



California State Fire Marshal CODE INTERPRETATION

Date Issued	2-24-2005	Interpretation #	05-002
Topic	Elevator hoistway shaft enclosures.		
Code Section(s)	2001 California Building Code, Section 711		
Requested by	Rich Black Infinite Access Corp. P.O.Box 942 Mt. Vernon, IL. 62864		

Assume a two-story schoolhouse where an elevator hoistway shaft enclosure is located such that both upper and lower access is gained by unenclosed lobbies (upper access via balconies). The enclosure is not less than 10 ft. from a property line and is not located inside the building envelope or attached directly to the building.

1. Is there any requirement for the elevator hoistway enclosure to be rated construction?

No. However, the elevator hoistway shall comply with the same type of construction and sprinkler protection as the attached building.

2. Since no openings penetrate any floors, would a hoistway shaft be required to be of rated construction?

No. Based on the information that you provided, the hoistway is not considered concealed within the building elements.

3. If the answers above do not require fire rated construction, does the shaft's structural frame still require individual protection?

No. See answer to question #1