

BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE
AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC

File No: 98-0069

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date: May 21, 2003

Building Code Edition: BC Building Code 1998

Subject: Mezzanine determination floors

Keywords: arena; mezzanine; building height;
interconnected floor space

Building Code Reference(s): BCBC 1998, 1999 errata: 3.2.1.1.(3);
3.2.1.1.(4); 3.2.8.2.(1)

Question:

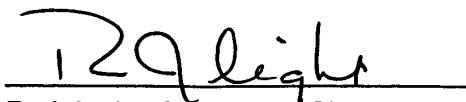
In an arena Group A, Division 3 building, 2 independent mezzanines are proposed. Does Article 3.2.1.1. require the total aggregate area of mezzanines to be applied for the purpose of determining building height relative to construction requirements (Subsection 3.2.2) or interconnected floor space requirements (Subsection 3.2.8)?

Interpretation:

Yes. Interpretation 98-0067 confirmed that in order for a mezzanine floor assembly to be constructed in conformance with the mezzanine construction requirements (Subsection 3.2.2) the mezzanine is required to comply with Sentence 3.2.1.1.(3) and Sentence 3.2.1.1.(4). On this basis, Sentence 3.2.1.1.(3) requires a horizontal plane separating the mezzanine or mezzanines from the floor space from which it is open, to be used as a reference. It is interpreted that more than one mezzanine can share the same reference horizontal plane provided the aggregate area of open and enclosed mezzanines comply with the 40% open with up to 10% enclosed in conformance with the requirements of Sentence 3.2.1.1.(3).

Sentence 3.2.1.1.(4) requires the total aggregate enclosed area of the mezzanine(s) not to exceed 10% of the suite area in order that the mezzanine(s) not to be classified as a storey in calculating building height.

Note also that Clause 3.2.8.2.(1).(b) states that mezzanines in an arena (Group A, Division 3) building are not required to terminate at a vertical fire separation provided the building is not more than 2 storeys in building height.



R. J. Light, Committee Chair