

RECEIVED

APR 19 2006 10:39 AM



Binding Interpretations

USER: Paul Macheske, HuntonBrady Architects, P.A., Petitioner

Envir. Health & Safety
Facility & Fire Safety

[Binding Interpretations Menu](#) > [Petition Search](#) > [Petition List](#) > [Petition Detail](#)

* Required fields

Form #: 9B-3.055(1)

Petition #

4

Date/Timestamp of Building Official
Receipt*

4/19/06

10:39 AM

Do you have a Local Board of Appeals Yes
If Yes, have they rendered a decision on this issue Yes

County

Alachua

Jurisdiction

University of Florida

Building Official

David Kramer

Address/Phone/Email

UF Environmental Health &
Safety
P. O. Box 112200
Gainesville, FL 32611-2200
(352) 392-1904
dkramer@admin.ufl.edu

Petitioner Name

Paul Macheske

Address/Phone/Email

2361 Foliage Oak Terrace
Oviedo, FL 32766
(407) 359-2868
pmacheske@huntonbrady.com

Petitioner Representative's Name

HuntonBrady Architects, P.A.

Address/Phone/Email

800 North Magnolia Avenue
Suite 600
Orlando, FL 32803
(407) 839-0886
pmacheske@huntonbrady.com

Building Code Version	2001
Sub Code	Mechanical
Chapter & Topic	Chapter 27 - Mechanical Systems
Section	603.4 Nonmetallic ducts
If permitted, date of permit application	06/22/2004

Enter explanation of how the Petitioner's substantial interests are being affected by the local interpretation of the Florida Building Code:

Group B - Business Occupancy Research Lab Project is one month from substantial completion. 6' maximum lengths of UL 181, Class 1 Non-metallic flexible air connector, providing a connection from 357 separate diffusers to metal exhaust duct in general, non-hazardous lab work areas, break rooms and similar areas have been installed. The product used complies with FBC 603.5.2 & NFPA 45-8.5.1 (1) and 8.5.2 - adopted by SFM per Florida Statutes 69A-3; and is installed per manufacturer requirements, as required by FBC 304.1. All exhaust connections from lab fume hoods are completely metal. Local AHJ is requiring all portions of the non-metallic flexible connectors to be replaced with metal from the diffuser to the metal exhaust duct, which will delay occupancy of the building and requires significant expense.

Enter statement of the interpretation given to provisions of the Florida Building Code by the local building official and the manner in which the interpretation was rendered

(If information is entered, it must be exactly as it appears in the hardcopy):

AHJ has ruled that FBC, Mechanical, 501.5, requiring metal for exhaust duct, prevents him from accepting the non-metallic flexible air connectors that have been installed from the diffuser to the metal duct.

Enter statement of the interpretation that the petitioner contends should be given to the provisions of the Florida Building Code and a statement supporting the petitioner's interpretation:

The installed product is limited to 6' connections to the metal exhaust duct in a non-hazardous (perfectly breathable) air environment and complies with the above referenced sections of FBC and NFPA 45. In accordance with FBC 101.3.1, the product in this application does not pose a threat to public safety, health and general welfare. Further, use of exhaust components other than metal are acknowledged in FBC 510.8, which allows non-metallic ducts in exhaust and contradicts FBC 501.5. FBC 104.11 Empowers the building official to accept "Alternative materials.....The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material....provided that any such alternative has been

approved (compliant with FBC 603.5.1 & FBC 603.5.2). An alternative material, design or method of construction shall be approved where the building official finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this code in quality, strength, effectiveness, fire resistance, durability and safety...". Thank you for this consideration.