



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7230**



Date September 25, 2013

Edition 2010

Section 607.5.4

Question:

Is it the intent of this section to require smoke dampers in fresh air ducts supplying air to a hotel guest room (R1 occupancy) when penetrating a 1 hour rated wall between the corridor and the hotel room.

Answer

If the duct system that services the guest rooms communicates directly with the rated corridor, then yes

combination fire/smoke dampers would be required. However, per exception #3 smoke dampers are not required in corridor partitions where the duct is constructed of steel not less than 0.019 inch (0.48 mm) in thickness and there are no openings serving the corridor.

Commentary:

The intent of this section is to prevent the passage of smoke into the egress elements of a building during a fire. The fire partitions and barriers serve to

compartmentalize the building to prevent the fire from

migrating from space to space.

Relating to the comment;

FBCB Table 715.4 requires a 20 minute fire resistance rating and evokes Note b. Table 715.4 Note b refers the user to Section 715.4.3 for testing requirements of the fire door. FBCB 715.4.3.1 requires fire door assemblies to meet the smoke and draft control requirements of UL 1784 and specifies the leakage cited by the Coconut Grove building official.

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.