This is only to provide rationale for code change proposals submitted. For final language specific to the 2004 code, more details regarding the sections in the code, and correct wording, please see the 2006 Supplement. Please see the proposed code

CODE CHANGE	RATIONALE	SUMMARY
	BUILDING	
Mod 1628)	Provides definition that was previously defined	Adds a new definition for
202	in the 2001 Florida Building Code. Currently	tenant
TENANT. Any person, agent, firm, corporation or	there is not a definition for a tenant although	
division, who uses or occupies land, a building or	there are specific design requirements for tenant	
portion of a building by title, under a lease, by	spaces.	
payment of rent or who exercises limited control over		
the space.		
(Mod 1486)	The requirements of the high-rise section are	Adds an exception
403.15 Smoke control shall be in accordance with	already required in hospitals. However,	exempting I-2 occupancies
Section 909.	hospitals are required to provide safety features	complying with s. 407, s.
Exception: I-2 occupancies that comply with Section	that other high-rise occupancies do not require	419.3.12, and s. 420.3.16
407, 419.3.12 and 420.3.16 shall not require smoke	(smoke compartments, staff assisted evacuation,	from s. 909 smoke control
control systems in accordance with Section 909.	direct fire department connection). Adding the	systems
	requirements outlined in §403.15 will not	
	increase the level of safety to the building	
	occupants. In fact, mechanical smoke control	
	may cause the spread of infectious diseases	
	where the required pressure differentials	
	required for hospitals and nursing homes is	
	eliminated by the smoke control system	
	operation.	
	This proposal was originally made to the Fire	
	TAC Committee in June 16-19, 2003 and was	
	accepted. The fact that this requirement	
	remains in the code is an unintended	
	consequence of the change of the Base Code	
	from the SBC to the IBC.	

change modifications for text submitted for consideration by the Florida Building Commission.

(Mod 1732)	Editorial change to clarity and enhance the	Adds "as adopted by
(14100 1732)	Cala	FEDC" - fter NEDA 101
420.3.3.0 Solied utility of solied notating room(s) shall $1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 $	Code	FFPC aller NFPA 101.
be provided. The solied utility function shall be		
comprised of a flushing rim clinical service sink with		
bedpan rinsing device, a double compartment sink,		
soiled linen receptacles, waste receptacles and a work		
counter with a usable minimum work surface area of 6		
square feet $(0.56 \text{ m}2)$. The total minimum size of the		
function shall be 80 square feet (7.43 m2) and may be		
allocated among several soiled utility or soiled holding		
rooms. Rooms used only for the holding of soiled		
materials need contain only a hand washing facility.		
All rooms utilized for the holding of soiled materials		
shall meet the requirements for hazardous areas as		
required by NFPA 101, Life Safety Code as adopted		
by Florida Fire Prevention Code.		
(Mod 1475)	We understand this section applies to the roof	Adds "fire retardant
704.2.3 Combustible projections. Combustible	eaves of a building. There is an inconsistency	treated wood"
projections located where openings are not permitted	between what is allowed for a balcony or	
or where protection of openings is required shall be of	similar projection and the eave of a building.	
at least 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction, fire	Section 1406.3 regulates balconies and similar	
retardant treated wood, Type IV construction or as	projections. The section requires the balcony or	
required by Section 1406.3.	similar projection to have the same rating as the	
Exception: (No change to current text)	floor in the building unless it is FRTW or Type	
	IV construction. The proposed revision will	
	make the two sections consistent. It is currently	
	possible to have a	
	balcony constructed of FRTW and require the	
	eave to have a one-hour fire resistance.	
	The proposed use is consistent with those	

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	already recognized by the building code. FRTW's unique properties reduce the chance of a fire spreading or continuing after the source of	
	ignition is removed.	
	This was approved by the ICC in 2004. Adoption will bring the Florida Building Code	
	in line with the 2003 with 2004 revisions.	
(Mod 1291)	This is a correction to an unintended	Adds an exception
708.1 General	consequence resulting from a Fl specific change	exempting fire resistant
The following wall assemblies shall comply with this	in the 2004 FBC to by inserting a new #5	ratings for tenant wall
section.	requiring tenant separation walls. The base IBC	separations in aircraft
1. Walls separating dwelling units in the same	did not require tenant separation walls. The Fl	hangers.
building.	specific change did not anticipate the impact on	
2. Walls separating sleeping units in occupancies in	Chapter 4 occupancy types.	
Group R-1, hotel occupancies, R-2 and 1-1.		
3. Walls separating tenant spaces in covered mall		
buildings as required by Section 402.7.2.		
4. Collidor walls as required by section 1010.1.		
Fxcentions .		
1. In Group B and S occupancies walls used to		
separate tenants shall not be required to have		
fire-resistance rating, provided no area between		
fire partitions having a 1-hour fire-resistance		
rating exceeds 3,000 square feet (279 m 2).		
2. In aircraft hangar occupancies walls used to		
separate tenants shall not be required to have a fire		
resistance rating, provided the aircraft hanger is		

constructed in accordance with the requirements of		
<u>section 412.2.</u>		
(Mod 1557)	The protection requested is already required for	Adds a new section for
708.4.1Roof Construction. When the fire partition is	townhouses. It is inconsistent to require this	fire partitions continuous
continuous to the underside of the roof sheathing in	protection for one class of residential	to the underside of the
occupancies of Groups R-1, R-2 and R-3 as applicable	construction but not for apartments, condos, or	roof sheathing.
in Section 101.2, in Type III, IV and V construction	hotels and motels.	
the following shall be provided:		
708.4.1.1 Roof Sheathing. The roof sheathing or deck		
shall be of approved noncombustible materials or of		
fire-retardant-treated wood, for a distance of 4 feet		
<u>(1220 mm); or</u>		
708.4.1.2 Roof Protection. The roof shall be protected		
with 0.625-inch (15.88 mm) Type X gypsum board		
directly beneath the underside of the roof sheathing or		
deck, supported by a minimum of nominal 2-inch (51		
mm) ledgers attached to the sides of the roof framing		
members, for a minimum distance of 4 feet (1220		
<u>mm).</u>		
(Mod 1540)	During the review process for the adoption of	Adds floor assemblies
711.3 Fire-resistance rating. The fire-resistance	the 2004 FBC there was a clear intent of the	separating individual
rating of floor and roof assemblies shall not be less	Technical Advisory Committee, after much	tenant spaces in the same
than that required by the building type of construction.	discussion, to maintain the tenant separation	building, and an exception
Where the floor assembly separates mixed	requirements of the previous edition of the	exempting individual
occupancies, the assembly shall have a fire-resistance	FBC. To this end Section 708.1 of the 2004	tenant space separations in
rating of not less than that required by Section 302.3.2	FBC was amended to insert the previous code	covered mall buildings
based on the occupancies being separated. Where the	wording as item 5. An oversight was made in	from fire resistance rating
floor assembly separates a single occupancy into	that this section only deal with partitions and	requirements.
different fire areas, the assembly shall have a fire-	not horizontal separations. It is apparent that	
resistance rating of not less than that required by	the horizontal separation requirements of items	

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Section 706.3.7. Floor assemblies separating dwelling	1 and 2, dwelling and sleeping units, are	
units in the same building or sleeping units in	coordinated with Section 711.3 to accomplish a	
occupancies in Group R-1, hotel occupancies, R-2 and	complete tenant separation envelope. It is	
I-1; and floor assemblies separating individual tenant	apparent that an additional exception is required	
spaces in the same building in all other occupancies	for covered mall tenant separations since no	
shall be a minimum of 1-hour fire-resistance-rated	action was taken to eliminate the exception for	
construction.	covered malls, Section 708.4, Exception 4.	
	Without the proposed glitch amendment, the	
Exceptions:	original intend of the TAC and Commission is	
<u>1.</u> Dwelling unit and sleeping unit separations in	not obtained.	
buildings of Type IIB, IIIB, and VB construction		
shall have fire-resistance ratings of not less than		
¹ / ₂ hour in buildings equipped throughout with an		
automatic sprinkler system in accordance with		
Section 903.3.1.1.		
2. Individual tenant space separations in		
buildings of Type IIB, IIIB and VB construction		
in covered mall buildings are not required to have		
a fire-resistance rating.		
(Mod 1538)	This language has existed in the Standard	Adds section requiring
712.5 Fire walls, Fire Barriers, Fire Partitions, Smoke	Building Code since and the 2001 Florida	signs or stenciling for
Barriers and Smoke partitions or any other wall	Building Code. It is a valuable tool in	walls required to have
required to have protected openings shall be	maintaining fire and smoke walls free of	protected openings
effectively and permanently identified with signs or	unprotected penetrations.	
stenciling in a manner acceptable to the Authority		
having Jurisdiction. Such identification shall be above		
any decorative ceiling and in concealed spaces.		
Suggested wording for fire and smoke barriers: "FIRE		
AND SMOKE BARRIER – PROTECT ALL		

<u>OPENINGS</u> ."		
(Mod 1727)	Editorial change to clarity and enhance the	Adds "as adopted by
903.6.2	Code	FFPC" after NFPA 101.
NFPA 101 as adopted by Florida Fire Prevention		
<u>Code</u> , as regarding the requirements for fire protection		
sprinklers, is applicable to all multiple-family		
residential buildings, whether designated as		
townhouses, condominiums, apartment houses,		
tenements, garden apartments or by any other name.		
The attorney general has determined that for the		
purpose of the fire protection sprinkler requirements in		
Section 553.895(2), Florida Statutes, townhouses that		
are three or more stories tall and consist of three or		
more units together are multiple-family dwellings.		
Therefore, these types of townhouses are not exempt		
from being considered for the requirements to provide		
fire protection sprinklers (even if there are any other		
definitions that define a townhouse as a single-family		
residence). When determining whether townhouses		
require fire protection sprinkler systems, the building		
official must consider in parallel: (a) the attorney		
general's opinion defining the statutory language for		
townhouses; (b) the building code requirements,		
including all life-safety chapters, that provide		
additional determining criteria, such as construction		
types, fire-resistance, fire protection systems and		
egress; and (c) the NFPA 101 as adopted by FFPC		
egress and protection determining criteria. The more		
restrictive criteria are then applied.		
(Mod 1910)	The provision being modified is a Florida	Adds text such that the

change mounteations for text submit	ted for consideration by the Florida Danang ex	///////////////////////////////////////
1008.1.3.6	Specific amendment to allow the temporary	means of escape shall not
The temporary installation or closure of storm	installation of hurricane protection devices over	be located within a first
shutters, panels and other approved hurricane	emergency escape and rescue openings during	floor garage without a
protection devices shall be permitted on emergency	the threat of hurricanes. The prohibition against	side-hinged door leading
escape and rescue openings in Group R occupancies	using the garage as part of the means of escape	directly to the exterior.
during the threat of a storm. Such devices shall not be	does not take into account the presence of side	
required to comply with the operational constraints of	hinged doors leading directly to the exterior.	
Section 1025.4. While such protection is provided, at	While rolling overhead doors may pose a	
least one means of escape from the dwelling or	problem during a storm, side hinged doors	
dwelling unit shall be provided. The means of escape	would provide a safer passage than panels	
shall be within the first floor of the dwelling or	requiring unscrewing and removal from the	
dwelling unit and shall not be located within a garage	inside and providing a minimal space for	
without a side-hinged door leading directly to the	passage. In addition, the building code will now	
exterior. Occupants in any part of the dwelling or	permit doors other than side hinged doors as	
dwelling unit shall be able to access the means of	means of egress and exit doors in R-2 and R-3	
escape without passing through a lockable door not	Occupancies. (See FBCB Section 1008.1.2.)	
under their control.		
(Mod 1728)	Editorial change to clarity and enhance the	Adds "as adopted by
1024.6.2 Smoke-protected seating.	Code	FFPC" after NFPA 101.
The clear width of the means of egress for smoke-		
protected assembly seating shall be not less than the		
occupant load served by the egress element multiplied		
by the appropriate factor in Table 1024.6.2. The total		
number of seats specified shall be those within a single		
assembly space and exposed to the same smoke-		
protected environment. Interpolation is permitted		
between the specific values shown. A life safety		
evaluation, complying with NFPA 101 as adopted by		
Florida Fire Prevention Code, shall be done for a		
facility utilizing the reduced width requirements of		

FIRE

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Table 1024.6.2 for smoke-protected assembly seating.		
Exception: For an outdoor smoke-protected assembly		
with an occupant load not greater than 18,000, the		
clear width shall be determined using the factors in		
Section 1024.6.3.		
	RESIDENTIAL	
(Mod 1564)	Rationale: inserting the word exterior to the	Adds the word, exterior, to
202	definitions clarifies the intent of an "emergency	the definition of
EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE	escape and rescue opening" is to the outside of	emergency escape and
OPENING. An operable <u>exterior</u> window, door or	the dwelling.	rescue opening.
similar device that provides for a means of escape and		
access for rescue in the event of an emergency.		
(Mod 1910)	The provision being modified is a Florida	Adds text such that the
R310.4 Bars, grills, covers and screens.	Specific amendment to allow the temporary	means of escape shall not
Bars, grills, covers, screens or similar devices are	installation of hurricane protection devices over	be located within a first
permitted to be placed over emergency escape and	emergency escape and rescue openings during	floor garage without a
rescue openings, bulkhead enclosures, or window	the threat of hurricanes. The prohibition against	side-hinged door leading
wells that serve such openings, provided the minimum	using the garage as part of the means of escape	directly to the exterior.
net clear opening size complies with Sections	does not take into account the presence of side	
R310.1.1 to R310.1.3, and such devices shall be	hinged doors leading directly to the exterior.	
releasable or removable from the inside without the	While rolling overhead doors may pose a	
use of a key, tool or force greater than that which is	problem during a storm, side hinged doors	
required for normal operation of the escape and rescue	would provide a safer passage than panels	
opening. The temporary installation or closure of	requiring unscrewing and removal from the	
storm shutters, panels, and other approved hurricane	inside and providing a minimal space for	
protection devices shall be permitted on emergency	passage. In addition, the building code will now	
escape and rescue openings during the threat of a	permit doors other than side hinged doors as	
storm. Such devices shall not be required to comply	means of egress and exit doors in R-2 and R-3	
with the operational constraints of Section R310.1.4.	Occupancies. (See FBCB Section 1008.1.2.)	
While such protection is provided, at least one means		

FIRE

of escape from the dwelling or dwelling unit shall be		
provided. The means of escape shall be within the first		
floor of the dwelling or dwelling unit and shall not be		
located within a garage without a side hinged door		
leading directly to the exterior. Occupants in any part		
of the dwelling or dwelling unit shall be able to access		
the means of escape without passing through a		
lockable door not under their control.		
(Mod 1827)	This code change is to provide clarification to	Adds an exception
R311.5.6.1 Height.	the handrail requirements for both height and	allowing handrail height
Handrail height, measured vertically from the sloped	continuity. The code as it is currently written	to vary when handrails
plane adjoining the tread nosing, or finish surface of	can be misinterpreted to prevent the use of	become guardrails at the
ramp slope, shall be not less than 34 inches (864 mm)	commonly accepted architectural fittings to	newel post.
and not more than 38 inches (965 mm).	accommodate the transition and continuity of	
Exception: When the handrail-fittings are used	handrails throughout a stairway from the start,	
to provide transition between flights, transition	through transitions between flights and	
from handrail to guardrail, or used at the start of	connecting floor levels.	
<u>a stair, occurs at a newel post, the handrail height</u>	In addition the reference of the riser in	
<u>at the fitting may vary.</u> If the newel post is	R311.5.6.2 has been changed to further clarify	
located at the top of the stair riser the handrail	and match the reference of the nosing in	
shall be permitted to exceed the maximum	R311.5.6.	
<u>height.</u>		
R311.5.6.2 Continuity. Handrails for stairways shall		
be continuous for the full length of the flight, from a		
point directly above the top riser nosing edge of the		
flight to a point directly above <u>the lowest riser nosing</u>		
edge of the flight. Handrail ends shall be returned or		
shall terminate in newel posts or safety terminals.		
Handrails adjacent to a wall shall have a space of no		
less than $1-1/2$ inch (38 mm) between the wall and the		

FIRE

handrails.		
 Exceptions: Handrails shall be permitted to be interrupted by a newel post at the turn <u>and at the top of the flight</u> The use of a volute, turnout, starting easing or starting newel shall be allowed over the lowest tread. 		
SECTION R314 (Mod 1829)	This proposal is a rewrite of Section R314,	Replaces the text in
FOAM PLASTIC	Foam Plastic that has been accepted by the	section R314, Foam
R314.1 General.	International Residential Code. This rewrite is	Plastic, adding definitions
The provisions of this section shall govern the	supported by the plastics industry and the	for foam plastic insulation
requirements and uses of foam plastic insulation.	following organizations have participated in	and foam plastic interior
R314.1.1 Surface burning characteristics.	this effort:	trim; adds labeling, adds
Except where otherwise noted in Section R314.2, all	Alliance for the Polyurethanes Industry	an exception for 4 inch
foam plastic or foam plastic cores in manufactured	(API)	thickness, adds NFPA
assemblies used in building construction shall have a	Extruded Polystyrene Foam Association	286, FM 4880, UL 1040,
flame-spread rating of not more than 75 and shall have	(XPSA)	and UL 1715 and deletes
a smoke developed rating of not more than 450 when	Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers	ASTM E 84 and ASTM E
tested in the maximum thickness intended for use in	Association (PIMA)	152 as approved tests,
accordance with ASTM E 84.	Spray Polyurethane Foam Association	separates attics from crawl
R314.1.2 Thermal barrier.	(SPFA)	spaces, adds garage doors,
Foam plastic, except where otherwise noted, shall be	The primary intent of the rewrite is to remove	interior finish, and
separated from the interior of a building by minimum	vague and permissive language currently in the	sheathing.
¹ / ₂ inch (12.7 mm) gypsum board or an approved finish	IRC and thus clarifying the requirements for	
material equivalent to a thermal barrier to limit the	foam plastics in structures covered by the scope	
average temperature rise of the unexposed surface to	of the IRC. As such, the existing IRC	
no more than 250°F (121°C) after 15 minutes of fire	requirements have basically been maintained	

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exposure to the ASTM E 119 standard time	and in some cases, strengthened. There is also	
temperature curve. The gypsum board shall be	inclusion of IBC requirements as appropriate	
installed using a mechanical fastening system in	for residential construction. The basic Section	
accordance with Section R702.3.5. Reliance on	format has been retained with editorial changes	
adhesives to ensure that the gypsum board will remain	so as to make the text more user friendly and	
in place when exposed to fire shall be prohibited.	provide a better definition of Code requirements	
R314.2 Specific requirements.	based	
The following requirements shall apply to all uses of	on specific applications.	
foam plastic unless specifically approved in		
accordance with Section R314.3 or by other sections		
of the code.		
R314.2.1 Masonry or concrete construction.		
Foam plastics may be used without the thermal barrier		
described in Section R314.1 when the foam plastic is		
protected by a minimum 1-inch (25.4 mm) thickness		
of masonry or concrete.		
R314.2.2 Roofing.		
Foam plastic may be used in a roof-covering assembly		
without the thermal barrier when the foam is separated		
from the interior of the building by wood structural		
panel sheathing in accordance with Section R803, not		
less than 15/32 inch (11.9 mm) in thickness bonded		
with exterior glue and identified as Exposure 1, with		
edge supported by blocking or tongue-and-groove		
joints. The smoke-developed rating shall not be		
limited.		
R314.2.3 Attics and crawlspaces.		
Within attics and crawlspaces where entry is made		
only for service of utilities, foam plastics shall be		
protected against ignition by 11/2-inch-thick (38 mm)		

FIRE

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mineral fiber insulation, 1/4-inch- thick (6.4 mm) wood		
structural panels, 3/8-inch (9.5 mm) particleboard, 1/4-		
inch (6.4 mm) hardboard, 3/8 inch (9.5 mm) gypsum		
board, or corrosion resistant steel having a base metal		
thickness of 0.016 inch (0.406 mm).		
R314.2.4 Foam-filled doors.		
Foam-filled doors are exempt from the requirements		
of Section R314.1.		
R314.2.5 Siding backer board.		
Foam plastic board of not more than 1/2-inch (12.7		
mm) thickness may be used as siding backer board		
when separated from interior spaces by not less than 2		
inches (51 mm) of mineral fiber insulation or 1/2 inch		
(12.7 mm) gypsum wallboard or installed over		
existing exterior wall finish in conjunction with re-		
siding, providing the plastic board does not have a		
potential heat of more than 2,000 Btu per square foot		
(22 720 kJ/m2) when tested in accordance with NFPA		
259.		
R314.2.6 Interior trim.		
Foam plastic trim defined as picture molds, chair rails,		
baseboards, handrails, ceiling beams, door trim and		
window trim may be installed, provided:		
1. The minimum density is 20 pounds per cubic foot		
(3.14 kg/m3).		
2. The maximum thickness of the trim is 0.5 inch		
(12.7 mm) and the maximum width is 4 inches (102		
mm).		
3. The trim constitutes no more than 10 percent of the		
area of any wall or ceiling.		

FIRE

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4. The flame-spread rating does not exceed 75 when		
tested per ASTM E 84. The smoke-developed rating is		
not limited.		
R314.2.7 Sill plates and headers.		
Foam plastic shall be permitted to be spray applied to		
a sill plate and header without thermal barrier subject		
to all of the following:		
1. The maximum thickness of the foam plastic shall		
be 3¼ inches (82.6 mm).		
2. The density of the foam plastic shall be in the range		
of 1.5 to 2.0 pcf (24 to 32 kg/m3).		
3. The foam plastic shall have a flame spread index of		
25 or less and an accompanying smoke developed		
index of 450 or less when tested in accordance with		
ASTM E84.		
R314.3 Specific approval.		
Plastic foam not meeting the requirements of Sections		
R314.1 and R314.2 may be specifically approved on		
the basis of one of the following approved tests:		
ASTM E 84, FM 4880, UL 1040, NFPA 286, ASTM		
E 152, or UL 1715, or fire tests related to actual end-		
use configurations. The specific approval may be		
based on the end use, quantity, location and similar		
considerations where such tests would not be		
applicable or practical.		
R314.4 Interior finish.		
Foam plastics that are used as interior finish shall also		
meet the flame spread requirements for interior finish.		
<u>314.1 General.</u>		

FIRE

The provisions of this section shall govern the	
materials, design, application, construction and	
installation of foam plastic materials.	
R314.1.1 Definition. Foam Plastic Insulation. A	
plastic that is intentionally expanded by the use of a	
foaming agent to produce a reduced-density plastic	
containing voids consisting of open or closed cells	
distributed throughout the plastic for thermal	
insulating or acoustic purposes and that has a density	
less than 20 pounds per cubic foot (320 kg/m ³) unless	
it is used as interior trim.	
R314.1.2 Definition. Foam Plastic Interior Trim.	
Foam plastic used as picture molds, chair rails,	
baseboards, handrails, ceiling beams, door trim and	
window trim and meeting the requirements of Section	
<u>R314.6.</u>	
R314.2 Labeling and identification. Packages and	
containers of foam plastic insulation and foam plastic	
insulation components delivered to the job site shall	
bear the label of an approved agency showing the	
manufacturer's name, the product listing, product	
identification and information sufficient to determine	
that the end use will comply with the code	
requirements.	
<u>314.3 Surface burning characteristics.</u>	
Unless otherwise noted in Section R314.5, all foam	

FIRE

plastic or foam plastic cores in manufactured	
assemblies used in building construction shall have a	
flame-spread index of not more than 75 and shall have	
a smoke-developed index of not more than 450 when	
tested in the maximum thickness intended for use in	
accordance with ASTM E 84. Loose-fill type foam	
plastic insulation shall be tested as board stock for the	
flame spread index and smoke-developed index.	
Exception:	
1. Foam plastic insulation greater than 4 inches in	
thickness shall have a maximum flame spread	
index of 75 and a smoke-developed index of	
450 where tested at a minimum thickness of 4	
inches, provided the end use is approved in	
accordance with Section R314.8 using the	
thickness and density intended for use.	
314.4 Thermal barrier.	
Unless otherwise noted in section 314.5, foam plastic	
shall be separated from the interior of a building by an	
approved thermal barrier of minimum 0.5 (12.7 mm)	
gypsum wallboard or an approved finish material	
equivalent to a thermal barrier material that will limit	
the average temperature rise of the unexposed surface	
to no more than 250°F(121°C) after 15 minutes of fire	
exposure complying with the ASTM E 119 standard	
time temperature curve. The thermal barrier shall be	
installed in such a manner that it will remain in place	
for 15 minutes based on NFPA 286 with the	

FIRE

acceptance criteria of Section R315.4, FM 4880, UL	
<u>1040, or</u> UL 1715.	
314.5 Specific requirements.	
The following requirements shall apply to all uses of	
foam plastic unless specifically approved in	
accordance with Section R314.6 or by other sections	
of the code.	
314.5.1 Masonry or concrete construction.	
The thermal barrier specified in Section R314.4 is not	
required in a masonry or concrete wall, floor or roof	
when the foam plastic insulation is protected on each	
face by a minimum 1-inch (25.4 mm) thickness of	
masonry or concrete.	
<u>314.5.2 Roofing.</u>	
The thermal barrier specified in Section R314.4 is not	
required when the foam plastic in a roof assembly or	
under a roof covering is installed in accordance with	
the code and the manufacturer's installation	
instructions and is separated from the interior of the	
building by tongue and groove wood planks or	
WOOD STRUCTURAL panel sheathing in	
accordance with Section R803, not less than 15/32	
inch (11.9 mm) in thickness bonded with exterior glue	
and identified as Exposure 1, with edge supported by	
blocking or tongue-and-groove joints or an equivalent	
material. The smoke developed index for roof	
applications shall not be limited.	

FIRE

<u>314.5.3 Attics.</u>	
Where attic access is required by Section R807.1 and	
where entry is made only for service of utilities, foam	
plastics shall be protected against ignition by 1.5-inch-	
thick (38 mm) mineral fiber insulation, 1/4-inch-thick	
(6.4 mm) wood structural panels, 3/8-inch (9.5 mm)	
particleboard, 1/4-inch (6.4 mm) hardboard, 3/8-inch	
(9.5 mm) gypsum board, or corrosion-resistant steel	
having a base metal thickness of 0.016 inch (0.406	
mm) and the thermal barrier specified in Section	
R314.4 is not required. The ignition barrier is not	
required where the foam plastic insulation has been	
tested in accordance with Section R314.6.	
314.5.4 Crawl spaces.	
Where crawlspace access is required by Section	
R408.3 and where entry is made only for service of	
utilities, foam plastics shall be protected against	
ignition by 1.5-inch-thick (38 mm) mineral fiber	
insulation, 1/4-inch-thick (6.4 mm) wood structural	
panels, 3/8-inch (9.5 mm) particleboard, 1/4-inch (6.4	
mm) hardboard, 3/8-inch (9.5 mm) gypsum board, or	
corrosion-resistant steel having a base metal thickness	
of 0.016 inch (0.406 mm) and the thermal barrier	
specified in Section 314.4 is n ot required. The	
ignition barrier is not required where the foam plastic	
insulation has been tested in accordance with Section	
<u>R314.6.</u>	

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314.5.5 Foam-filled exterior doors.			
Foam-filled exterior doors are exempt from the			
requirements of Section R314.3 and R314.4.			
314.5.6 Foam-filled garage doors.			
Foam-filled garage doors are exempt from the			
requirements of Section R314.3 and R314.4.			
314.5.7 Siding backer board.			
Foam plastic insulation with a maximum thickness of			
0.5 inch (12.7 mm) and a potential heat of not more			
than 2000 BTU per square foot (22 720 kJ/m2) when			
tested in accordance with NFPA 259 shall be			
permitted as siding backer board without the thermal			
barrier specified in Section R314.4 provided the foam			
plastic insulation is separated from interior spaces by			
not less than 2 inches (51 mm) of mineral fiber			
insulation or 1/2-inch (12.7 mm) gypsum wallboard or			
installed over existing exterior wall finish in			
<u>conjunction with re-siding.</u>			
<u>314.5.8 Interior trim.</u>			
Exposed foam plastic trim defined as picture molds,			
chair rails, baseboards, handrails, ceiling beams, door			
trim and window trim shall be permitted, provided:			
1. The minimum density is 20 pounds per cubic foot			
<u>(3.14 kg/m3).</u>			
2. The maximum thickness of the trim is 0.5 inch (12.7			
mm) and the maximum width is 4 inches (102 mm).			
<u>3. The trim constitutes no more than 10 percent of the</u>			

FIRE

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area of any wall or ceiling.		
4 The flame-spread index does not exceed 75 when		
tested per ASTM F 84. The smoke-developed index is		
not limited		
not minted.		
<u>314.5.9 Interior finish.</u>		
Foam plastics shall be permitted as interior finish		
where approved in accordance with R314.6. Foam		
plastics that are used as interior finish shall also meet		
the flame spread and smoke developed requirements		
of Section P315		
<u>of Section R515.</u>		
<u>314.5.10 Sill plates and headers.</u>		
Foam plastic shall be permitted to be spray applied to		
a sill plate and header without thermal barrier		
specified in Section R314.4 subject to all of the		
following:		
1. The maximum thickness of the foam plastic shall be		
3 1/4 inches (82.6 mm).		
2. The density of the foam plastic shall be in the range		
of 1.5 to 2.0 pcf (24 to 32 kg/m ³)		
3 The foam plastic shall have a flame spread index of		
25 or less and an accompanying smoke developed		
index of 450 or loss when tested in accordance with		
A STM E94		
<u>ASIM E84.</u>		
314.5.11 Sheathing. Foam plastic insulation used as		
sheathing, as referenced in Table R703.4, shall comply		
with Sections R314.3 and Section R314.4. Where the		
foam plastic sheathing is used at a gable and is		

FIRE

exposed to the attic space, the provisions of Section		
R314.5.3 shall apply.		
314.6 Specific approval.		
Plastic foam not meeting the requirements of Sections		
R314.3 through R314.5 shall be specifically approved		
on the basis of one of the following approved tests:		
FM4880, UL 1040, NFPA 286, or UL 1715, or fire		
tests related to actual end-use configurations. The		
specific approval shall be based on the actual end use		
configuration and shall be performed on the finished		
foam plastic assembly in the maximum thickness		
intended for use. Assemblies tested shall included		
seams, joints and other typical details used in the		
installation of the assembly and shall be tested in the		
manner intended for use.		
(Mod 1844)	This code change requires that foam plastic	Adds exposed foam
R316.4 Exposed attic insulation.	insulation installed in attics meet the Section	plastic insulation shall
All exposed insulation materials installed on attic	314 Plastics, which clarifies the fire tests, need	comply with R314.
floors shall have a critical radiant flux not less than	for the safe use of these products.	
0.12 watt per square centimeter. Exposed foam plastic		
insulation materials exposed on the underside of the		
roof deck or on the attic walls shall comply with		
Section R314.		
(Mod 1733)	Editorial change to clarity and enhance the	Adds "as adopted by
R324.1 Sprinkler system requirements for	Code	FFPC" after NFPA 101.
buildings three stories or more in height.		
NFPA 101 as adopted by the Florida Fire Prevention		
Code, as regarding the requirements for fire protection		
sprinklers, is applicable to all multiple-family		

FIRE

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residential buildings, whether designated as		
townhouses, condominiums, apartment houses,		
tenements, garden apartments or by any other name.		
The attorney general has determined that for the		
purpose of the fire protection sprinkler requirements in		
Section 553.895(2), Florida Statutes, townhouses that		
are three or more stories tall and consist of three or		
more units together are multiple-family dwellings.		
Therefore, these types of townhouses are not exempt		
from being considered for the requirements to provide		
fire protection sprinklers (even if there are any other		
definitions that define townhouse as single-family		
residences). When determining whether townhouses		
require fire protection sprinkler systems, the building		
official must consider in parallel: (a) the attorney		
general's opinion defining the statutory language for		
townhouses; (b) the building code requirements,		
including all life-safety chapters, that provide		
additional determining criteria, such as construction		
types, fire-resistance, fire protection systems and		
egress; and (c) the NFPA 101 as adopted by the		
Florida Fire Prevetion Fire Code egress and protection		
determining criteria. The more restrictive criteria are		
then applied.		
(Mod 1361)	This is a glitch modification to correct the	Renumbers section to
R4403.7.4.7 R4403.7.3.7	section reference number from R4403.7.4.7 to	R4403.7.3.7.
Areas in all occupancies from which the public is	R4403.7.3.7 on the CD and hard versions of the	
excluded requiring such protection may be provided	code.	
with vertical barriers having a single rail midway		
between a top rail and the walking surface.		

This is only to provide rationale for code change proposals submitted. For final language specific to the 2004 code, more details regarding the sections in the code, and correct wording, please see the 2006 Supplement. Please see the proposed code change modifications for text submitted for consideration by the Florida Building Commission.

(Mod 1634)	This is a glitch modification to correct the	Renumbers section to
R4403.7.4.8 <u>R4403.7.3.8</u>	section reference number from R4403.7.4.8 to	R4403.7.3.8.
The last sentence of the first paragraph in Section	R4403.7.3.8 on the CD and hard versions of the	
4.4.2 of ASCE 7 is hereby deleted.	code.	
(Mod 1371)	This is a glitch modification to correct the	Replaces referenced
R4410.2.5.1	cross-reference number from R4403.7.4 to	section number R4403.7.4
Where there is a drop of more than 4 feet (1219 mm)	R4403.7.3 in section R4410.2.5.1 on the CD	with R4403.7.3.
on the far side of such windows and the sill is less than	and hard versions of the code.	
36 inch (914 mm) above the near side walking surface,		
safeguards shall be provided to prevent the fall of		
persons when such windows are open as set forth in		
Section R4403.7.4 . <u>R4403.7.3</u>		
Exceptions:		
1. Where the vent openings are 12 inches (305 mm)		
or less in least dimension and are restricted in		
operation to reject objects as required for safeguard in		
Section R4403.7.4 . <u>R4403.7.3</u>		
2. Slats or grille work constructed to comply with		
Standard OSHA-1910, set forth in Section R4403.7.4		
<u>R4403.7.3</u> of this code, or other construction approved		
by the building official, may be provided in lieu of		
other safeguards.		
(Mod 1831)	The major change here is the removal of ASTM	Deletes ASTM E 84 and
R4412.1.3.1.4	E84 as a "Specific Approval" test and other	ASTM E 152 and replaces
Foam plastic not meeting the requirements of this	withdrawn fire test standards. This section is	them with NFPA 286 or
section may be specifically approved on the basis of	intended to allow testing of foam plastic	UL 1715.
approved tests such as, but not limited to, a tunnel test	insulation in intermediate and full-scale tests	
in accordance with ASTM E 84, FM procedure 4880,	reflecting actual end use configurations, which	
UL Subject 1040, ASTM E 152 or the room test	would preclude the use of ASTM E84,	

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This is only to provide rationale for code change proposals submitted. For final language specific to the 2004 code, more details regarding the sections in the code, and correct wording, please see the 2006 Supplement. Please see the proposed code change modifications for text submitted for consideration by the Florida Building Commission.

procedure described in SPI Bulletin PPICC 401-NFPA	commonly viewed as a small-scale test.	
286, or UL 1715, or fire tests related to actual end-use	Additional language strengthening this section	
configuration and shall be performed on the finished	includes requirements that the tested assembly	
foam plastic assembly in the maximum thickness	include "seams, joints, and other typical details	
intended for use. Assemblies tested shall included	used in the installation of the assembly".	
seams, joints and other typical details used in the		
installation of the assembly and shall be tested in the		
manner intended for use The specific approval may		
be based on the end use, quantity, location and similar		
considerations where such tests would not be		
applicable or practical.		

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