

STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-21-09

July 9, 2009

The following is being offered in response to your letter received June 22, 2009 requesting a formal interpretation. The question applies to Section 1013.3, of the 2003 International Building Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code.

Question 1:

How is the common path of egress travel measured?

Answer 1:

The common path of egress travel is the distance beginning from the most remote point in a space/or room to the point in the exit path where the occupant has access to two required exits in separate directions. Access to each separate exit direction is typically indicated by exit directional signage.

Scenario A:

Building with use groups B, F-2 and S-2 equipped with automatic sprinkler system permitted per Section 1013.3 to have a 100 foot common path of egress travel. One enclosed room exits into a vestibule which exits into an open space which has two available exit paths to two separate building exits. Sketch provided shows 'point X' travel distance measured of 74'-0" and 'point Y' locations.

Question A-2:

At what point is the common path of egress travel determined? Is it point "X" or point "Y"?

Answer A-2:

The point in the exit path where the occupant has access to two exits in separate directions is at point "X". At the submitted sketch plan, the building occupant can travel East or South to exits from point "X" shown.

I-21-09

