



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7569**



Date August 20, 2015

Edition 2010

Section 110.26

Question:

Is it the intent of 110.26 to provide to exits or escape paths from each end of large equipment?

Answer

Yes, but the code provides for an exception allowing a single entrance where the location permits a continuous and unobstructed way of egress travel; or, where extra working space (depth of space twice that required) is provided.[A110.26(C)(2)] Also, there are two conditions triggering the requirement for one entrance/egress at each end of the working space: the amperage rating (1200 amps or more) AND the width (> 6 feet). The requester make no mention of the MC width.

Commentary:

Unless this is a reconfiguration of a system, the Florida Building Code - Existing Building may classify this work as a Level 1 Alteration. Provided that the existing installation was code compliant when it was originally built, the work may be able to be done according to code under which it was constructed. However, Section 701.2 of that code states: "An existing building or portion thereof shall not be altered such that the building becomes less safe than its existing condition."

Just because the existing equipment is being changed, does not necessarily mean that the entire room qualifies for an upgrade to the current code. Changes in dimensions of the equipment could refer us back to the answer above. If existing openings are in place without doors, just framed

openings meeting the requirements, the Code does not require doors to be installed.

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.