

PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE 2015 ONTARIO FIRE CODE

(O. Reg. 213/07, as amended current to January 1, 2015)

CHANGE NUMBER: N/A

CODE REFERENCE: Division B, Articles 2.7.1.1., 2.7.1.2., 2.7.1.3.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED CHANGE:

New Access to Egress Requirements for Open Floor Areas in Extraction Operations

- Add a new requirement
 - Making a technical change to an existing requirement
 - Making an editorial/administrative change to an existing requirement
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EXISTING OFC PROVISIONS

Mercantile, business and personal services occupancies

2.7.1.1. Individual work areas in **business and personal services occupancies** and **mercantile occupancies** shall be located adjacent to aisles described in Articles 2.7.1.2. and 2.7.1.3.

2.7.1.2. Where two exits are required from **floor areas** in **buildings** of **business and personal services occupancy** and **mercantile occupancy** that are not subdivided into rooms or **suites** of rooms served by corridors giving **access to exits**, at least one aisle with access to the two **exits** and having a minimum clear width of 1100 mm shall be provided to serve the individual work areas where necessary.

2.7.1.3. Subsidiary aisles with a minimum clear width of 900 mm may branch off for a distance not exceeding 7.5 m from the aisles described in Article 2.7.1.2.

PROBLEM

Article 2.7.1.1. does not have requirements for access to egress in extraction operations that involve the use of flammable liquids, combustible liquids or flammable gases as extraction solvents.

PROPOSED OFC CHANGE

Note for Proposed OFC Change:

- Black indicates existing text.
- Red underline indicates new text.
- Red strikethrough indicates existing text that is being deleted.

2.7.1. Means of Egress and Occupant Load

~~Mercantile, business and personal services occupancies~~

~~2.7.1.1. Individual work areas in **business and personal services occupancies** and **mercantile occupancies** shall be located adjacent to aisles described in Articles 2.7.1.2. and 2.7.1.3.~~

~~2.7.1.2. Where two exits are required from **floor areas** in **buildings of business and personal services occupancy** and **mercantile occupancy** that are not subdivided into rooms or **suites** of rooms served by corridors giving **access to exits**, at least one aisle with access to the two **exits** and having a minimum clear width of 1100 mm shall be provided to serve the individual work areas where necessary.~~

~~2.7.1.3. Subsidiary aisles with a minimum clear width of 900 mm may branch off for a distance not exceeding 7.5 m from the aisles described in Article 2.7.1.2.~~

2.7.1.1. Open Floor Areas

- (1) Aisles in conformance with Sentences (2) to (4) shall be provided in every **floor area in a mercantile occupancy and a business and personal services occupancy**, and in a **floor area** or portion of **floor area** containing **extraction** operations that use **flammable liquids, combustible liquids** or flammable gases as **extraction solvents** that
 - (a) is not subdivided into rooms or **suites** served by corridors giving **access to exits**, and
 - (b) is required to have more than one egress doorway.
- (2) Every required egress doorway shall be served by an aisle that
 - (a) has a clear width not less than 1100 mm,
 - (b) has access to at least one additional egress doorway, and
 - (c) at every point in the aisle provides a choice of two directions by which to reach an egress doorway.
- (3) A subsidiary aisle with only a single direction of travel to aisle described in Sentence (2) is permitted provided it has a clear width not less than 900 mm and has a length not greater than
 - (a) 7.5 m in **mercantile and business and personal services occupancies**, or
 - (b) 7.5 m in **extraction** operations that use **flammable liquids, combustible liquids** or flammable gases as **extraction solvents**.
- (4) Every individual work area in **business and personal services occupancies** shall be located adjacent to an aisle or subsidiary aisle.

2.7.1.2. RESERVED.
2.7.1.3. RESERVED.

PROPOSED IN FORCE DATE

July 1, 2019

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE

The rationale for this code change is to provide enforceable requirements for the means of egress and access to exit in extraction operations that involve the use of flammable liquids, combustible liquids or flammable gases as extraction solvents. This change also more closely aligns Fire Code requirements with those provided in the National Fire Code of Canada.

IMPACT

- Proposed new requirements would apply to aisles in floor areas or portions of floor areas that contain extraction operations that involve the use of flammable liquids, combustible liquids or flammable gases as extraction solvents.
- As a result of the proposed new Article 1.3.1.2. of Division A, proposed new requirements would apply to floor areas or portions of floor areas within farm buildings that contain extraction operations related to the processing of cannabis and involve the use of flammable liquids, combustible liquids or flammable gases as extraction solvents. However, these new requirements would not apply to other areas within farm buildings, given the existing farm building exemption provided in Article 1.3.1.1. of Division A.

OBJECTIVE BASED ANALYSIS OF THE CHANGE OR NEW PROVISION

N/A

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT(S) AND LINK(S) TO OBJECTIVE(S)

2.7.1.1.(1) – Note1
(2) – [F10-OS1.5]
(3) – [F10-OS1.5]
(4) – [F10-OS1.5]