We are writing to request a Code Interpretation of Section 705.1.2 as it relates to Section 903.2.2.; Section 903.2.2 requires that an automatic sprinkler system be provided in the modernization of Group E occupancy rooms or areas where special hazards such as laboratories exist.

Considering we have provided one hour separation of the labs per Table 508.2, would section 705.1.2 then require sprinklering the building as a whole because of 903.2.2’s laboratory sprinklering?

No. 2007 CBC Section 705.1.2 is a general requirement, whereas Section 903.2.2 requires fire sprinklers to be installed in the laboratory classroom. This is a specific requirement to “E” occupancies.