

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

File No: 98-0149

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date: April 18, 2006

Building Code Edition: BC Building Code 1998

Subject: Distance between doors at vestibules

Keywords: vestibules, doors in succession

Building Code Reference(s): 3.2.8.5.(1)(a), 3.3.1.12.(12), 3.3.5.7.(3)(a)

Question:

The building code has various wording for the distance between doors in succession and the length of vestibules. What is the governing dimension for vestibules between a storage garage and an adjacent occupancy?

Interpretation:

Clause 3.3.5.7.(3)(a) specifically relates to storage garages and requires that the total length of the vestibule be a minimum of 1800 mm. This clause does not mention the minimum distance between doors in series.

Clause 3.3.1.12.(12) requires that doors in series be separated by a minimum of 1220 mm between the swing of one door to the successive door. For a typical 900 mm wide doors, this would result in a vestibule with a minimum length of 2120 mm, which is more restrictive than Clause 3.3.5.7.(3)(a). This sentence is relevant to storage garages, so the length of vestibule serving a storage garage must also meet this criteria.

If the doors in series are perpendicular to one another, rather than parallel, the 1220 mm distance between door swings is still applicable.

Clause 3.2.8.5.(1)(a) requires that doorways be 1800 mm apart for vestibules that serve interconnected floor spaces. This clause is not relevant to storage garages.



R. J. Light, Committee Chair

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