Informal Interpretation Report
Number 8042

Date December 19, 2017

Edition 2014

Section 454.1.3.1.9

Question:

Is it the intent in section 454.1.3.1.9 to allow a fence constructed of horizontal members spaced at 4" to meet the requirements of a public pool barrier. further does 454.1.3.1.9 in the last paragraph direct readers to residential pool barrier requirements, with the statement fencing consideration shall be given to...

Answer

454.1.3.1.9 states that "Fencing consideration shall be given to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Publication, No. 362, March 2005, guidelines available from CPSC.gov; OR Sections 454.2.17.1.1 through 454.2.17.1.8. 454.2.17.1.2 states, in part, that ..."Openings in any barrier shall not allow passage of a 4-inch-diameter (102 mm) sphere." Therefore, a 4" limitation is applicable to commercial pool fencing.

Commentary:

When fencing is used as described in sections 454.2.17.1.3 through 454.2.17.1.8 with more stringent requirements, they may be applicable.

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.