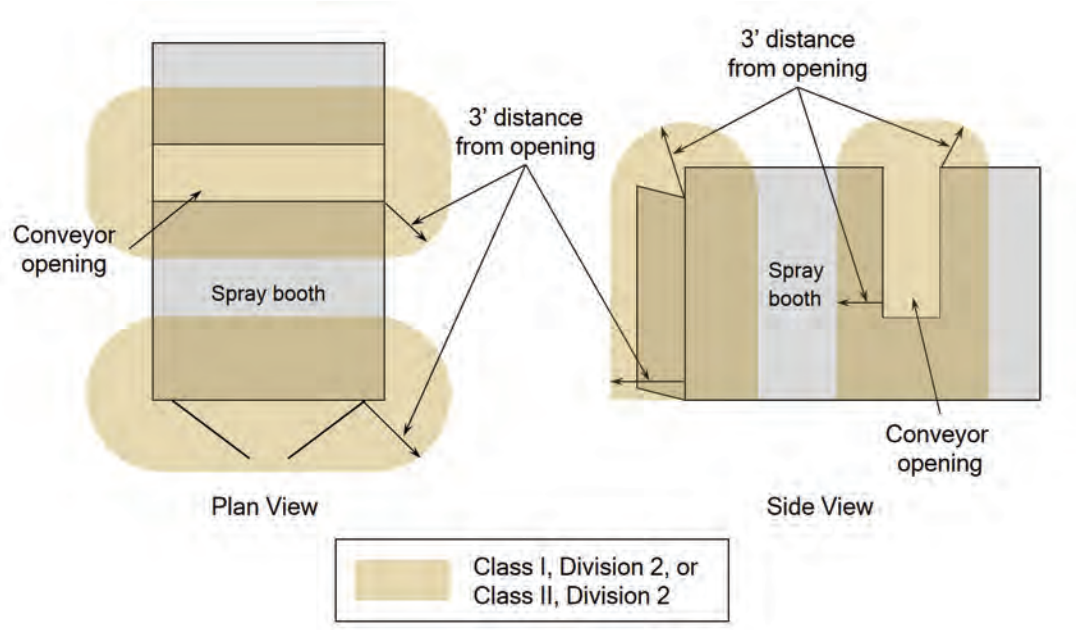
2403.2.1.3

Classified Electrical Areas Around Spray Booths

CHANGE TYPE: Modification

CHANGE SUMMARY: The size of the classified area around spray booth openings is reduced to 3 feet.

2018 CODE: **2403.2.1.3 Areas adjacent to spray booths.** Electrical wiring and equipment located outside of, but within ~~5 feet (1524 mm) horizontally and~~ 3 feet (914 mm) ~~vertically~~ of openings in a spray booth or a spray room, shall be *approved* for Class I, Division 2 or Class II, Division 2 hazardous locations, whichever is applicable.



Classified electrical wiring and equipment is required within 3 feet of openings in spray booths.

CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE: The 2015 *International Fire Code* required that any classified (hazardous) location for electrical wiring and equipment was within a distance of 5 feet horizontally from openings in a spray booth. This distance was reduced to 3 feet in both NFPA 70, *National Electrical Code* and NFPA 33, "Standard for Spray Application Using Flammable or Combustible Materials." Therefore, this revision correlates with the referenced standards.

This reduces the size of the area where classified electrical components are required. As a result of the change in the 2015 IFC which requires monitoring of the atmosphere within the spray booth to a maximum of 25 percent of the lower flammable limit, this area should never be at or above 25 percent of the lower flammable limit. Section 2404.7.1 requires the ventilation system to be operating during all spray activities and to continue when flammable vapors are present.

This excerpt is taken from ***Significant Changes to the International Fire Code®, 2018 Edition***. Significant Changes publications take you directly to the most important changes that impact projects. Key changes are identified then followed by in-depth discussion of how the change affects real-world application. Photos, tables and illustrations are included to further clarify application. Available for the IBC, IRC, IFC and IPC/IMC/IFGC, the Significant Changes publications are very useful training and review tools for transitioning to a new code edition.