



## Informal Interpretation Report Number 5781



**Date** July 18, 2008

**Edition** 2004

**Section** 402

### **Question:**

Is it the intent of 402.3.1 to allow 1 bath fan located in toilet room to draw exhaust air from an adjacent shower area(separated by a pocket door) through a 1"x36" undercut in that door provided the fan is of adequate cfm for both spaces.

### **Answer**

Let's step through this. Step 1) FBC-M 402.3.1 directs you to Section 403 if choosing to use mechanical ventilation. Step 2) FBC-M, Table 403.3 requires that toilet rooms and bathrooms (Dwelling Occupancy) be provided with a mechanical exhaust system capable of providing 50 cfm intermittent or 20 cfm continuous. Next to the toilet room requirement there is a reference to letter "g", (located below table 403.3.) Step 3) Letter "g" states, transfer air is permitted in accordance with Section 403.2.2. Step 4) Under 403.2.2 makeup air for required exhaust systems in spaces such as baths is allowed. Conclusion: The 36sq. in. of undercut door to be the path for the 25 to 50 cfm should satisfy the requirement for this toilet room.

### **Commentary:**

As requested, this answer is based on the Florida Building Code - Mechanical. An assumption is being made to provide the answer that the Florida Building Code - Mechanical applies and not the Florida Building Code - Residential.

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### **Notice:**

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this

interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.