



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 9533**



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Section 807.4 & 807.5

Question:

Does section 807.4 & 807.5, exception 1, assume that an existing structural element was originally designed to or near 100% utilization? If so and if the existing structural element is not reduced in capacity, then can this exception be satisfied by only considering the additional demand? Refer to additional information in comment section.

Answer

The referenced code sections do not assume anything. The engineer must calculate the capacity of the beam, its current loads and the proposed loads. In the example, if the beam had plenty of capacity there is no need to utilize the exception. The exception is only used if the proposed additional loads exceed the beams capacity calculated according to the current codes. Then the beam is ok if the proposed load only exceeds the current load by 5% max.

Commentary:

None.

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.