION 412  
AIRCRAFT-RELATED OCCUPANCIES**

**412.1 Airport traffic control towers.**

**412.1.1 General.** The provisions of this section shall apply to airport traffic control towers not exceeding 1,500 square feet (140 m<sup>2</sup>) per floor occupied only for the following uses:

1. Airport traffic control cab.
2. Electrical and mechanical equipment rooms.
3. Airport terminal radar and electronics rooms.
4. Office spaces incidental to the tower operation.
5. Lounges for employees, including sanitary facilities.

**412.1.2 Type of construction.** Airport traffic control towers shall be constructed to comply with the height and area limitations of Table 412.1.2.

**TABLE 412.1.2  
HEIGHT AND AREA LIMITATIONS FOR AIRPORT  
TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWERS**

| TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION | HEIGHT <sup>a</sup> (feet) | MAXIMUM AREA (square feet) |
|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| IA                   | Unlimited                  | 1,500                      |
| IB                   | 240                        | 1,500                      |
| IIA                  | 100                        | 1,500                      |
| IIB                  | 85                         | 1,500                      |
| IIIA                 | 65                         | 1,500                      |

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 square foot = 0.093 m<sup>2</sup>.

a. Height to be measured from grade to cab floor.

**412.1.3 Egress.** A minimum of one exit stairway shall be permitted for airport traffic control towers of any height provided that the occupant load per floor does not exceed 15. The stairway shall conform to the requirements of Section 1009. The stairway shall be separated from elevators by a minimum distance of one-half of the diagonal of the area served measured in a straight line. The exit stairway and elevator hoistway are permitted to be located in the same shaft enclosure, provided they are separated from each other by a 4-hour separation having no openings. Such stairway shall be pressurized to a minimum of 0.15 inch of water column (43 Pa) and a maximum of 0.35 inch of water column (101 Pa) in the shaft relative to the building with stairway doors closed. Stairways need not extend to the roof as specified in Section 1009.12. The provisions of Section 403 do not apply.

**Exception:** Smokeproof enclosures as set forth in Section 1019.1.8 are not required where required stairways are pressurized.

**[F] 412.1.4 Automatic fire detection systems.** Airport traffic control towers shall be provided with an automatic fire detection system installed in accordance with Section 907.2.

**[F] 412.1.5 Standby power.** A standby power system that conforms to Section 2702 shall be provided in airport traffic control towers more than 65 feet (19 812 mm) in height. Power shall be provided to the following equipment:

1. Pressurization equipment, mechanical equipment and lighting.
2. Elevator operating equipment.
3. Fire alarm and smoke detection systems.

**412.1.6 Accessibility.** Airport traffic control towers need not be accessible as specified in the provisions of Chapter 11.

**412.2 Aircraft hangars.**

**412.2.1 Exterior walls.** Exterior walls located less than 30 feet (9 144 mm) from property lines, lot lines or a public way shall have a fire-resistance rating not less than 2 hours.

**412.2.2 Basements.** Where hangars have basements, the floor over the basement shall be of Type IA construction and shall be made tight against seepage of water, oil or vapors. There shall be no opening or communication between the basement and the hangar. Access to the basement shall be from outside only.

**412.2.3 Floor surface.** Floors shall be graded and drained to prevent water or fuel from remaining on the floor. Floor drains shall discharge through an oil separator to the sewer or to an outside vented sump.

**412.2.4 Heating equipment.** Heating equipment shall be placed in another room separated by 2-hour fire-resistance-rated construction. Entrance shall be from the outside or by means of a vestibule providing a two-doorway separation.

**Exceptions:**

1. Unit heaters suspended at least 10 feet (3048 mm) above the upper surface of wings or engine enclosures of the highest aircraft that are permitted to be housed in the hangar and at least 8 feet (2438 mm) above the floor in shops, offices and other sections of the hangar communicating with storage or service areas.
2. A single interior door shall be allowed, provided the sources of ignition in the appliances are at least 18 inches (457 mm) above the floor.

**412.2.5 Finishing.** The process of “doping,” involving use of a volatile flammable solvent, or of painting, shall be carried on in a separate detached building equipped with automatic fire-extinguishing equipment in accordance with Section 903.

**[F] 412.2.6 Fire suppression.** Aircraft hangars shall be provided with fire suppression as required by NFPA 409.

**Exception:** Group II hangars as defined in NFPA 409 storing private aircraft without major maintenance or overhaul are exempt from foam suppression requirements.

**412.3 Residential aircraft hangars.** Residential aircraft hangars as defined in Section 412.3.1 shall comply with Sections 412.3.2 through 412.3.6.

**412.3.1 Definition.** The following word and term shall, for the purposes of this chapter and as used elsewhere in this code, have the meaning shown herein.

**RESIDENTIAL AIRCRAFT HANGAR.** An accessory building less than 2,000 square feet (186 m<sup>2</sup>) and 20 feet (6096 mm) in height, constructed on a one- or two-family residential property where aircraft are stored. Such use will be considered as a residential accessory use incidental to the dwelling.

**412.3.2 Fire separation.** A hangar shall not be attached to a dwelling unless separated by walls having a fire-resistance rating of not less than 1 hour. Such separation shall be continuous from the foundation to the underside of the roof and unpierced except for doors leading to the dwelling unit. Doors into the dwelling unit must be equipped with self-closing devices and conform to the requirements of Section 715 with at least a 4-inch (102 mm) noncombustible raised sill. Openings from a hangar directly into a room used for sleeping purposes shall not be permitted.

**412.3.3 Egress.** A hangar shall provide two means of egress. One of the doors into the dwelling shall be considered as meeting only one of the two means of egress.

[F] **412.3.4 Smoke detection.** Smoke alarms shall be provided within the hangar in accordance with Section 907.2.21.

**412.3.5 Independent systems.** Mechanical and plumbing drain, waste and vent (DWV) systems installed within the hangar shall be independent of the systems installed within the dwelling. Building sewer lines may connect outside the structures.

**Exception:** Smoke detector wiring and feed for electrical subpanels in the hangar.

**412.3.6 Height and area limits.** Residential aircraft hangars shall not exceed 2,000 square feet (186 m<sup>2</sup>) in area and 20 feet (6096 mm) in height.

[F] **412.4 Aircraft paint hangars.** Aircraft painting operations where flammable liquids are used in excess of the maximum allowable quantities per control area listed in Table 307.7(1) shall be conducted in an aircraft paint hangar that complies with the provisions of Section 412.4.

[F] **412.4.1 Occupancy group.** Aircraft paint hangars shall be classified as Group H-2. Aircraft paint hangars shall comply with the applicable requirements of this code and the *International Fire Code* for such occupancy.

**412.4.2 Construction.** The aircraft paint hangar shall be of Type I or II construction.

[F] **412.4.3 Operations.** Only those flammable liquids necessary for painting operations shall be permitted in quantities less than the maximum allowable quantities per control area in Table 307.7(1). Spray equipment cleaning operations shall be conducted in a liquid use, dispensing and mixing room.

[F] **412.4.4 Storage.** Storage of flammable liquids shall be in a liquid storage room.

[F] **412.4.5 Fire suppression.** Aircraft paint hangars shall be provided with fire suppression as required by NFPA 409.

**412.4.6 Ventilation.** Aircraft paint hangars shall be provided with ventilation as required in the *International Mechanical Code*.

**412.5 Heliports and helistops.**

**412.5.1 General.** Heliports and helistops shall be permitted to be erected on buildings or other locations where they are constructed in accordance with this section.

**412.5.2 Definitions.** The following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this chapter and as used elsewhere in this code, have the meanings shown herein.

**HELIPORT.** An area of land or water or a structural surface that is used, or intended for use, for the landing and taking off of helicopters, and any appurtenant areas that are used, or intended for use, for heliport buildings and other heliport facilities.

**HELISTOP.** The same as a “Heliport,” except that no fueling, defueling, maintenance, repairs or storage of helicopters is permitted.

**412.5.3 Size.** The touchdown or landing area for helicopters of less than 3,500 pounds (1588 kg) shall be a minimum of 20 feet (6096 mm) in length and width. The touchdown area shall be surrounded on all sides by a clear area having a minimum average width at roof level of 15 feet (4572 mm) but with no width less than 5 feet (1524 mm).

**412.5.4 Design.** Helicopter landing areas and the supports thereof on the roof of a building shall be noncombustible construction. Landing areas shall be designed to confine any flammable liquid spillage to the landing area itself and provisions shall be made to drain such spillage away from any exit or stairway serving the helicopter landing area or from a structure housing such exit or stairway. For structural design requirements, see Section 1605.5.

**412.5.5 Means of egress.** The means of egress from heliports and helistops shall comply with the provisions of Chapter 10. Landing areas located on buildings or structures shall have two or more means of egress. For landing platforms or roof areas less than 60 feet (18 288 mm) in length, or less than 2,000 square feet (187 m<sup>2</sup>) in area, the second means of egress may be a fire escape or ladder leading to the floor below.

**412.5.6 Rooftop heliports and helistops.** Rooftop heliports and helistops shall comply with NFPA 418.

**SECTION 413  
COMBUSTIBLE STORAGE**

**413.1 General.** High-piled stock or rack storage in any occupancy group shall comply with the *International Fire Code*.

**413.2 Attic, under-floor and concealed spaces.** Attic, under-floor and concealed spaces used for storage of combustible materials shall be protected on the storage side as required for 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction. Openings shall be protected by assemblies that are self-closing and are of noncombustible construction or solid wood core not less than 1¾ inch (45 mm) in thickness.

**Exceptions:**

1. Areas protected by approved automatic sprinkler systems.
2. Group R-3 and U occupancies.

## SECTION 414 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

**[F] 414.1 General.** The provisions of this section shall apply to buildings and structures occupied for the manufacturing, processing, dispensing, use or storage of hazardous materials.

**[F] 414.1.1 Other provisions.** Buildings and structures with an occupancy in Group H shall also comply with the applicable provisions of Section 415 and the *International Fire Code*.

**[F] 414.1.2 Materials.** The safe design of hazardous material occupancies is material dependent. Individual material requirements are also found in Sections 307 and 415, and in the *International Mechanical Code* and the *International Fire Code*.

**[F] 414.1.2.1 Aerosols.** Level 2 and 3 aerosol products shall be stored and displayed in accordance with the *International Fire Code*. See Section 311.2 and the *International Fire Code* for occupancy group requirements.

**[F] 414.1.3 Information required.** Separate floor plans shall be submitted for buildings and structures with an occupancy in Group H, identifying the locations of anticipated contents and processes so as to reflect the nature of each occupied portion of every building and structure. A report identifying hazardous materials including, but not limited to, materials representing hazards that are classified in Group H to be stored or used, shall be submitted and the methods of protection from such hazards shall be indicated on the construction documents. The opinion and report shall be prepared by a qualified person, firm or corporation approved by the building official and shall be provided without charge to the enforcing agency.

**[F] 414.2 Control areas.** Control areas shall be those spaces within a building where quantities of hazardous materials not exceeding the maximum quantities allowed by this code are stored, dispensed, used or handled.

**414.2.1 Construction requirements.** Control areas shall be separated from each other by not less than a 1-hour fire barrier constructed in accordance with Chapter 7.

**[F] 414.2.2 Number.** The maximum number of control areas within a building shall be in accordance with Table 414.2.2.

**414.2.3 Separation.** The required fire-resistance rating for fire barrier assemblies shall be in accordance with Table 414.2.2. The floor construction of the control area, and the construction supporting the floor of the control area, shall have a minimum 2-hour fire-resistance rating.

**[F] 414.2.4 Hazardous material in Group M display and storage areas and in Group S storage areas.** The aggregate quantity of nonflammable solid and nonflammable or noncombustible liquid hazardous materials permitted

within a single control area of a Group M or S occupancy or an outdoor control area is permitted to exceed the maximum allowable quantities per control area specified in Tables 307.7(1) and 307.7(2) without classifying the building or use as a Group H occupancy, provided that the materials are displayed and stored in accordance with the *International Fire Code* and quantities do not exceed the maximum allowable specified in Table 414.2.4.

**[F] 414.3 Ventilation.** Rooms, areas or spaces of Group H in which explosive, corrosive, combustible, flammable or highly toxic dusts, mists, fumes, vapors or gases are or may be emitted due to the processing, use, handling or storage of materials shall be mechanically ventilated as required by the *International Fire Code* and the *International Mechanical Code*.

Ducts conveying explosives or flammable vapors, fumes or dusts shall extend directly to the exterior of the building without entering other spaces. Exhaust ducts shall not extend into or through ducts and plenums.

**Exception:** Ducts conveying vapor or fumes having flammable constituents less than 25 percent of their lower flammable limit (LFL) are permitted to pass through other spaces.

Emissions generated at workstations shall be confined to the area in which they are generated as specified in the *International Fire Code* and the *International Mechanical Code*.

The location of supply and exhaust openings shall be in accordance with the *International Mechanical Code*. Exhaust air contaminated by highly toxic material shall be treated in accordance with the *International Fire Code*.

A manual shutoff control for ventilation equipment required by this section shall be provided outside the room adjacent to the principal access door to the room. The switch shall be of the break-glass type and shall be labeled: VENTILATION SYSTEM EMERGENCY SHUTOFF.

**[F] 414.4 Hazardous material systems.** Systems involving hazardous materials shall be suitable for the intended application. Controls shall be designed to prevent materials from entering or leaving process or reaction systems at other than the intended time, rate or path. Automatic controls, where provided, shall be designed to be fail safe.

**[F] 414.5 Inside storage, dispensing and use.** The inside storage, dispensing and use of hazardous materials in excess of the maximum allowable quantities per control area of Tables 307.7(1) and 307.7(2) shall be in accordance with Sections 414.5.1 through 414.5.5 of this code and the *International Fire Code*.

**[F] 414.5.1 Explosion control.** Explosion control shall be provided in accordance with the *International Fire Code* as required by Table 414.5.1 where quantities of hazardous materials specified in that table exceed the maximum allowable quantities in Table 307.7(1) or where a structure, room or space is occupied for purposes involving explosion hazards as required by Section 415 or the *International Fire Code*.

**SPECIAL DETAILED REQUIREMENTS BASED ON USE AND OCCUPANCY**

**[F] TABLE 414.2.2  
DESIGN AND NUMBER OF CONTROL AREAS**

| FLOOR LEVEL |               | PERCENTAGE OF THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE QUANTITY PER CONTROL AREA <sup>a</sup> | NUMBER OF CONTROL AREAS PER FLOOR <sup>b</sup> | FIRE-RESISTANCE RATING FOR FIRE BARRIERS IN HOURS <sup>c</sup> |
|-------------|---------------|--|--|--|
| Above grade | Higher than 9 | 5  | 1  | 2  |
|             | 7-9           | 5  | 2  | 2  |
|             | 6             | 12.5   | 2  | 2  |
|             | 5             | 12.5   | 2  | 2  |
|             | 4             | 12.5   | 2  | 2  |
|             | 3             | 50   | 2  | 1  |
|             | 2             | 75   | 3  | 1  |
|             | 1             | 100  | 4  | 1  |
| Below grade | 1             | 75   | 3  | 1  |
|             | 2             | 50   | 2  | 1  |
|             | Lower than 2  | Not Allowed  | Not Allowed                                    | Not Allowed  |

- a. Percentages shall be of the maximum allowable quantity per control area shown in Tables 307.7(1) and 307.7(2), with all increases allowed in the notes to those tables.
- b. There shall be a maximum of two control areas per floor in Group M occupancies and in buildings or portions of buildings having Group S occupancies with storage conditions and quantities in accordance with Section 414.2.4.
- c. Fire barriers shall include walls and floors as necessary to provide separation from other portions of the building.

**[F] TABLE 414.2.4  
MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE QUANTITY PER INDOOR AND OUTDOOR CONTROL AREA IN GROUP M AND S OCCUPANCIES  
NONFLAMMABLE SOLIDS AND NONFLAMMABLE AND NONCOMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS<sup>d,e,f</sup>**

| CONDITION  |                   | MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE QUANTITY PER CONTROL AREA |                       |
|--|-------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Material <sup>a</sup>  | Class             | Solids pounds                               | Liquids gallons       |
| <b>A. Health-hazard materials—nonflammable and noncombustible solids and liquids</b>   |                   |   |                       |
| 1. Corrosives <sup>b, c</sup>  | Not Applicable    | 9,750                                       | 975                   |
| 2. Highly toxics   | Not Applicable    | 20 <sup>b, c</sup>                          | 2 <sup>b, c</sup>     |
| 3. Toxics <sup>b, c</sup>  | Not Applicable    | 1,000                                       | 100                   |
| <b>B. Physical-hazard materials—nonflammable and noncombustible solids and liquids</b> |                   |   |                       |
| 1. Oxidizers <sup>b, c</sup>   | 4                 | Not Allowed                                 | Not Allowed           |
|  | 3                 | 1,150 <sup>g</sup>                          | 115                   |
|  | 2                 | 2,250 <sup>h</sup>                          | 225                   |
|  | 1                 | 18,000 <sup>i, j</sup>                      | 1,800 <sup>i, j</sup> |
| 2. Unstable (reactives) <sup>b, c</sup>  | 4                 | Not Allowed                                 | Not Allowed           |
|  | 3                 | 550   | 55                    |
|  | 2                 | 1,150                                       | 115                   |
|  | 1                 | Not Limited                                 | Not Limited           |
| 3. Water (reactives)   | 3 <sup>b, c</sup> | 550   | 55                    |
|  | 2 <sup>b, c</sup> | 1,150                                       | 115                   |
|  | 1                 | Not Limited                                 | Not Limited           |

For SI: 1 pound = 0.454 kg, 1 gallon = 3.785 L.

- a. Hazard categories are as specified in the *International Fire Code*.
- b. Maximum allowable quantities shall be increased 100 percent in buildings that are sprinklered in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1. When Note c also applies, the increase for both notes shall be applied cumulatively.
- c. Maximum allowable quantities shall be increased 100 percent when stored in approved storage cabinets, in accordance with the *International Fire Code*. When Note b also applies, the increase for both notes shall be applied cumulatively.
- d. See Table 414.2.2 for design and number of control areas.
- e. Allowable quantities for other hazardous material categories shall be in accordance with Section 307.
- f. Maximum quantities shall be increased 100 percent in outdoor control areas.
- g. Maximum amounts are permitted to be increased to 2,250 pounds when individual packages are in the original sealed containers from the manufacturer or packager and do not exceed 10 pounds each.
- h. Maximum amounts are permitted to be increased to 4,500 pounds when individual packages are in the original sealed containers from the manufacturer or packager and do not exceed 10 pounds each.
- i. The permitted quantities shall not be limited in a building equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.
- j. Quantities are unlimited in an outdoor control area.

[F] TABLE 414.5.1  
EXPLOSION CONTROL REQUIREMENTS<sup>a</sup>

| MATERIAL  | CLASS           | EXPLOSION CONTROL METHODS |  |
|---|-----------------|---------------------------|--|
|   |                 | Barricade construction    | Explosion (deflagration) venting or explosion (deflagration) prevention systems <sup>b</sup> |
| <b>HAZARD CATEGORY</b>                          |                 |                           |  |
| Combustible dusts <sup>c</sup>                  | —               | Not Required              | Required   |
| Cryogenic flammables                            | —               | Not Required              | Required   |
| Explosives                                      | Division 1.1    | Required                  | Not Required   |
|   | Division 1.2    | Required                  | Not Required   |
|   | Division 1.3    | Not Required              | Required   |
|   | Division 1.4    | Not Required              | Required   |
|   | Division 1.5    | Required                  | Not Required   |
|   | Division 1.6    | Required                  | Not Required   |
| Flammable gas                                   | Gaseous         | Not Required              | Required   |
|   | Liquefied       | Not Required              | Required   |
| Flammable liquid                                | IA <sup>d</sup> | Not Required              | Required   |
|   | IB <sup>e</sup> | Not Required              | Required   |
| Organic peroxides                               | U               | Required                  | Not Permitted  |
|   | I               | Required                  | Not Permitted  |
| Oxidizer liquids and solids                     | 4               | Required                  | Not Permitted  |
| Pyrophoric gas                                  | —               | Not Required              | Required   |
| Unstable (reactive)                             | 4               | Required                  | Not Permitted  |
|   | 3 Detonable     | Required                  | Not Permitted  |
|   | 3 Nondetonable  | Not Required              | Required   |
| Water-reactive liquids and solids               | 3               | Not Required              | Required   |
|   | 2 <sup>g</sup>  | Not Required              | Required   |
| <b>SPECIAL USES</b>                             |                 |                           |  |
| Acetylene generator rooms                       | —               | Not Required              | Required   |
| Grain processing                                | —               | Not Required              | Required   |
| Liquefied petroleum gas-distribution facilities | —               | Not Required              | Required   |
| Where explosion hazards exist <sup>f</sup>      | Detonation      | Required                  | Not Permitted  |
|   | Deflagration    | Not Required              | Required   |

a. See Section 414.1.3.

b. See the *International Fire Code*.

c. As generated during manufacturing or processing. See definition of “Combustible dust” in Chapter 3.

d. Storage or use.

e. In open use or dispensing.

f. Rooms containing dispensing and use of hazardous materials when an explosive environment can occur because of the characteristics or nature of the hazardous materials or as a result of the dispensing or use process.

g. A method of explosion control shall be provided when Class 2 water-reactive materials can form potentially explosive mixtures.

[F] **414.5.2 Monitor control equipment.** Monitor control equipment shall be provided where required by the *International Fire Code*.

[F] **414.5.3 Automatic fire detection systems.** Group H occupancies shall be provided with an automatic fire detection system in accordance with Section 907.2.

[F] **414.5.4 Standby or emergency power.** Where mechanical ventilation, treatment systems, temperature control, alarm, detection or other electrically operated systems are required, such systems shall be provided with an emergency or standby power system in accordance with the *ICC Electrical Code*.

**Exceptions:**

1. Storage areas for Class I and II oxidizers.
2. Storage areas for Class III, IV and V organic peroxides.
3. Storage, use and handling areas for highly toxic or toxic materials as provided for in the *International Fire Code*.
4. Standby power for mechanical ventilation, treatment systems and temperature control systems shall not be required where an approved fail-safe engineered system is installed.

[F] **414.5.5 Spill control, drainage and containment.** Rooms, buildings or areas occupied for the storage of solid and liquid hazardous materials shall be provided with a means to control spillage and to contain or drain off spillage and fire protection water discharged in the storage area where required in the *International Fire Code*. The methods of spill control shall be in accordance with the *International Fire Code*.

[F] **414.6 Outdoor storage, dispensing and use.** The outdoor storage, dispensing and use of hazardous materials shall be in accordance with the *International Fire Code*.

[F] **414.6.1 Weather protection.** Where weather protection is provided for sheltering outdoor hazardous material storage or use areas, such storage or use shall be considered outdoor storage or use, provided that all of the following conditions are met:

1. Structure supports and walls shall not obstruct more than one side nor more than 25 percent of the perimeter of the storage or use area.
2. The distance from the structure and the structure supports to buildings, lot lines, public ways or means of egress to a public way shall not be less than the distance required for an outside hazardous material storage or use area without weather protection.
3. The overhead structure shall be of approved noncombustible construction with a maximum area of 1,500 square feet (140 m<sup>2</sup>).

**Exception:** The increases permitted by Section 506 apply.

[F] **414.7 Emergency alarms.** Emergency alarms for the detection and notification of an emergency condition in Group H occupancies shall be provided as set forth herein.

[F] **414.7.1 Storage.** An approved manual emergency alarm system shall be provided in buildings, rooms or areas used for storage of hazardous materials. Emergency alarm-initiating devices shall be installed outside of each interior exit or exit access door of storage buildings, rooms or areas. Activation of an emergency alarm-initiating device shall sound a local alarm to alert occupants of an emergency situation involving hazardous materials.

[F] **414.7.2 Dispensing, use and handling.** Where hazardous materials having a hazard ranking of 3 or 4 in accordance with NFPA 704 are transported through corridors or exit enclosures, there shall be an emergency telephone system, a local manual alarm station or an approved alarm-initiating device at not more than 150-foot (45 720 mm) intervals and at each exit and exit access doorway throughout the transport route. The signal shall be relayed to an approved central, proprietary or remote station service or constantly attended on-site location and shall also initiate a local audible alarm.

[F] **414.7.3 Supervision.** Emergency alarm systems shall be supervised by an approved central, proprietary or remote station service or shall initiate an audible and visual signal at a constantly attended on-site location.

[F] **SECTION 415  
GROUPS H-1, H-2, H-3, H-4 AND H-5**

**415.1 Scope.** The provisions of this section shall apply to the storage and use of hazardous materials in excess of the maximum allowable quantities per control area listed in Section 307.9. Buildings and structures with an occupancy in Group H shall also comply with the applicable provisions of Section 414 and the *International Fire Code*.

**415.2 Definitions.** The following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this chapter and as used elsewhere in the code, have the meanings shown herein.

**CONTINUOUS GAS-DETECTION SYSTEM.** A gas detection system where the analytical instrument is maintained in continuous operation and sampling is performed without interruption. Analysis is allowed to be performed on a cyclical basis at intervals not to exceed 30 minutes.

**EMERGENCY CONTROL STATION.** An approved location on the premises where signals from emergency equipment are received and which is staffed by trained personnel.

**EXHAUSTED ENCLOSURE.** An appliance or piece of equipment that consists of a top, a back and two sides providing a means of local exhaust for capturing gases, fumes, vapors and mists. Such enclosures include laboratory hoods, exhaust fume hoods and similar appliances and equipment used to locally retain and exhaust the gases, fumes, vapors and mists that could be released. Rooms or areas provided with general ventilation, in themselves, are not exhausted enclosures.

**FABRICATION AREA.** An area within a semiconductor fabrication facility and related research and development areas in which there are processes using hazardous production materials. Such areas are allowed to include ancillary rooms or areas

such as dressing rooms and offices that are directly related to the fabrication area processes.

**FLAMMABLE VAPORS OR FUMES.** The concentration of flammable constituents in air that exceed 25 percent of their lower flammable limit (LFL).

**GAS CABINET.** A fully enclosed, noncombustible enclosure used to provide an isolated environment for compressed gas cylinders in storage or use. Doors and access ports for exchanging cylinders and accessing pressure-regulating controls are allowed to be included.

**GAS ROOM.** A separately ventilated, fully enclosed room in which only compressed gases and associated equipment and supplies are stored or used.

**HAZARDOUS PRODUCTION MATERIAL (HPM).** A solid, liquid or gas associated with semiconductor manufacturing that has a degree-of-hazard rating in health, flammability or reactivity of Class 3 or 4 as ranked by NFPA 704 and which is used directly in research, laboratory or production processes that have as their end product materials that are not hazardous.

**HPM FLAMMABLE LIQUID.** An HPM liquid that is defined as either a Class I flammable liquid or a Class II or Class IIIA combustible liquid.

**HPM ROOM.** A room used in conjunction with or serving a Group H-5 occupancy, where HPM is stored or used and which is classified as a Group H-2, H-3 or H-4 occupancy.

**IMMEDIATELY DANGEROUS TO LIFE AND HEALTH (IDLH).** The concentration of air-borne contaminants which poses a threat of death, immediate or delayed permanent adverse health effects, or effects that could prevent escape from such an environment. This contaminant concentration level is established by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) based on both toxicity and flammability. It generally is expressed in parts per million by volume (ppm v/v) or milligrams per cubic meter (mg/m<sup>3</sup>). If adequate data do not exist for precise establishment of IDLH concentrations, an independent certified industrial hygienist, industrial toxicologist, appropriate regulatory agency or other source approved by the code official shall make such determination.

**LIQUID.** A material that has a melting point that is equal to or less than 68°F (20°C) and a boiling point that is greater than 68°F (20°C) at 14.7 pounds per square inch absolute (psia) (101 kPa). When not otherwise identified, the term “liquid” includes both flammable and combustible liquids.

**LIQUID STORAGE ROOM.** A room classified as a Group H-3 occupancy used for the storage of flammable or combustible liquids in a closed condition.

**LIQUID USE, DISPENSING AND MIXING ROOMS.** Rooms in which Class I, II and IIIA flammable or combustible liquids are used, dispensed or mixed in open containers.

**LOWER FLAMMABLE LIMIT (LFL).** The minimum concentration of vapor in air at which propagation of flame will occur in the presence of an ignition source. The LFL is sometimes referred to as “LEL” or “lower explosive limit.”

**NORMAL TEMPERATURE AND PRESSURE (NTP).** A temperature of 70°F (21°C) and a pressure of 1 atmosphere [14.7 psia (101 kPa)].

**SERVICE CORRIDOR.** A fully enclosed passage used for transporting HPM and purposes other than required means of egress.

**SOLID.** A material that has a melting point, decomposes or sublimates at a temperature greater than 68°F (20°C).

#### **STORAGE, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.**

1. The keeping, retention or leaving of hazardous materials in closed containers, tanks, cylinders or similar vessels, or
2. Vessels supplying operations through closed connections to the vessel.

**USE (MATERIAL).** Placing a material into action, including solids, liquids and gases.

**WORKSTATION.** A defined space or an independent principal piece of equipment using HPM within a fabrication area where a specific function, laboratory procedure or research activity occurs. Approved or listed hazardous materials storage cabinets, flammable liquid storage cabinets or gas cabinets serving a workstation are included as part of the workstation. A workstation is allowed to contain ventilation equipment, fire protection devices, detection devices, electrical devices and other processing and scientific equipment.

**415.3 Location on property.** Group H shall be located on property in accordance with the other provisions of this chapter. In Group H-2 or H-3, not less than 25 percent of the perimeter wall of the occupancy shall be an exterior wall.

#### **Exceptions:**

1. Liquid use, dispensing and mixing rooms having a floor area of not more than 500 square feet (46.5 m<sup>2</sup>) need not be located on the outer perimeter of the building where they are in accordance with the *International Fire Code* and NFPA 30.
2. Liquid storage rooms having a floor area of not more than 1,000 square feet (93 m<sup>2</sup>) need not be located on the outer perimeter where they are in accordance with the *International Fire Code* and NFPA 30.
3. Spray paint booths that comply with the *International Fire Code* need not be located on the outer perimeter.

**415.3.1 Group H minimum distance to lot lines.** Regardless of any other provisions, buildings containing Group H occupancies shall be set back a minimum distance from lot lines as set forth in Items 1 through 4 below. Distances shall be measured from the walls enclosing the occupancy to lot lines, including those on a public way. Distances to assumed property lines drawn for the purposes of determination of exterior wall and opening protection are not to be used to establish the minimum distance for separation of buildings on sites where explosives are manufactured or used when separation is provided in accordance with the quantity distance tables specified for explosive materials in the *International Fire Code*.

1. Group H-1. Not less than 75 feet (22 860 mm) and not less than required by the *International Fire Code*.

**Exceptions:**

1. Fireworks manufacturing buildings separated in accordance with NFPA 1124.
2. Buildings containing the following materials when separated in accordance with Table 415.3.1:
  - 2.1. Organic peroxides, unclassified detonable.
  - 2.2. Unstable reactive materials Class 4.
  - 2.3. Unstable reactive materials, Class 3 detonable.
  - 2.4. Detonable pyrophoric materials.
3. Groups H-2 and H-3. Not less than 50 feet (15 240 mm) where a detached building is required (see Table 415.3.2).
4. Groups H-2 and H-3. Occupancies containing materials with explosive characteristics shall be separated as required by the *International Fire Code*. Where separations are not specified, the distances required shall not be less than the distances required by Table 415.3.1.

**415.3.2 Group H-1 and H-2 or H-3 detached buildings.**

Where a detached building is required by Table 415.3.2, there are no requirements for wall and opening protection based on location on property.

**415.4 Special provisions for Group H-1 occupancies.** Group H-1 occupancies shall be in buildings used for no other purpose, shall not exceed one story in height and be without a basement, crawl spaces or other under-floor spaces. Roofs shall be of lightweight construction with suitable thermal insulation to prevent sensitive material from reaching its decomposition temperature.

Group H-1 occupancies containing materials which are in themselves both physical and health hazards in quantities exceeding the maximum allowable quantities per control area in Table 307.7.(2) shall comply with requirements for both Group H-1 and H-4 occupancies.

**415.4.1 Floors in storage rooms.** Floors in storage areas for organic peroxides, pyrophoric materials and unstable (reactive) materials shall be of liquid-tight, noncombustible construction.

**415.5 Special provisions for Group H-2 and H-3 occupancies.** Group H-2 and H-3 occupancies containing quantities of hazardous materials in excess of those set forth in Table 415.3.2 shall be in buildings used for no other purpose, shall not exceed one story in height and shall be without basements, crawl spaces or other under-floor spaces.

Group H-2 and H-3 occupancies containing water-reactive materials shall be resistant to water penetration. Piping for conveying liquids shall not be over or through areas containing water reactives, unless isolated by approved liquid-tight construction.

**Exception:** Fire protection piping.

**415.5.1 Floors in storage rooms.** Floors in storage areas for organic peroxides, oxidizers, pyrophoric materials, unstable (reactive) materials and water-reactive solids and liquids shall be of liquid-tight, noncombustible construction.

**415.5.2 Waterproof room.** Rooms or areas used for the storage of water-reactive solids and liquids shall be constructed in a manner that resists the penetration of water through the use of waterproof materials. Piping carrying water for other than approved automatic fire sprinkler systems shall not be within such rooms or areas.

**415.6 Smoke and heat venting.** Smoke and heat vents complying with Section 910 shall be installed in the following locations:

1. In occupancies classified as Group H-2 or H-3, any of which are over 15,000 square feet (1394 m<sup>2</sup>) in single floor area.

**Exception:** Buildings of noncombustible construction containing only noncombustible materials.

2. In areas of buildings in Group H used for storing Class 2, 3 and 4 liquid and solid oxidizers, Class 1 and unclassified detonable organic peroxides, Class 3 and 4 unstable (reactive) materials, or Class 2 or 3 water-reactive materials as required for a high-hazard commodity classification as defined in Section 2303 of the *International Fire Code*.

**Exception:** Buildings of noncombustible construction containing only noncombustible materials.

**415.7 Group H-2.** Occupancies in Group H-2 shall be constructed in accordance with Sections 415.7.1 through 415.7.4 and the *International Fire Code*.

**415.7.1 Combustible dusts, grain processing and storage.** The provisions of Sections 415.7.1.1 through 415.7.1.5 shall apply to buildings in which materials that produce combustible dusts are stored or handled. Buildings that store or handle combustible dusts shall comply with the applicable provisions of NFPA 61, NFPA 120, NFPA 651, NFPA 654, NFPA 655, NFPA 664 and NFPA 85, and the *International Fire Code*.

**415.7.1.1 Type of construction and height exceptions.** Buildings shall be constructed in compliance with the height and area limitations of Table 503 for Group H-2; except that where erected of Type I or II construction, the heights and areas of grain elevators and similar structures shall be unlimited, and where of Type IV construction, the maximum height shall be 65 feet (19 812 mm) and except further that, in isolated areas, the maximum height of Type IV structures shall be increased to 85 feet (25 908 mm).



TABLE 415.3.1  
MINIMUM SEPARATION DISTANCES FOR BUILDINGS CONTAINING EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS

| QUANTITY OF EXPLOSIVE MATERIAL <sup>a</sup> |                 | MINIMUM DISTANCE (feet)                                     |              |  |
|---|-----------------|---|--------------|--|
|   |                 | Lot lines <sup>b</sup> and inhabited buildings <sup>c</sup> |              | Separation of magazines <sup>d, e, f</sup> |
| Pounds over                                 | Pounds not over | Barricaded <sup>d</sup>                                     | Unbarricaded |  |
| 2   | 5               | 70  | 140          | 12   |
| 5   | 10              | 90  | 180          | 16   |
| 10  | 20              | 110   | 220          | 20   |
| 20  | 30              | 125   | 250          | 22   |
| 30  | 40              | 140   | 280          | 24   |
| 40  | 50              | 150   | 300          | 28   |
| 50  | 75              | 170   | 340          | 30   |
| 75  | 100             | 190   | 380          | 32   |
| 100   | 125             | 200   | 400          | 36   |
| 125   | 150             | 215   | 430          | 38   |
| 150   | 200             | 235   | 470          | 42   |
| 200   | 250             | 255   | 510          | 46   |
| 250   | 300             | 270   | 540          | 48   |
| 300   | 400             | 295   | 590          | 54   |
| 400   | 500             | 320   | 640          | 58   |
| 500   | 600             | 340   | 680          | 62   |
| 600   | 700             | 355   | 710          | 64   |
| 700   | 800             | 375   | 750          | 66   |
| 800   | 900             | 390   | 780          | 70   |
| 900   | 1,000           | 400   | 800          | 72   |
| 1,000                                       | 1,200           | 425   | 850          | 78   |
| 1,200                                       | 1,400           | 450   | 900          | 82   |
| 1,400                                       | 1,600           | 470   | 940          | 86   |
| 1,600                                       | 1,800           | 490   | 980          | 88   |
| 1,800                                       | 2,000           | 505   | 1,010        | 90   |
| 2,000                                       | 2,500           | 545   | 1,090        | 98   |
| 2,500                                       | 3,000           | 580   | 1,160        | 104  |
| 3,000                                       | 4,000           | 635   | 1,270        | 116  |
| 4,000                                       | 5,000           | 685   | 1,370        | 122  |
| 5,000                                       | 6,000           | 730   | 1,460        | 130  |
| 6,000                                       | 7,000           | 770   | 1,540        | 136  |
| 7,000                                       | 8,000           | 800   | 1,600        | 144  |
| 8,000                                       | 9,000           | 835   | 1,670        | 150  |
| 9,000                                       | 10,000          | 865   | 1,730        | 156  |
| 10,000                                      | 12,000          | 875   | 1,750        | 164  |
| 12,000                                      | 14,000          | 885   | 1,770        | 174  |
| 14,000                                      | 16,000          | 900   | 1,800        | 180  |
| 16,000                                      | 18,000          | 940   | 1,880        | 188  |
| 18,000                                      | 20,000          | 975   | 1,950        | 196  |

(continued)

**SPECIAL DETAILED REQUIREMENTS BASED ON USE AND OCCUPANCY**

**TABLE 415.3.1—continued  
MINIMUM SEPARATION DISTANCES FOR BUILDINGS CONTAINING EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS**

| QUANTITY OF EXPLOSIVE MATERIAL <sup>a</sup> |                 | MINIMUM DISTANCE (feet)                                     |              |  |
|---|-----------------|---|--------------|--|
|   |                 | Lot lines <sup>b</sup> and inhabited buildings <sup>c</sup> |              | Separation of magazines <sup>d, e, f</sup> |
| Pounds over                                 | Pounds not over | Barricaded <sup>d</sup>                                     | Unbarricaded |  |
| 20,000                                      | 25,000          | 1,055   | 2,000        | 210  |
| 25,000                                      | 30,000          | 1,130   | 2,000        | 224  |
| 30,000                                      | 35,000          | 1,205   | 2,000        | 238  |
| 35,000                                      | 40,000          | 1,275   | 2,000        | 248  |
| 40,000                                      | 45,000          | 1,340   | 2,000        | 258  |
| 45,000                                      | 50,000          | 1,400   | 2,000        | 270  |
| 50,000                                      | 55,000          | 1,460   | 2,000        | 280  |
| 55,000                                      | 60,000          | 1,515   | 2,000        | 290  |
| 60,000                                      | 65,000          | 1,565   | 2,000        | 300  |
| 65,000                                      | 70,000          | 1,610   | 2,000        | 310  |
| 70,000                                      | 75,000          | 1,655   | 2,000        | 320  |
| 75,000                                      | 80,000          | 1,695   | 2,000        | 330  |
| 80,000                                      | 85,000          | 1,730   | 2,000        | 340  |
| 85,000                                      | 90,000          | 1,760   | 2,000        | 350  |
| 90,000                                      | 95,000          | 1,790   | 2,000        | 360  |
| 95,000                                      | 100,000         | 1,815   | 2,000        | 370  |
| 100,000                                     | 110,000         | 1,835   | 2,000        | 390  |
| 110,000                                     | 120,000         | 1,855   | 2,000        | 410  |
| 120,000                                     | 130,000         | 1,875   | 2,000        | 430  |
| 130,000                                     | 140,000         | 1,890   | 2,000        | 450  |
| 140,000                                     | 150,000         | 1,900   | 2,000        | 470  |
| 150,000                                     | 160,000         | 1,935   | 2,000        | 490  |
| 160,000                                     | 170,000         | 1,965   | 2,000        | 510  |
| 170,000                                     | 180,000         | 1,990   | 2,000        | 530  |
| 180,000                                     | 190,000         | 2,010   | 2,010        | 550  |
| 190,000                                     | 200,000         | 2,030   | 2,030        | 570  |
| 200,000                                     | 210,000         | 2,055   | 2,055        | 590  |
| 210,000                                     | 230,000         | 2,100   | 2,100        | 630  |
| 230,000                                     | 250,000         | 2,155   | 2,155        | 670  |
| 250,000                                     | 275,000         | 2,215   | 2,215        | 720  |
| 275,000                                     | 300,000         | 2,275   | 2,275        | 770  |

For SI: 1 pound = 0.454 kg, 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

- a. The number of pounds of explosives listed is the number of pounds of trinitrotoluene (TNT) or the equivalent pounds of other explosive.
- b. The distance listed is the distance to lot line, including lot lines at public ways.
- c. For the purpose of this table, an inhabited building is any building on the same property that is regularly occupied by people. Where two or more buildings containing explosives or magazines are located on the same property, each building or magazine shall comply with the minimum distances specified from inhabited buildings and, in addition, they shall be separated from each other by not less than the distance shown for "Separation of magazines," except that the quantity of explosive materials contained in detonator buildings or magazines shall govern in regard to the spacing of said detonator buildings or magazines from buildings or magazines containing other explosive materials. If any two or more buildings or magazines are separated from each other by less than the specified "Separation of Magazines" distances, then such two or more buildings or magazines, as a group, shall be considered as one building or magazine, and the total quantity of explosive materials stored in such group shall be treated as if the explosive were in a single building or magazine located on the site of any building or magazine of the group, and shall comply with the minimum distance specified from other magazines or inhabited buildings.
- d. Barricades shall effectively screen the building containing explosives from other buildings, public ways or magazines. Where mounds or revetted walls of earth are used for barricades, they shall not be less than 3 feet in thickness. A straight line from the top of any side wall of the building containing explosive materials to the eave line of any other building, magazine or a point 12 feet above the centerline of a public way shall pass through the barricades.
- e. Magazine is a building or structure, other than an operating building, approved for storage of explosive materials. Portable or mobile magazines not exceeding 120 square feet (11 m<sup>2</sup>) in area need not comply with the requirements of this code, however, all magazines shall comply with the *International Fire Code*.
- f. The distance listed is permitted be reduced by 50 percent where approved natural or artificial barriers are provided in accordance with the requirements in Note d.

**TABLE 415.3.2  
REQUIRED DETACHED STORAGE**

| DETACHED STORAGE IS REQUIRED WHEN THE QUANTITY OF MATERIAL EXCEEDS THAT LISTED HEREIN |                           |  |                                   |
|---|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Material  | Class                     | Solids and Liquids (tons) <sup>a,b</sup> | Gases (cubic feet) <sup>a,b</sup> |
| Explosives  | Division 1.1              | Maximum Allowable Quantity               | Not Applicable                    |
|   | Division 1.2              | Maximum Allowable Quantity               |                                   |
|   | Division 1.3              | Maximum Allowable Quantity               |                                   |
|   | Division 1.4              | Maximum Allowable Quantity               |                                   |
|   | Division 1.4 <sup>c</sup> | 1  |                                   |
|   | Division 1.5              | Maximum Allowable Quantity               |                                   |
|   | Division 1.6              | Maximum Allowable Quantity               |                                   |
| Oxidizers   | Class 4                   | Maximum Allowable Quantity               | Maximum Allowable Quantity        |
| Unstable (reactives) detonable  | Class 3 or 4              | Maximum Allowable Quantity               | Maximum Allowable Quantity        |
| Oxidizer, liquids and solids  | Class 3                   | 1,200                                    | Not Applicable                    |
|   | Class 2                   | 2,000                                    | Not Applicable                    |
| Organic peroxides   | Detonable                 | Maximum Allowable Quantity               | Not Applicable                    |
|   | Class I                   | Maximum Allowable Quantity               | Not Applicable                    |
|   | Class II                  | 25                                       | Not Applicable                    |
|   | Class III                 | 50                                       | Not Applicable                    |
| Unstable (reactives) nondetonable   | Class 3                   | 1  | 2,000                             |
|   | Class 2                   | 25                                       | 10,000                            |
| Water reactives   | Class 3                   | 1  | Not Applicable                    |
|   | Class 2                   | 25                                       | Not Applicable                    |
| Pyrophoric gases  | Not Applicable            | Not Applicable                           | 2,000                             |

For SI: 1 ton = 906 kg, 1 cubic foot = 0.02832 M<sup>3</sup>.

- a. For materials that are detonable, the distance to other buildings or lot lines shall be as specified in Table 415.3.1 based on trinitrotoluene (TNT) equivalence of the material. For materials classified as explosives, see Chapter 33 the *International Fire Code*. For all other materials, the distance shall be as indicated in Section 415.3.1.
- b. "Maximum Allowable Quantity" means the maximum allowable quantity per control area set forth in Table 307.7(1).
- c. Limited to Division 1.4 materials and articles, including articles packaged for shipment, that are not regulated as an explosive under Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF) regulations or unpackaged articles used in process operations that do not propagate a detonation or deflagration between articles, providing the net explosive weight of individual articles does not exceed 1 pound.

**415.7.1.2 Grinding rooms.** Every room or space occupied for grinding or other operations that produce combustible dusts shall be enclosed with fire barriers and horizontal assemblies or both that have not less than a 2-hour fire-resistance rating where the area is not more than 3,000 square feet (279 m<sup>2</sup>), and not less than a 4-hour fire-resistance rating where the area is greater than 3,000 square feet (279 m<sup>2</sup>).

**415.7.1.3 Conveyors.** Conveyors, chutes, piping and similar equipment passing through the enclosures of rooms or spaces shall be constructed dirt tight and vapor tight, and be of approved noncombustible materials complying with Chapter 30.

**415.7.1.4 Explosion control.** Explosion control shall be provided as specified in the *International Fire Code*, or spaces shall be equipped with the equivalent mechanical ventilation complying with the *International Mechanical Code*.

**415.7.1.5 Grain elevators.** Grain elevators, malt houses and buildings for similar occupancies shall not be located within 30 feet (9144 mm) of interior lot lines or structures on the same lot, except where erected along a railroad right-of-way.

**415.7.1.6 Coal pockets.** Coal pockets located less than 30 feet (9144 mm) from interior lot lines or from structures on the same lot shall be constructed of not less than Type IB construction. Where more than 30 feet (9144 mm) from interior lot lines, or where erected along a railroad right-of-way, the minimum type of construction of such structures not more than 65 feet (19 812 mm) in height shall be Type IV.

**415.7.2 Flammable and combustible liquids.** The storage, handling, processing and transporting of flammable and combustible liquids shall be in accordance with the *International Mechanical Code* and the *International Fire Code*.

**415.7.2.1 Mixed occupancies.** Where the storage tank area is located in a building of two or more occupancies, and the quantity of liquid exceeds the maximum allowable quantity for one control area, the use shall be completely separated from adjacent fire areas in accordance with the requirements of Section 302.3.2.

**415.7.2.1.1 Height exception.** Where storage tanks are located within only a single-story building, the height limitation of Section 503 shall not apply for Group H.

**415.7.2.2 Tank protection.** Storage tanks shall be noncombustible and protected from physical damage. A

fire barrier wall or horizontal assemblies or both around the storage tank(s) shall be permitted as the method of protection from physical damage.

**415.7.2.3 Tanks.** Storage tanks shall be approved tanks conforming to the requirements of the *International Fire Code*.

**415.7.2.4 Suppression.** Group H shall be equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system, installed in accordance with Section 903.

**415.7.2.5 Leakage containment.** A liquid-tight containment area compatible with the stored liquid shall be provided. The method of spill control, drainage control and secondary containment shall be in accordance with the *International Fire Code*.

**Exception:** Rooms where only double-wall storage tanks conforming to Section 415.7.2.3 are used to store Class I, II and IIIA flammable and combustible liquids shall not be required to have a leakage containment area.

**415.7.2.6 Leakage alarm.** An approved automatic alarm shall be provided to indicate a leak in a storage tank and room. The alarm shall sound an audible signal, 15 dBA above the ambient sound level, at every point of entry into the room in which the leaking storage tank is located. An approved sign shall be posted on every entry door to the tank storage room indicating the potential hazard of the interior room environment, or the sign shall state: WARNING, WHEN ALARM SOUNDS, THE ENVIRONMENT WITHIN THE ROOM MAY BE HAZARDOUS. The leakage alarm shall also be supervised in accordance with Chapter 9 to transmit a trouble signal.

**415.7.2.7 Tank vent.** Storage tank vents for Class I, II or IIIA liquids shall terminate to the outdoor air in accordance with the *International Fire Code*.

**415.7.2.8 Room ventilation.** Storage tank areas storing Class I, II or IIIA liquids shall be provided with mechanical ventilation. The mechanical ventilation system shall be in accordance with the *International Mechanical Code* and the *International Fire Code*.

**415.7.2.9 Explosion venting.** Where Class I liquids are being stored, explosion venting shall be provided in accordance with the *International Fire Code*.

**415.7.2.10 Tank openings other than vents.** Tank openings other than vents from tanks inside buildings shall be designed to ensure that liquids or vapor concentrations are not released inside the building.

**415.7.3 Liquefied petroleum gas-distribution facilities.** The design and construction of propane, butane, propylene, butylene and other liquefied petroleum gas-distribution facilities shall conform to the applicable provisions of Sections 415.7.3.1 through 415.7.3.5.2. The storage and handling of liquefied petroleum gas systems shall conform to the *International Fire Code*. The design and installation of piping, equipment and systems that utilize liquefied petroleum gas shall be in accordance with the *International Fuel Gas Code*. Liquefied petroleum gas-distribution facilities

shall be ventilated in accordance with the *International Mechanical Code* and Section 415.7.3.1.

**415.7.3.1 Air movement.** Liquefied petroleum gas-distribution facilities shall be provided with air inlets and outlets arranged so that air movement across the floor of the facility will be uniform. The total area of both inlet and outlet openings shall be at least 1 square inch (645 mm<sup>2</sup>) for each 1 square foot (0.093 m<sup>2</sup>) of floor area. The bottom of such openings shall not be more than 6 inches (152 mm) above the floor.

**415.7.3.2 Construction.** Liquefied petroleum gas-distribution facilities shall be constructed in accordance with Section 415.7.3.3 for separate buildings, Section 415.7.3.4 for attached buildings or Section 415.7.3.5 for rooms within buildings.

**415.7.3.3 Separate buildings.** Where located in separate buildings, liquefied petroleum gas-distribution facilities shall be occupied exclusively for that purpose or for other purposes having similar hazards. Such buildings shall be limited to one story in height and shall conform to Sections 415.7.3.3.1 through 415.7.3.3.3.

**415.7.3.3.1 Floors.** The floor shall not be located below ground level and any spaces beneath the floor shall be solidly filled or shall be unenclosed.

**415.7.3.3.2 Materials.** Walls, floors, ceilings, columns and roofs shall be constructed of noncombustible materials.

**415.7.3.3.3 Explosion venting.** Explosion venting shall be provided in accordance with the *International Fire Code*.

**415.7.3.4 Attached buildings.** Where liquefied petroleum gas-distribution facilities are located in an attached structure, the attached perimeter shall not exceed 50 percent of the perimeter of the space enclosed and the facility shall comply with Sections 415.7.3.3 and 415.7.3.4.1. Where the attached perimeter exceeds 50 percent, such facilities shall comply with Section 415.7.3.5.

**415.7.3.4.1 Fire separation assemblies.** Separation of the attached structures shall be provided by fire barrier walls and horizontal assemblies, or both, having a fire-resistance rating of not less than 1 hour and shall not have openings. Fire barrier walls and horizontal assemblies, or both, between attached structures occupied only for the storage of LP-gas are permitted to have fire doors that comply with Section 715. Such fire barrier walls and horizontal assemblies, or both, shall be designed to withstand a static pressure of at least 100 pounds per square foot (psf) (4788 Pa), except where the building to which the structure is attached is occupied by operations or processes having a similar hazard.

**415.7.3.5 Rooms within buildings.** Where liquefied petroleum gas-distribution facilities are located in rooms within buildings, such rooms shall be located in the first story above grade plane and shall have at least one exterior wall with sufficient exposed area to provide explosion venting as required in the *International Fire Code*.

The building in which the room is located shall not have a basement or unventilated crawl space and the room shall comply with Sections 415.7.3.5.1 and 415.7.3.5.2.

**415.7.3.5.1 Materials.** Walls, floors, ceilings and roofs of such rooms shall be constructed of approved noncombustible materials.

**415.7.3.5.2 Common construction.** Walls and floor/ceiling assemblies common to the room and to the building within which the room is located shall have a fire barrier wall and horizontal assembly or both of not less than a 1-hour fire-resistance rating and without openings. Common walls for rooms occupied only for storage of LP-gas are permitted to have opening protectives complying with Section 715. Such walls and ceiling shall be designed to withstand a static pressure of at least 100 psf (4788 Pa).

**Exception:** Where the building, within which the room is located, is occupied by operations or processes having a similar hazard.

**415.7.4 Dry cleaning plants.** The construction and installation of dry cleaning plants shall be in accordance with the requirements of this code, the *International Mechanical Code*, the *International Plumbing Code* and NFPA 32. Dry cleaning solvents and systems shall be classified in accordance with the *International Fire Code*.

**415.8 Groups H-3 and H-4.** Groups H-3 and H-4 shall be constructed in accordance with the applicable provisions of this code and the *International Fire Code*.

**415.8.1 Gas rooms.** When gas rooms are provided, such rooms shall be separated from other areas by not less than a 1-hour fire barrier.

**415.8.2 Floors in storage rooms.** Floors in storage areas for corrosive liquids and highly toxic or toxic materials shall be of liquid-tight, noncombustible construction.

**415.8.3 Separation—highly toxic solids and liquids.** Highly toxic solids and liquids not stored in approved hazardous materials storage cabinets shall be isolated from other hazardous materials storage by construction having a 1-hour fire-resistance rating.

#### 415.9 Group H-5.

**415.9.1 General.** In addition to the requirements set forth elsewhere in this code, Group H-5 shall comply with the provisions of Section 415.9 and the *International Fire Code*.

#### 415.9.2 Fabrication areas.

##### 415.9.2.1 Hazardous materials in fabrication areas.

**415.9.2.1.1 Aggregate quantities.** The aggregate quantities of hazardous materials stored and used in a single fabrication area shall not exceed the quantities set forth in Table 415.9.2.1.1.

**Exception:** The quantity limitations for any hazard category in Table 415.9.2.1.1 shall not apply where the fabrication area contains quantities of hazardous materials not exceeding the maximum allowable quantities per control area established by Tables 307.7(1) and 307.7(2).

**415.9.2.1.2 Hazardous production materials.** The maximum quantities of hazardous production materials stored in a single fabrication area shall not exceed the maximum allowable quantities per control area established by Tables 307.7(1) and 307.7(2).

**415.9.2.2 Separation.** Fabrication areas, whose sizes are limited by the quantity of hazardous materials allowed by Table 415.9.2.1.1, shall be separated from each other, from exit access corridors, and from other parts of the building by not less than 1-hour fire barriers.

##### Exceptions:

1. Doors within such fire barrier walls, including doors to corridors, shall be only self-closing fire assemblies having a fire-protection rating of not less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour.
2. Windows between fabrication areas and exit access corridors are permitted to be fixed glazing listed and labeled for a fire protection rating of at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  hour in accordance with Section 715.

**415.9.2.3 Location of occupied levels.** Occupied levels of fabrication areas shall be located at or above the first story above grade plane.

**415.9.2.4 Floors.** Except for surfacing, floors within fabrication areas shall be of noncombustible construction.

Openings through floors of fabrication areas are permitted to be unprotected where the interconnected levels are used solely for mechanical equipment directly related to such fabrication areas (see also Section 415.9.2.5).

Floors forming a part of an occupancy separation shall be liquid tight.

**415.9.2.5 Shafts and openings through floors.** Elevator shafts, vent shafts and other openings through floors shall be enclosed when required by Section 707. Mechanical, duct and piping penetrations within a fabrication area shall not extend through more than two floors. The annular space around penetrations for cables, cable trays, tubing, piping, conduit or ducts shall be sealed at the floor level to restrict the movement of air. The fabrication area, including the areas through which the ductwork and piping extend, shall be considered a single conditioned environment.

**415.9.2.6 Ventilation.** Mechanical exhaust ventilation shall be provided throughout the fabrication area at the rate of not less than 1 cubic foot per minute per square foot (0.044 L/S/m<sup>2</sup>) of floor area. The exhaust air duct system of one fabrication area shall not connect to another duct system outside that fabrication area within the building.

A ventilation system shall be provided to capture and exhaust fumes and vapors at workstations.

Two or more operations at a workstation shall not be connected to the same exhaust system where either one or the combination of the substances removed could con-

**SPECIAL DETAILED REQUIREMENTS BASED ON USE AND OCCUPANCY**

**TABLE 415.9.2.1.1  
QUANTITY LIMITS FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS IN A SINGLE FABRICATION AREA IN GROUP H-5<sup>a</sup>**

| HAZARD CATEGORY                      |                        | SOLIDS<br>(pounds per square feet) | LIQUIDS<br>(gallons per square feet) | GAS<br>(feet <sup>3</sup> @ NTP/square feet) |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>PHYSICAL-HAZARD MATERIALS</b>     |                        |                                    |                                      |  |
| Combustible dust                     |                        | Note b                             | Not Applicable                       | Not Applicable                               |
| Combustible fiber                    | Loose                  | Note b                             | Not Applicable                       | Not Applicable                               |
|                                      | Baled                  | Note b                             |                                      |  |
| Combustible liquid                   | II                     | Not Applicable                     | 0.01                                 | Not Applicable                               |
|                                      | III A                  |                                    | 0.02                                 |  |
| III B                                | Not Limited            |                                    |                                      |  |
| Combination Class I, II and III A    | 0.04                   |                                    |                                      |  |
| Cryogenic gas                        | Flammable              | Not Applicable                     | Not Applicable                       | Note c<br>1.25                               |
|                                      | Oxidizing              |                                    |                                      |  |
| Explosives                           |                        | Note b                             | Note b                               | Note b                                       |
| Flammable gas                        | Gaseous                | Not Applicable                     | Not Applicable                       | Note c<br>Note c                             |
|                                      | Liquefied              |                                    |                                      |  |
| Flammable liquid                     | IA                     | Not Applicable                     | 0.0025                               | Not Applicable                               |
|                                      | IB                     |                                    | 0.025                                |  |
| IC                                   | 0.025                  |                                    |                                      |  |
| Combination Class IA, IB and IC      | 0.025                  |                                    |                                      |  |
| Combination Class I, II and III A    | 0.04                   |                                    |                                      |  |
| Flammable solid                      |                        | 0.001                              | Not Applicable                       | Not Applicable                               |
| Organic peroxide                     | Unclassified detonable | Note b                             | Not Applicable                       | Not Applicable                               |
|                                      | Class I                | Note b                             |                                      |  |
|                                      | Class II               | 0.025                              |                                      |  |
|                                      | Class III              | 0.1                                |                                      |  |
|                                      | Class IV               | Not Limited                        |                                      |  |
|                                      | Class V                | Not limited                        |                                      |  |
| Oxidizing gas                        | Gaseous                | Not Applicable                     | Not Applicable                       | 1.25   |
|                                      | Liquefied              |                                    |                                      | 1.25   |
| Combination of gaseous and liquefied |                        |                                    |                                      |  |
| Oxidizer                             | Class 4                | Note b                             | Note b                               | Not Applicable                               |
|                                      | Class 3                | 0.003                              | 0.003                                |  |
|                                      | Class 2                | 0.003                              | 0.003                                |  |
|                                      | Class 1                | 0.003                              | 0.003                                |  |
| Combination                          | Class 1, 2, 3          | 0.003                              | 0.003                                |  |
| Pyrophoric material                  |                        | Note b                             | 0.00125                              | Notes c and d                                |
| Unstable reactive                    | Class 4                | Note b                             | Note b                               | Note b                                       |
|                                      | Class 3                | 0.025                              | 0.0025                               | Note b                                       |
|                                      | Class 2                | 0.1                                | 0.01                                 | Note b                                       |
|                                      | Class 1                | Not Limited                        | Not Limited                          | Not Limited                                  |
| Water reactive                       | Class 3                | Note b                             | 0.00125                              | Not Applicable                               |
|                                      | Class 2                | 0.25                               | 0.025                                |  |
|                                      | Class 1                | Not Limited                        | Not Limited                          |  |
| <b>HEALTH-HAZARD MATERIALS</b>       |                        |                                    |                                      |  |
| Corrosives                           |                        | Not Limited                        | Not Limited                          | Not Limited                                  |
| Highly toxic                         |                        | Not Limited                        | Not Limited                          | Note c                                       |
| Toxics                               |                        | Not Limited                        | Not Limited                          | Note c                                       |

For SI: 1 pound per square foot = 4.882 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, 1 gallon per square foot = 0.025 L/m<sup>2</sup>, 1 cubic foot @ NTP/square foot = 0.305 M<sup>3</sup> @ NTP/m<sup>2</sup>, 1 cubic foot = 0.02832 M<sup>3</sup>.

- a. Hazardous materials within piping shall not be included in the calculated quantities.
- b. Quantity of hazardous materials in a single fabrication shall not exceed the maximum allowable quantities per control area in Tables 307.7(1) and 307.7(2).
- c. The aggregate quantity of flammable, pyrophoric, toxic and highly toxic gases shall not exceed 9,000 cubic feet at NTP.
- d. The aggregate quantity of pyrophoric gases in the building shall not exceed the amounts set forth in Table 415.3.2.

stitute a fire, explosion or hazardous chemical reaction within the exhaust duct system.

Exhaust ducts penetrating occupancy separations shall be contained in a shaft of equivalent fire-resistance construction. Exhaust ducts shall not penetrate fire walls.

Fire dampers shall not be installed in exhaust ducts.

**415.9.2.7 Transporting hazardous production materials to fabrication areas.** Hazardous production materials shall be transported to fabrication areas through enclosed piping or tubing systems that comply with Section 415.9.6.1, through service corridors complying with Section 415.9.4, or in exit access corridors as permitted in the exception to Section 415.9.3. The handling or transporting of hazardous production materials within service corridors shall comply with the *International Fire Code*.

#### 415.9.2.8 Electrical.

**415.9.2.8.1 General.** Electrical equipment and devices within the fabrication area shall comply with the *ICC Electrical Code*. The requirements for hazardous locations need not be applied where the average air change is at least four times that set forth in Section 415.9.2.6 and where the number of air changes at any location is not less than three times that required by Section 415.9.2.6. The use of recirculated air shall be permitted.

**415.9.2.8.2 Workstations.** Workstations shall not be energized without adequate exhaust ventilation. See Section 415.9.2.6 for workstation exhaust ventilation requirements.

**415.9.3 Exit access corridors.** Exit access corridors shall comply with Chapter 10 and shall be separated from fabrication areas as specified in Section 415.9.2.2. Exit access corridors shall not contain HPM and shall not be used for transporting such materials, except through closed piping systems as provided in Section 415.9.6.3.

**Exception:** Where existing fabrication areas are altered or modified, HPM is allowed to be transported in existing exit access corridors, subject to the following conditions:

1. Corridors. Exit access corridors adjacent to the fabrication area where the alteration work is to be done shall comply with Section 1016 for a length determined as follows:
  - 1.1. The length of the common wall of the corridor and the fabrication area; and
  - 1.2. For the distance along the exit access corridor to the point of entry of HPM into the exit access corridor serving that fabrication area.
2. Emergency alarm system. There shall be an emergency telephone system, a local manual alarm station or other approved alarm-initiating device within exit access corridors at not more than 150-foot (45 720 mm) intervals and at each exit and exit access doorway. The signal shall be

relayed to an approved central, proprietary or remote station service or the emergency control station and shall also initiate a local audible alarm.

3. Pass-throughs. Self-closing doors having a fire-protection rating of not less than 1 hour shall separate pass-throughs from existing exit access corridors. Pass-throughs shall be constructed as required for the exit access corridors, and protected by an approved automatic fire-extinguishing system.

#### 415.9.4 Service corridors.

**415.9.4.1 Occupancy.** Service corridors shall be classified as Group H-5.

**415.9.4.2 Use conditions.** Service corridors shall be separated from exit access corridors as required by Section 415.9.2.2. Service corridors shall not be used as a required exit access corridor.

**415.9.4.3 Mechanical ventilation.** Service corridors shall be mechanically ventilated as required by Section 415.9.2.6 or at not less than six air changes per hour, whichever is greater.

**415.9.4.4 Means of egress.** The maximum distance of travel from any point in a service corridor to an exit, exit access corridor or door into a fabrication area shall not exceed 75 feet (22 860 mm). Dead ends shall not exceed 4 feet (1219 mm) in length. There shall be not less than two exits, and not more than one-half of the required means of egress shall require travel into a fabrication area. Doors from service corridors shall swing in the direction of egress travel and shall be self-closing.

**415.9.4.5 Minimum width.** The minimum clear width of a service corridor shall be 5 feet (1524 mm), or 33 inches (838 mm) wider than the widest cart or truck used in the corridor, whichever is greater.

**415.9.4.6 Emergency alarm system.** Emergency alarm systems shall be provided in accordance with this section and Sections 414.7.1 and 414.7.2. The maximum allowable quantity per control area provisions shall not apply to emergency alarm systems required for HPM.

**415.9.4.6.1 Service corridors.** An emergency alarm system shall be provided in service corridors, with at least one alarm device in each service corridor.

**415.9.4.6.2 Exit access corridors and exit enclosures.** Emergency alarms for exit access corridors and exit enclosures shall comply with Section 414.7.2.

**415.9.4.6.3 Liquid storage rooms, HPM rooms and gas rooms.** Emergency alarms for liquid storage rooms, HPM rooms and gas rooms shall comply with Section 414.7.1.

**415.9.4.6.4 Alarm-initiating devices.** An approved emergency telephone system, local alarm manual pull stations, or other approved alarm-initiating devices are allowed to be used as emergency alarm-initiating devices.

**415.9.4.6.5 Alarm signals.** Activation of the emergency alarm system shall sound a local alarm and transmit a signal to the emergency control station.

#### 415.9.5 Storage of hazardous production materials.

**415.9.5.1 General.** Storage of HPM in fabrication areas shall be within approved or listed storage cabinets or gas cabinets, or within a workstation. The storage of hazardous production materials in quantities greater than those listed in Tables 307.7(1) or 307.7(2) shall be in liquid storage rooms, HPM rooms or gas rooms as appropriate for the materials stored. The storage of other hazardous materials shall be in accordance with other applicable provisions of this code and the *International Fire Code*.

#### 415.9.5.2 Construction.

**415.9.5.2.1 HPM rooms and gas rooms.** HPM rooms and gas rooms shall be separated from other areas by not less than a 2-hour fire barrier where the area is 300 square feet (27.9 m<sup>2</sup>) or more and not less than a 1-hour fire barrier where the area is less than 300 square feet (27.9 m<sup>2</sup>).

**415.9.5.2.2 Liquid storage rooms.** Liquid storage rooms shall be constructed in accordance with the following requirements:

1. Rooms in excess of 500 square feet (46.5 m<sup>2</sup>) shall have at least one exterior door approved for fire department access.
2. Rooms shall be separated from other areas by fire barriers having a fire-resistance rating of not less than 1-hour for rooms up to 150 square feet (13.9 m<sup>2</sup>) in area and not less than 2 hours where the room is more than 150 square feet (13.9 m<sup>2</sup>) in area.
3. Shelving, racks and wainscoting in such areas shall be of noncombustible construction or wood of not less than 1 inch (25 mm) nominal thickness.
4. Rooms used for the storage of Class I flammable liquids shall not be located in a basement.

**415.9.5.2.3 Floors.** Except for surfacing, floors of HPM rooms and liquid storage rooms shall be of noncombustible liquid-tight construction. Raised grating over floors shall be of noncombustible materials.

**415.9.5.3 Location.** Where HPM rooms, liquid storage rooms and gas rooms are provided, they shall have at least one exterior wall and such wall shall be not less than 30 feet (9144 mm) from property lines, including property lines adjacent to public ways.

**415.9.5.4 Explosion control.** Explosion control shall be provided where required by Section 414.5.1.

**415.9.5.5 Exits.** Where two exits are required from HPM rooms, liquid storage rooms and gas rooms, one shall be directly to the outside of the building.

**415.9.5.6 Doors.** Doors in a fire barrier wall, including doors to corridors, shall be self-closing fire assemblies having a fire-protection rating of not less than <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hour.

**415.9.5.7 Ventilation.** Mechanical exhaust ventilation shall be provided in liquid storage rooms, HPM rooms and gas rooms at the rate of not less than 1 cubic foot per minute per square foot (0.044 L/S/m<sup>2</sup>) of floor area or six air changes per hour, whichever is greater, for categories of material.

Exhaust ventilation for gas rooms shall be designed to operate at a negative pressure in relation to the surrounding areas and direct the exhaust ventilation to an exhaust system.

**415.9.5.8 Emergency alarm system.** An approved emergency alarm system shall be provided for HPM rooms, liquid storage rooms and gas rooms.

Emergency alarm-initiating devices shall be installed outside of each interior exit door of such rooms.

Activation of an emergency alarm-initiating device shall sound a local alarm and transmit a signal to the emergency control station.

An approved emergency telephone system, local alarm manual pull stations or other approved alarm-initiating devices are allowed to be used as emergency alarm-initiating devices.

#### 415.9.6 Piping and tubing.

**415.9.6.1 General.** Hazardous production materials piping and tubing shall comply with this section and ASME B31.3.

#### 415.9.6.2 Supply piping and tubing.

**415.9.6.2.1 HPM having a health-hazard ranking of 3 or 4.** Systems supplying HPM liquids or gases having a health-hazard ranking of 3 or 4 shall be welded throughout, except for connections, to the systems that are within a ventilated enclosure if the material is a gas, or an approved method of drainage or containment is provided for the connections if the material is a liquid.

**415.9.6.2.2 Location in service corridors.** Hazardous production materials supply piping or tubing in service corridors shall be exposed to view.

**415.9.6.2.3 Excess flow control.** Where HPM gases or liquids are carried in pressurized piping above 15 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) (103.4 kPa), excess flow control shall be provided. Where the piping originates from within a liquid storage room, HPM room or gas room, the excess flow control shall be located within the liquid storage room, HPM room or gas room. Where the piping originates from a bulk source, the excess flow control shall be located as close to the bulk source as practical.

**415.9.6.3 Installations in exit access corridors and above other occupancies.** The installation of hazardous production material piping and tubing within the space defined by the walls of exit access corridors and the floor



or roof above or in concealed spaces above other occupancies shall be in accordance with Section 415.9.6.2 and the following conditions:

1. Automatic sprinklers shall be installed within the space unless the space is less than 6 inches (152 mm) in the least dimension.
2. Ventilation not less than six air changes per hour shall be provided. The space shall not be used to convey air from any other area.
3. Where the piping or tubing is used to transport HPM liquids, a receptor shall be installed below such piping or tubing. The receptor shall be designed to collect any discharge or leakage and drain it to an approved location. The 1-hour enclosure shall not be used as part of the receptor.
4. HPM supply piping and tubing and HPM nonmetallic waste lines shall be separated from the exit access corridor and from occupancies other than Group H-5 by construction as required for walls or partitions that have a fire protection rating of not less than 1 hour. Where gypsum wallboard is used, joints on the piping side of the enclosure are not required to be taped, provided the joints occur over framing members. Access openings into the enclosure shall be protected by approved fire-resistance-rated assemblies.
5. Readily accessible manual or automatic remotely activated fail-safe emergency shutoff valves shall be installed on piping and tubing other than waste lines at the following locations:
  - 5.1. At branch connections into the fabrication area.
  - 5.2. At entries into exit access corridors.

**Exception:** Transverse crossings of the corridors by supply piping that is enclosed within a ferrous pipe or tube for the width of corridor need not comply with Items 1 through 5.

**415.9.6.4 Identification.** Piping, tubing and HPM waste lines shall be identified in accordance with ANSI A13.1 to indicate the material being transported.

**415.9.7 Continuous gas-detection systems.** A continuous gas-detection system shall be provided for HPM gases when the physiological warning properties of the gas are at a higher level than the accepted permissible exposure limit (PEL) for the gas and for flammable gases in accordance with this section.

**415.9.7.1 Where required.** A continuous gas-detection system shall be provided in the areas identified in Sections 415.9.7.1.1 through 415.9.7.1.4.

**415.9.7.1.1 Fabrication areas.** A continuous gas-detection system shall be provided in fabrication areas when gas is used in the fabrication area.

**415.9.7.1.2 HPM rooms.** A continuous gas-detection system shall be provided in HPM rooms when gas is used in the room.

**415.9.7.1.3 Gas cabinets, exhausted enclosures and gas rooms.** A continuous gas-detection system shall be provided in gas cabinets and exhausted enclosures. A continuous gas-detection system shall be provided in gas rooms when gases are not located in gas cabinets or exhausted enclosures.

**415.9.7.1.4 Exit access corridors.** When gases are transported in piping placed within the space defined by the walls of an exit access corridor, and the floor or roof above the exit access corridor, a continuous gas-detection system shall be provided where piping is located and in the exit access corridor.

**Exception:** A continuous gas-detection system is not required for occasional transverse crossings of the corridors by supply piping that is enclosed in a ferrous pipe or tube for the width of the corridor.

**415.9.7.2 Gas-detection system operation.** The continuous gas-detection system shall be capable of monitoring the room, area or equipment in which the gas is located at or below the PEL or ceiling limit of the gas for which detection is provided. For flammable gases, the monitoring detection threshold level shall be vapor concentrations in excess of 20 percent of the lower explosive limit (LEL). Monitoring for highly toxic and toxic gases shall also comply with the requirements for such material in the *International Fire Code*.

**415.9.7.2.1 Alarms.** The gas detection system shall initiate a local alarm and transmit a signal to the emergency control station when a short-term hazard condition is detected. The alarm shall be both visual and audible and shall provide warning both inside and outside the area where the gas is detected. The audible alarm shall be distinct from all other alarms.

**415.9.7.2.2 Shutoff of gas supply.** The gas detection system shall automatically close the shutoff valve at the source on gas supply piping and tubing related to the system being monitored for which gas is detected when a short-term hazard condition is detected. Automatic closure of shutoff valves shall comply with the following:

1. Where the gas-detection sampling point initiating the gas detection system alarm is within a gas cabinet or exhausted enclosure, the shutoff valve in the gas cabinet or exhausted enclosure for the specific gas detected shall automatically close.
2. Where the gas-detection sampling point initiating the gas detection system alarm is within a room and compressed gas containers are not in gas cabinets or an exhausted enclosure, the shutoff valves on all gas lines for the specific gas detected shall automatically close.
3. Where the gas-detection sampling point initiating the gas detection system alarm is within a piping distribution manifold enclosure, the shutoff valve supplying the manifold for the

compressed gas container of the specific gas detected shall automatically close.

**Exception:** Where the gas-detection sampling point initiating the gas detection system alarm is at the use location or within a gas valve enclosure of a branch line downstream of a piping distribution manifold, the shutoff valve for the branch line located in the piping distribution manifold enclosure shall automatically close.

**415.9.8 Manual fire alarm system.** An approved manual fire alarm system shall be provided throughout buildings containing Group H-5. Activation of the alarm system shall initiate a local alarm and transmit a signal to the emergency control station. The fire alarm system shall be designed and installed in accordance with Section 907.

**415.9.9 Emergency control station.** An emergency control station shall be provided on the premises at an approved location, outside of the fabrication area and shall be continuously staffed by trained personnel. The emergency control station shall receive signals from emergency equipment and alarm and detection systems. Such emergency equipment and alarm and detection systems shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following where such equipment or systems are required to be provided either in Section 415.9 or elsewhere in this code:

1. Automatic fire sprinkler system alarm and monitoring systems.
2. Manual fire alarm systems.
3. Emergency alarm systems.
4. Continuous gas-detection systems.
5. Smoke detection systems.
6. Emergency power system.

**415.9.10 Emergency power system.** An emergency power system shall be provided in Group H-5 occupancies where required in Section 415.9.10.1. The emergency power system shall be designed to supply power automatically to required electrical systems when the normal electrical supply system is interrupted.

**415.9.10.1 Where required.** Emergency power shall be provided for electrically operated equipment and connected control circuits for the following systems:

1. HPM exhaust ventilation systems.
2. HPM gas cabinet ventilation systems.
3. HPM exhausted enclosure ventilation systems.
4. HPM gas room ventilation systems.
5. HPM gas detection systems.
6. Emergency alarm systems.
7. Manual fire alarm systems.
8. Automatic sprinkler system monitoring and alarm systems.
9. Electrically operated systems required elsewhere in this code applicable to the use, storage or handling of HPM.

**415.9.10.2 Exhaust ventilation systems.** Exhaust ventilation systems are allowed to be designed to operate at not less than one-half the normal fan speed on the emergency power system where it is demonstrated that the level of exhaust will maintain a safe atmosphere.

**415.9.11 Sprinkler system protection in exhaust ducts for HPM.**

**415.9.11.1 General.** Automatic sprinkler system protection shall be provided in exhaust ducts conveying vapors, fumes, mists or dusts generated from HPM in accordance with this section and the *International Mechanical Code*.

**415.9.11.2 Metallic and noncombustible, nonmetallic exhaust ducts.** Automatic sprinkler system protection shall be provided in metallic and noncombustible, non-metallic exhaust ducts where all of the following conditions apply:

1. Where the largest cross-sectional diameter is equal to or greater than 10 inches (254 mm).
2. The ducts are within the building.
3. The ducts are conveying flammable vapors or fumes.

**415.9.11.3 Combustible nonmetallic exhaust ducts.** Automatic sprinkler system protection shall be provided in combustible nonmetallic exhaust ducts where the largest cross-sectional diameter of the duct is equal to or greater than 10 inches (254 mm).

**Exceptions:**

1. Ducts listed or approved for applications without automatic fire sprinkler system protection.
2. Ducts not more than 12 feet (3658 mm) in length installed below ceiling level.

**415.9.11.4 Automatic sprinkler locations.** Sprinkler systems shall be installed at 12-foot (3658 mm) intervals in horizontal ducts and at changes in direction. In vertical ducts, sprinklers shall be installed at the top and at alternate floor levels.

## [F] SECTION 416

### APPLICATION OF FLAMMABLE FINISHES

**416.1 General.** The provisions of this section shall apply to the construction, installation and use of buildings and structures, or parts thereof, for the spraying of flammable paints, varnishes and lacquers or other flammable materials or mixtures or compounds used for painting, varnishing, staining or similar purposes. Such construction and equipment shall comply with the *International Fire Code*.

**416.2 Spray rooms.** Spray rooms shall be enclosed with fire barrier walls and horizontal assemblies or both with not less than a 1-hour fire-resistance rating. Floors shall be waterproofed and drained in an approved manner.

**416.2.1 Surfaces.** The interior surfaces of spray rooms shall be smooth and shall be so constructed to permit the free passage of exhaust air from all parts of the interior and to facilitate washing and cleaning, and shall be so designed to

confine residues within the room. Aluminum shall not be used.

**416.3 Spraying spaces.** Spraying spaces shall be ventilated with an exhaust system to prevent the accumulation of flammable mist or vapors in accordance with the *International Mechanical Code*. Where such spaces are not separately enclosed, noncombustible spray curtains shall be provided to restrict the spread of flammable vapors.

**416.3.1 Surfaces.** The interior surfaces of spraying spaces shall be smooth and continuous without edges, and shall be so constructed to permit the free passage of exhaust air from all parts of the interior and to facilitate washing and cleaning, and shall be so designed to confine residues within the spraying space. Aluminum shall not be used.

**416.4 Fire protection.** An automatic fire-extinguishing system shall be provided in all spray, dip and immersing spaces and storage rooms, and shall be installed in accordance with Chapter 9.

#### [F] SECTION 417 DRYING ROOMS

**417.1 General.** A drying room or dry kiln installed within a building shall be constructed entirely of approved noncombustible materials or assemblies of such materials regulated by the approved rules or as required in the general and specific sections of Chapter 4 for special occupancies and where applicable to the general requirements of Chapter 28.

**417.2 Piping clearance.** Overhead heating pipes shall have a clearance of not less than 2 inches (51 mm) from combustible contents in the dryer.

**417.3 Insulation.** Where the operating temperature of the dryer is 175°F (79°C) or more, metal enclosures shall be insulated from adjacent combustible materials by not less than 12 inches (305 mm) of airspace, or the metal walls shall be lined with 1/4-inch (6.35 mm) insulating mill board or other approved equivalent insulation.

**417.4 Fire protection.** Drying rooms designed for high-hazard materials and processes, including special occupancies as provided for in Chapter 4, shall be protected by an approved automatic fire-extinguishing system complying with the provisions of Chapter 9.

#### [F] SECTION 418 ORGANIC COATINGS

**418.1 Building features.** Manufacturing of organic coatings shall be done only in buildings that do not have pits or basements.

**418.2 Location.** Organic coating manufacturing operations and operations incidental to or connected therewith shall not be located in buildings having other occupancies.

**418.3 Process mills.** Mills operating with close clearances and that process flammable and heat-sensitive materials, such as nitrocellulose, shall be located in a detached building or noncombustible structure.

**418.4 Tank storage.** Storage areas for flammable and combustible liquid tanks inside of structures shall be located at or above grade and shall be separated from the processing area by not less than 2-hour fire-resistance-rated fire barriers.

**418.5 Nitrocellulose storage.** Nitrocellulose storage shall be located on a detached pad or in a separate structure or a room enclosed with no less than 2-hour fire-resistance-rated fire barriers.

**418.6 Finished products.** Storage rooms for finished products that are flammable or combustible liquids shall be separated from the processing area by fire barriers having a fire-resistance rating of at least 2 hours, and openings in the walls shall be protected with approved opening protectives.

#### SECTION 419 ADULT AND CHILD DAY CARE

##### 419.1 Exits.

**419.1.1 Location.** Rooms where occupants receive care in Group I-4 and R-3 adult and child day care facilities shall be on the level of exit discharge.

**419.1.2 Number of exits.** Group E and Group R-4 adult and child day care facilities shall have two exits.

**Exception:** Rooms where occupants receive care are located on the level of exit discharge and each of these rooms has an exit door directly to the exterior.

**419.1.3 Walls and ceilings.** All walls and ceilings in rooms which are used for day care purposes and are part of the exiting path shall have surfaces of noncombustible construction (plaster or gypsum wallboard).

**419.2 Ventilation.** Rooms where occupants receive care in Group R-4 adult and child day care facilities shall comply with the ventilation requirements of Section 1203 of this code.

**419.3 Portable fire extinguishers.** In Group R-3 and R-4 adult and child day care facilities, at least one 2-A:10-B:C fire extinguisher shall be provided per floor with a maximum of 40 feet (12 190 mm) travel distance to the extinguisher.

#### SECTION 420 PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**420.1 Boiler rooms in public schools.** Every fuel storage room and boiler room shall be separated by 2-hour-rated construction. Door openings shall be to the exterior and all penetrations to the interior of the building shall be protected.

**420.2 Open flame heating appliances in public schools.** Every comfort heating appliance installed within a building which produces an unprotected open flame shall be separated by 2-hour-rated construction. Direct vent tubular infrared heaters installed in gymnasiums at a minimum height of 20 feet, (6096 mm) measured from the finished floor to the bottom of the unit, shall be permitted.

**420.3 Group E in churches, private schools and public schools.** Rooms used for first grade children and younger shall be located on the level of exit discharge. Rooms used for sec-

ond grade children shall not be located more than one story above the level of exit discharge.

## **SECTION 421 LICENSED RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES**

**421.1 Classification.** Buildings in which more than three people are harbored for medical, charitable or other care or treatment shall be classified as Residential Care Facilities. The state agency having jurisdiction shall classify the facility as a Residential Care Home, Small Residential Care Facility, Small Nonambulatory Care Facility or Large Residential Care Facility.

**421.1.1** Fire extinguishers shall be installed in licensed residential care facilities in accordance with the North Carolina Fire Prevention Code.

**421.1.2** Where two exits are required, the exits or exit access doors shall be located and constructed to minimize the possibility that both may be blocked by any one fire or other emergency condition.

**421.2 Residential care homes.** Homes keeping no more than six adults or six unrestrained children who are able to respond and evacuate the facility without assistance, determined by the state agency having jurisdiction to be licensable, shall be classified as Single Family Residential (North Carolina Residential Code).

**421.2.1** Each normally occupied story of the facility shall have two remotely located exits.

**421.2.2** Smoke detectors shall be provided on all levels per the North Carolina Residential Code.

**421.2.3** Interior wall and ceiling finish shall be Class A, B or C.

**421.2.4** Unvented fuel-fired heaters and portable electric heaters shall not be used.

**421.3 Small residential care facilities.** Facilities, when determined by the State Agency having jurisdiction to be licensable, shall be classified as Single-Family Residential.

1. Residential care facilities keeping no more than six adults or six unrestrained children with no more than three who are unable to respond and evacuate without assistance.
2. Residential care facilities keeping no more than five adults or five children who are unable to respond and evacuate without assistance, when certifiable for Medicaid reimbursement, and when staffed 24-hours per day with at least two staff awake at all times.
3. Residential care facilities keeping no more than nine adults or nine children who are able to respond and evacuate without assistance.

**421.3.1** Either the building shall be of 1-hour fire-resistant construction including all walls, partitions, floors and ceilings, and bedroom doors shall be 1.75 inches (44.5 mm) solid wood core or the building shall be sprinklered with a wet pipe system in accordance with NFPA 13D with a 30-minute water supply including bathrooms, toilets, clos-

ets, pantries, storage and utility spaces. The sprinkler system shall be monitored per Section 903.4 (Section 903.4, Exception 1 is not applicable in this occupancy).

**421.3.2** Buildings shall not exceed two stories in height or the area limitations for Group R-4. Attics and basements used as habitable spaces shall be counted as stories.

**421.3.3** Each normally occupied story of the facility shall have two remotely located exits.

**421.3.4** Facility exit stairways shall be either exterior unenclosed or interior enclosed on each level with 1-hour fire resistant construction and a self-closing 20-minute labeled door. Other interior stairways shall be enclosed on one floor level with 1-hour fire-resistant walls and self-closing 20-minute labeled door.

**421.3.5** Smoke detectors shall be provided on all levels per the North Carolina Residential Code. Heat detectors shall be installed in all attic spaces. The heat detectors shall be connected to the fire alarm and detection system.

**421.3.6** Any incidental use area (as defined by Table 302.1.1) shall be enclosed with 1-hour fire-resistant construction and self-closing 20-minute labeled door or provided with sprinklers and smoke-resistant separation from other areas.

**421.3.7** A building fire alarm system shall be provided in accordance with NFPA 72. Provisions shall be made to activate the internal evacuation alarm at all required exits.

**421.3.8** Interior wall and ceiling finish shall be gypsum wallboard, plaster or other noncombustible material.

**421.3.9** Unvented fuel-fired heaters, floor furnaces and portable electric heaters shall not be used.

**421.3.10** Occupants younger than 6 years of age shall sleep on the level of exit discharge with adult supervision.

**421.3.11** Every facility shall formulate an evacuation plan (in cooperation with the local fire department) for the protection of all persons in the event of fire, for their evacuation to areas of refuge, and from the building when necessary.

**421.4 Small nonambulatory care facilities.** Facilities keeping no more than six adults or six children who are unable to respond and evacuate without assistance, when determined by the state agency having jurisdiction to be licensable, shall comply with the requirements for small residential care facilities.

**421.4.1** The building shall be sprinklered with a wet pipe system in accordance with NFPA 13D with a 30-minute water supply including bathrooms, toilets, closets, pantries, storage and utility spaces. The sprinkler system shall be monitored per Section 903.4 (Section 903.4, Exception 1 is not applicable in this occupancy).

**421.5 Large residential care facilities.** Facilities keeping no more than 12 residents, when determined by the state agency having jurisdiction to be licensable, shall be classified as Group R-4, residential (North Carolina Building Code).

**421.5.1** The building shall be of 1-hour fire-resistant construction, sprinklered with a wet pipe system in accordance with NFPA 13R including bathrooms, toilets, closets, pantries, storage and utility spaces, and limited to one story in

height. The sprinkler system shall be monitored per Section 903.4 (Section 903.4, Exception 1 is not applicable in this occupancy.)

**421.5.2** The facility shall have two remotely located exits.

**421.5.3** All doorways subject to use by residents shall have a clear width of not less than 32 inches (813 mm) when the door is in the open position.

**421.5.4** Required corridors, ramps, and passageways shall have a clear width of not less than 6 feet (1829 mm) when serving as part of the means of egress from resident areas.

**421.5.5** Buildings may have spaces open to the corridor provided:

1. Each area does not exceed 250 square feet (23.2 m<sup>2</sup>).
2. The spaces are not used for patient sleeping rooms, treatment rooms or incidental use areas as defined in Table 302.1.1.
3. The area is equipped with smoke detectors.
4. Not more than one such area is permitted in any one smoke compartment when smoke compartments are provided.
5. The area is arranged not to obstruct access to required exits.

**421.5.6** Unless required otherwise by Section 421.5.8, corridor partitions and doors in corridor partitions need not have a fire resistance rating but shall be designed to resist the passage of smoke. Doors shall be equipped with approved latches that will keep the door tightly closed. All doors except those to patient sleeping rooms shall be self-closing or automatic-closing by smoke detection. Interior wall and ceiling finish shall be gypsum wallboard, plaster or other noncombustible material.

**421.5.7** Corridors shall be provided with smoke detectors. Heat detectors shall be installed in all attic spaces. The heat detectors shall be connected to the fire alarm and detection system.

**421.5.8** Any incidental use area shall comply with the requirements of Table 302.1.1.

**421.5.9** A building fire alarm system shall be provided in accordance with NFPA 72. Provisions shall be made to activate the internal evacuation alarm at all required exits.

**421.5.10** Every facility shall formulate an evacuation plan (in cooperation with the local fire department and community emergency planning authority) for the protection of all persons in the event of the fire, for their evacuation to areas of refuge and from the building when necessary.

