

## STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO: I-13-10

September 29, 2010

The following is being offered in response to your letter dated September 9, 2010 in which you seek a formal interpretation. This question would apply to Section 1013.2, of the 2003 International Building Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code.

Question:

“Does the code permit an exit route to pass through a loading dock?”

Scenario:

The building in question is a one story unlimited area building. The building is an unseparated mixed use with occupancies including B-Business, F1-Moderate Hazard Factory/Industrial and S1-Moderate Hazard Storage.

Answer:

The concern here is whether or not the loading dock is also a storage room. The code does not permit building occupants egress through a storage room. The reasoning is this type of situation could place the exiting occupants in a potential risk situation where there could be an accelerated fire build-up condition.

Section 1013.2, of the above referenced Code, states in part that *“Egress from a room or space shall not pass through adjoining or intervening rooms or areas, except where such adjoining rooms or areas are accessory to the area served; are not a high hazard occupancy and provide a discernible path of egress travel to an exit. Egress shall not pass through kitchens, storage rooms, closets or spaces used for similar purposes. An exit access shall not pass through a room that can be locked to prevent egress.”* Therefore, if the above noted stipulations noted in Section 1013.2 are met, an exit route can pass through a loading dock.