BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

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

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Interpretation Date:	January 18, 2011
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2006
Subject:	Fire Separation between multiple Repair Garages
Keywords:	Separation of Suites, Repair Garage
Building Code Reference(s):	3.3.1.1.(1); 3.3.5.5.(1)

Question:

In a building that contains more than one suite of repair garages, is a 2 h fire separation required between such suites?

Interpretation:

Yes.

Sentence 3.3.1.1.(1) requires installation of <u>not less</u> than 1 h fire separation between suites. In addition Sentence 3.3.5.5.(1) requires a 2h fire separation between a repair garage and other occupancies, including another repair garage. This requirement is dictated by recognition of increased fire hazard inherent in the repair garage operation.

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.

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