



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 8425**



Date June 15, 2020

Edition 2017

Section 713.8.1

Question:

Is the intent of this section for all uses of shafts to have their own dedicated shaft assemblies or can there be a "mixed use" shaft?

Answer

No, refrigerant lines are probably not allowed to penetrate the shaft as this is an existing shaft, therefore, not intended for this purpose.

2017 FBC section 713.7.1, Prohibited openings.

Openings other than those necessary for the purpose of the shaft shall not be permitted in shaft enclosures. Please also see the commentary below.

Commentary:

More information on the building may be required for a definitive response, but with the information given, the answer stands. The scenario presented does not actually constitute openings but penetrations of the shaft. The primary reason for not allowing them is the described penetration by refrigerant lines does not appear to be necessary for the given purpose of the shaft and is therefore prohibited per FBC-B 713.8.1. There are situations where adequately protected openings or penetrations into a shaft for "mixed-use" are permitted.

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.