



Informal Interpretation Report Number 6607



Date August 29, 2010

Edition 2007

Section 1003.3.2

Question:

Is it the intent of the 2007 FPC Section 1003.3.2 to require food waste grinders to pass thru a solids interceptor prior to entering a 1250 gallon grease interceptor? Or is this section of code only pertaining to food waste grinders that connect to smaller manufactured grease interceptors that conform to ASME A112.14.3 and PDI G101.

Answer

Yes, if for some reason the owner or designer want the discharge of the food waste grinder to be connected to the grease interceptor. If the designer chooses to discharge through a grease interceptor, it must first pass through a solids interceptor so as prevent food and debris from impeding the function of the interceptor. The code permits but does not require that food waste grinders discharge through a grease interceptor.

Commentary:

This requirement is intended to apply to all grease interceptors, large and small, inside or outside, connected to private or public sewer systems. Section 1003.3.1 does not list "food waste grinder" among the fixtures and equipment that are required to be connected to grease interceptors. Traditionally, if only cold water is connected to the food waste grinder, the solids are ground up and mixed with cold water so as to prevent the emulsification of grease or oil in the food. Ground solid

waste is then able to enter the sewer system unimpeded by grease interceptors or solids interceptors. And it does so, without depositing emulsified grease to coagulate and clog the pipes. In other words, neither a grease interceptor nor a solids interceptor is required by the Code for a food waste grinder. The local sewer treatment authority may have different applicable regulations.

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.