



## California State Fire Marshal CODE INTERPRETATION

Date Issued	<b>REVISED 4/13/09</b>	Interpretation	08-075
Topic	Stairs Serving an Assembly Occupancy		
Code Section(s)	2007 California Building Code Section 1025		
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**The California State Fire Marshal (CSFM) has amended Section 1025.6.1 of the 2007 California Building Code (CBC) to include a minimum of 0.20-inches exit width per occupant for occupant loads in excess of 300, which is similar to the width factor in the amended Sections 1025.2 and 1025.3.**

**Is it the intention of the CSFM for the Section 1025.6.1 (item #1) requirement of 0.30-inches of exit width per person to be applied to vertical exit enclosures serving assembly spaces or is this egress width factor intended only to apply to stairs serving seating or aisles within the assembly space (prior to reaching the exit enclosure)? The assembly space in question is a level dining area with greater than 300 persons.**

Yes. The 2007 California Building Code Section 1025.6.1 was intended to apply to all stairs serving an assembly occupancy. The exception listed under CBC 1005.1 and footnote 'b' of Table 1005.1 directs the user to Section 1025 for egress width in assembly occupancies, thus having the intended effect of requiring a minimum egress width for each assembly occupant served of 0.3 for stairways and 0.2 for other egress components as depicted in Table 1005.1 regardless if the building is protected with an automatic sprinkler system throughout or not.

NOTE (advisory comment): During the recent ICC code development process, Code Change E-19 (07-08) was approved and will have the same effect for assembly occupancies and other occupancies when the 2009 IBC is published as well as for future California adoption.