



**Informal Interpretation Report  
Number 7403**



**Date** September 26, 2014

**Edition** 2010

**Section** 403.2.1

**Question:**

Is it the intent of section 403.2.1 (#3) to require 100% outside air unit for all commercial kitchens?

**Answer**

No

**Commentary:**

Section 403.2.1, #3 states, "...recirculation from such spaces shall be prohibited." and, "All air supplied to such spaces shall be exhausted..." It does not say "...recirculation within such spaces shall be prohibited." Nor does it say, "All air supplied within such spaces shall be exhausted." It is permissible to have cooling equipment within a kitchen that recirculates air within that kitchen as long as the required exhaust and makeup air balance does not result in air being returned to adjacent spaces. As a corollary, all air being delivered to the kitchen from an adjacent space must be exhausted simply because it can't be returned to the adjacent space. It does not necessarily follow that all the supply needs to be 100% outside air.

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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.