

CODE APPLICATION NOTICE**Subject:** Fire-resistive Assemblies
and Construction**FILE NO.:** 9-1401
(Previously 9-8705.4)
EFFECTIVE: 06/19/08**CODE SECTION:** Section 1401, 2007 California Fire Code (CFC)

1401.1 Scope. This chapter shall apply to structures in the course of construction, alteration, or demolition, including those in underground locations. Compliance with NFPA 241 is required for items not specifically addressed herein.

1401.2 Purpose. This chapter prescribes minimum safeguards for construction, alteration, and demolition operations to provide reasonable safety to life and property from fire during such operations.

PURPOSE:

While recognizing the need for construction barriers, the first objective is to ensure the safety of the patients. Dust membranes do not afford any level of fire protection or fire-rated separation to areas remaining occupied during construction. Exit corridors, exit stairs, area separation walls, smoke barriers, etc. are all primary building features designed and installed to produce a "defend in place" and an "area of refuge" as required by the California Building Code for "I" Occupancies. Thus, it is essential that separation be maintained between construction areas and occupied portions of the building.

INTERPRETATION:

In occupied buildings, where temporary construction barriers are required to be installed during the construction or reconstruction of fire-resistive assemblies, temporary construction shall meet the same fire rating as would the permanent partition. Use of plastic or vinyl dust barriers in lieu of fire rated separations is prohibited. Temporary construction barriers are not required where adequate fire-resistive separation can be demonstrated to exist between occupied areas and construction areas.

Where construction barriers affect any exit component, pre-approval shall be obtained from the local fire jurisdiction and OSHPD prior to any demolition or reconstruction.

Original Signed 06/19/08
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