

BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC

File No: 12-0013

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date:	October 15, 2013
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2012
Subject:	Fastening of wood stair stringers
Keywords:	Wood stair stringers, support, secure, fasten
Building Code Reference(s):	9.8.9.4.(1)(b)

Question:

For buildings that are regulated by Part 9, Clause 9.8.9.4.(1)(b) requires that wood stair stringers be "supported and secured top and bottom".

1. Does this mean that the wood stair stringers must be mechanically fastened to the floor or stair landing assembly at both the top and bottom?
2. Is it acceptable to support the wood stair stringer at the bottom by simply resting the stringer on a concrete floor slab?

Interpretation:

1. Yes – the requirement of Clause 9.8.9.4.(1)(b) that a wood stair stringer be "secured" at the top and bottom means that the wood stair stringer must be mechanically fastened to the floor or landing assembly.
2. No – the wood stair stringer must be mechanically fastened to the concrete floor slab.



R. J. Light, Committee Chair

The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee with members representing AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, and POABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The purpose of the committee is to encourage uniform province wide interpretation of the BC Building Code. These views should not be considered as the official interpretation of legislated requirements based on the BC Building Code, as final responsibility for an interpretation rests with the local *Authority Having Jurisdiction*. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.