

**CHANGE TYPE:** Modification

**CHANGE SUMMARY:** This code section was rewritten to clearly state the intent regarding the prohibited locations for refrigerant piping.

**2018 CODE: 1107.2 Piping location.** Refrigerant piping that crosses an open space that affords passageway in any building shall be not less than 7 feet 3 inches (2210 mm) above the floor unless the piping is located against the ceiling of such space. Refrigerant piping shall not be placed in any of the following: ~~elevator, dumbwaiter or other shaft containing a moving object or in any shaft that has openings to living quarters or to means of egress.~~ Refrigerant piping shall not be installed in an enclosed public stairway, stairway landing or means of egress:

1. A fire-resistance-rated exit access corridor.
2. An interior exit stairway.
3. An interior exit ramp.
4. An exit passageway.
5. An elevator, dumbwaiter or other shaft containing a moving object.
6. A shaft that has one or more openings into a fire-resistance-rated exit access corridor, interior exit stairway or ramp or exit passageway.

**CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE:** Previous editions of the code prohibited refrigerant piping in enclosed public stairways, stairway landings and means of egress. This wording was very ambiguous, especially the reference to “means of egress” and the terminology was inconsistent with the *International Building Code*®. Means of egress is defined as a continuous and unobstructed path of horizontal and vertical egress travel from any occupied portion of a building, thus refrigerant piping would be prohibited almost everywhere in a building. The actual intent was logically assumed to be to prohibit refrigerant piping in exit stairways, exit ramps, exit passageways and fire-resistance-rated exit access corridors. A refrigerant leak in such spaces could jeopardize egress from the building.



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Refrigerant piping is not permitted in an interior exit stairway, among other specified locations.

## 1107.2

### Refrigerant Piping Location



This excerpt is taken from *Significant Changes to the International Plumbing Code®, International Mechanical Code®, International Fuel Gas Code®, 2018 Edition*.

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