
2003/2004 INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE
HEARING RESULTS

M1-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The term "special conditions" is vague and undefined. The requirement is overly restrictive and could create conflicts with existing state and local ordinances concerning construction documents.

Assembly Action: None

M2-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: Disapproved in favor of M3-03/04.

Assembly Action: None

M3-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M4-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M5-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: No evidence was presented to assure the committee that all direct-vent appliances isolate the ignition source from the room in which the appliance is located.

Assembly Action: None

M6-03/04

Item 1 (IMC)

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The vapors would be a hazard with portable or permanently installed dryers. Either could ignite the vapors.

Assembly Action: None

Item 2 (IRC)

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: Clothes dryers are not portable appliances and should be covered by the code.

Assembly Action: None

M7-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Modified

Modify proposal as follows:

304.3. Elevation of ignition source. Equipment and appliances having an ignition source and located in hazardous locations and public garages, private garages, repair garages, automotive motor-fuel-dispensing facilities and parking garages shall be elevated such that the source of ignition is not less than 18 inches (457 mm) above the floor surface on which the equipment or appliance rests. Such equipment and appliances shall not be installed in Use Group H occupancies or control areas where open use, handling or dispensing of combustible, flammable or explosive materials occurs. For the purpose of this section, rooms or spaces that are not part of the living space of a dwelling unit and that communicate directly with a private garage through openings shall be considered to be part of the private garage. ~~Rooms or spaces that communicate directly with a parking garage through openings and that contain fuel-burning appliances shall also comply with Section 406.2.8 of the International Building Code.~~

304.3.1 Parking garages. 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, except that a single door is permitted where the sources of ignition in the appliance are elevated in accordance with Section 304.3.

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason. The modification deletes the new proposed language and adds the IBC language for parking garage connections.

Assembly Action: None

M8-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed wall would not provide enough protection and could create a tripping hazard if service personnel back into it.

Assembly Action: None

M9-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Modified

Modify proposal as follows:

304.10 Guards. Guards shall be provided where appliances, equipment, fans, roof hatch openings and other components that require service ~~roof access openings~~ are located within 10 feet (3048 mm) of a roof edge or open side of a walking surface and such edge or open side is located more than 30 inches (762 mm) above the floor, roof or grade below. The guard shall extend not less than 30 inches (762 mm) beyond each end of such appliances, equipment, fans, roof hatch openings or components ~~and roof access openings~~ and the top of the guard shall be located not less than 42 inches (1067 mm) above the elevated surface adjacent to the guard. The guard shall be constructed so as to prevent the passage of a 21-inch-diameter (533 mm) sphere and shall comply with the loading requirements for guards specified in the *International Building Code*.

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason. The modification clarifies that only roof hatch openings are intended to be included in this section, not other types of roof access openings such as doors.

Assembly Action: None

M10-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: Disapproved in favor of M14-03/04.

Assembly Action: None

M11-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed language would be difficult to enforce. Equipment security should be addressed in the installation instructions or the standards.

Assembly Action: None

M12-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The change is unnecessary; the standards for this equipment already address secondary drains.

Assembly Action: None

M13-03/04

Item 1 (IMC)

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The phrase "located above the overflow rim" would preclude the installation of HVAC equipment in attics where all of the ductwork is installed below the equipment.

Assembly Action: None

Item 2 (IRC)

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: This would be an unnecessary and overly restrictive requirement.

Assembly Action: None

M14-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M15-03/04

Item 1 (IMC)

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason. This will provide another option for the installer.

Assembly Action: None

Item 2 (IRC)

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: This is a good option for the installer that is frequently used in the field now and should be in the code.

Assembly Action: None

M16-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M17-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M18-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: It is not necessary to correlate the two sections of the code. Section 804.3.5 is only applicable to vents.

Assembly Action: None

M19-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed language would be difficult to enforce. Equipment security should be addressed on a case-by-case basis for buildings susceptible to terrorist attack. It should not be a base requirement for all buildings.

Assembly Action: None

M20-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Modified

Modify proposal as follows:

403.2 Outdoor air required. The minimum ventilation rate of required outdoor air shall be determined in accordance with Section 403.3.

Exception: Where ~~the~~ a registered design professional demonstrates that an engineered ventilation system is designed in accordance with either the Ventilation Rate Procedure or the Indoor Air Quality Procedure of ASHRAE 62, the minimum required rate of outdoor air shall be permitted to be as specified in such engineered system design.

Committee Reason: Provides a direct reference to design methods to assist the design professional and the code official in evaluating alternate design methods. The modification adds specific design methods within ASHRAE 62.

Assembly Action: Disapproved

M21-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The addendum to ASHRAE 62 was not completed for committee consideration.

Assembly Action: None

M22-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed change does not address supply or makeup air to replace the air exhausted from the vehicle wash system.

Assembly Action: None

M23-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M24-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: No substantiation was provided to support this proposal. There are already provisions for natural ventilation in the code which could be applied in this situation.

Assembly Action: None

M25-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed change is an inappropriate application of the intermittent occupancy provision of ASHRAE 62.

Assembly Action: None

M26-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed change is an inappropriate application of the intermittent occupancy provision of ASHRAE 62.

Assembly Action: None

M27-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed change is an inappropriate application of the intermittent occupancy provision of ASHRAE 62. The 3 hour duration is very difficult to enforce.

Assembly Action: None

M28-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed change is an inappropriate application of the intermittent occupancy provision of ASHRAE 62. The 3 hour duration is very difficult to enforce.

Assembly Action: None

M29-03/04

Withdrawn by Proponent

M30-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Modified

Modify proposal as follows:

TABLE 403.3

REQUIRED OUTDOOR VENTILATION AIR

(No change to table)

(No change to notes a through c)

d. Ventilation systems in enclosed parking garages shall comply with Section 404.

(No change to notes e through g)

404.1 Enclosed parking garages. Mechanical ventilation systems for enclosed parking garages are not required to operate continuously where the system is arranged to operate automatically upon detection of a concentration of carbon monoxide of 25 parts per million (ppm) by approved automatic detection devices.

~~In garages having a floor area not exceeding 850 square feet and used for the storage of not more than four vehicles or trucks of 1 ton capacity, ventilation shall be by natural ventilation or a mechanical ventilation system.~~

~~**404.2 System operation.**—Mechanical ventilation systems for enclosed parking garages are not required to operate continuously where the system is arranged to operate automatically upon detection of a concentration of carbon monoxide of 25 parts per million (ppm) by approved automatic detection devices.~~

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason. The modification reinstates the existing language for Section 404.1 and deletes the new proposed language for Sections 404.1 and 404.2. The revision to Note d of Table 403.3 was approved as proposed

Assembly Action: None

M31-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Modified

Modify proposal as follows:

403.3.1 System operation. The minimum flow rate of outdoor air that the ventilation system must be capable of supplying during its operation shall be permitted to be based on the rate per person indicated in Table 403.3 and the actual number of occupants present.

Exception: Where the occupants are the primary source of pollutants in a space, the flow rate of outdoor air provided by the ventilation system shall be permitted to be modulated such that it maintains the concentration of CO₂ in the occupied space at a level that is not greater than 700 parts per million (ppm) higher than the CO₂ concentration in the outdoor air. The occupants shall be considered the primary source of pollutants in assembly occupancies.

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason. The modification deletes the word "exception" and makes the new language a second paragraph instead of an exception.

Assembly Action: None

M32-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed change is an inappropriate application of the intermittent occupancy provision of ASHRAE 62. The 3 hour duration is very difficult to enforce.

Assembly Action: None

M33-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: No standards were submitted for the committee's review. Maintaining balancing documents at the site would be difficult to enforce.

Assembly Action: None

M34-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The list of information to be included in the manual is overly restrictive and should be controlled by the applicable standard rather than the code.

Assembly Action: None

M35-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M36-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M37-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M38-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposal is not extensive enough; it only covers pistol and small bore rifle ranges. There are many more types of firing ranges that are not covered.

Assembly Action: None

M39-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: If the dryer is not on the jobsite at the time of inspection, the inspector will have no guidance in applying the makeup air requirements.

Assembly Action: None

M40-03/04

Item 1 (IMC)

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: This proposal is overly restrictive; there is no need to include the transition duct in the overall length.

Assembly Action: None

Item 2 (IRC)

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The extra 6 to 8 feet of dryer exhaust duct length provided by the transition duct is often necessary for the installer to reach the outdoors with the exhaust. The proponents did not provide adequate evidence that the transition duct should be included in the overall length.

Assembly Action: None

M41-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The inspector should not be limited to only one test method. There are other methods readily available.

Assembly Action: None

M42-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The current 40 inch clearance from the discharge opening to the roof surface adequately protects the roof from heat damage from the exhaust.

Assembly Action: None

M43-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed language is too confusing. The committee preferred the language in M44-03/04.

Assembly Action: None

M44-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M45-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M46-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Identifying a specific standard simplifies the approval process for the designer and the code official. The proposed standard complies with ICC requirements.

Assembly Action: None

M47-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M48-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposal does not address control of odors or moisture. The action taken is consistent with those taken on M49-03/04 and M50-03/04.

Assembly Action: None

M49-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Modified

Modify proposal as follows:

507.2.2. Type II hoods. Type II hoods shall be installed where cooking or dishwashing appliances produce heat or steam and do not produce grease or smoke, such as steamers, kettles, pasta cookers and dishwashing machines.

Exceptions: (no change to 1 and 2)

3. A single light-duty electric convection, bread, retherm or microwave oven. ~~designed for installation on a counter or that is enclosed on five sides in a counter, provided that such~~

~~appliances do not increase the ambient temperature more than 40° F at a distance greater than 5 feet away from such appliance during operation.~~

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason. The modification simplifies the code language; the proposed 10°F temperature increase was considered too difficult to enforce.

Assembly Action: None

M50-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed term "heat-producing appliances" is too broad and could result in inconsistent enforcement of the code.

Assembly Action: None

M51-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M52-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: Section 507.2.2 already requires installation in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. The proposed exception is redundant with the engineered systems allowance of the code.

Assembly Action: None

M53-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M54-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M55-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: NFPA 45 was not submitted for review. Locating the exception in Section 510.1, General, would preclude the enforcement of any other sections of 510 such as the fire suppression requirements of Section 510.7. The language was considered difficult to enforce.

Assembly Action: None

M56-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M57-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason. It clarifies which type of systems are covered by this section.

Assembly Action: None

M58-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: No evidence was presented that the air admittance valve had been tested in a plenum as part of a plumbing system.

Assembly Action: None

M59-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed term "self-extinguishing" is not defined. The proposal does not address the attachment of the wrap material.

Assembly Action: None

M60-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed term "discreet products" is not defined and could result in inconsistent enforcement of the code.

Assembly Action: None

M61-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: There is no guidance provided for other aspects of vacuum cleaning systems, such as sizing of ducts. There was a concern about eliminating fire dampers for these ducts but requiring them for other ducts that penetrate a rated wall. The committee questioned if this section is the appropriate location in the code for vacuum cleaning ducts.

Assembly Action: None

M62-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M63-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M64-03/04

Committee Action: Approved as Submitted

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: None

M65-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed change is redundant with other sections of the code and NFPA 72 that already address some of the same sprinkler and smoke detector issues.

Assembly Action: None

M66-03/04

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposed requirement is excessive for a situation that rarely occurs. Rewiring the furnace to meet this requirement could negate the listing of the equipment.

Assembly Action: **None**

M67-03/04

Committee Action: **Approved as Submitted**

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: **None**

M68-03/04

Committee Action: **Approved as Submitted**

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: **None**

M69-03/04

Committee Action: **Approved as Submitted**

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason. This change will make the IMC consistent with requirements in the IPC.

Assembly Action: **None**

M70-03/04

Committee Action: **Approved as Submitted**

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: **None**

M71-03/04

Committee Action: **Disapproved**

Committee Reason: Currently referenced UL 726 is the appropriate standard for oil-fired boilers. Requiring different standards for sub-assemblies is not consistent with current ICC listing requirements.

Assembly Action: **None**

M72-03/04

Committee Action: **Approved as Submitted**

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: **None**

M73-03/04

Committee Action: **Approved as Submitted**

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: **None**

M74-03/04

Committee Action: **Approved as Submitted**

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: **None**

M75-03/04

Committee Action: **Approved as Submitted**

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: **None**

M76-03/04

Item 1 (IMC)

Committee Action: **Approved as Submitted**

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: **None**

Item 2 (IRC)

Committee Action: **Approved as Submitted**

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: **None**

M77-03/04

Committee Action: **Approved as Submitted**

Committee Reason: Based on the proponent's published reason.

Assembly Action: **None**
