

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

**File No: 98-0159**

**INTERPRETATION**

**Page 1 of 3**

Interpretation Date: October 17, 2006

Building Code Edition: BC Building Code 1998

Subject: Combustible Piping & Vertical Separations

Keywords: Combustible, Piping

Building Code Reference(s): 3.1.5.15.(1)(a)(b), 3.1.9.4.(6).

**Question:**

1. May combustible drainage piping be used for trap arms located on one side of a vertical fire separation in a building of combustible construction?
2. May combustible drainage piping be used for trap arms located on one side of a vertical fire separation in a building required to be of noncombustible construction?

**Interpretation:**

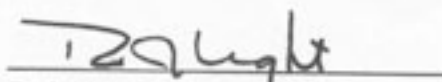
1. Yes.

In accordance with Sentence 3.1.9.4.(6), combustible piping may be used on one side of a vertical fire separation provided it is not located in a vertical shaft and regardless of whether the balance of the drain, waste and vent piping system is combustible or noncombustible. Where the stack located in the vertical separation is noncombustible, the transition to combustible piping must be made completely outside of the separation. This principle would apply to each individual stack (see illustrations on Page 2 & 3).

2. Yes, with provisions.

In accordance with Sentence 3.1.9.4.(6), combustible piping may be used on one side of a vertical fire separation provided it is not located in a vertical shaft. However, piping materials used in a building required to be of noncombustible construction must conform to flame spread ratings and smoke development classifications as required by Clauses 3.1.5.15.(1)(a) & (b).

Please refer to BCIC Interpretation #98-0139 for additional information.



R. J. Light, Committee Chair

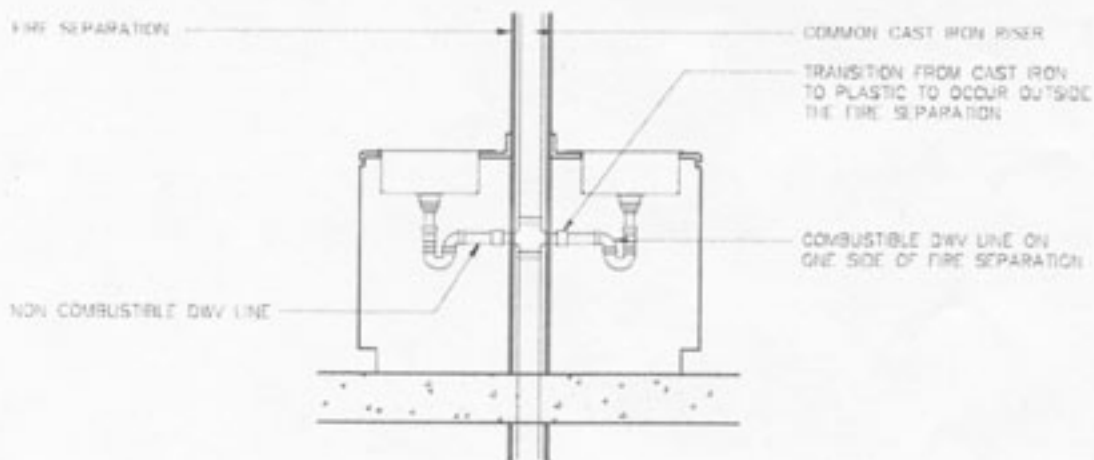
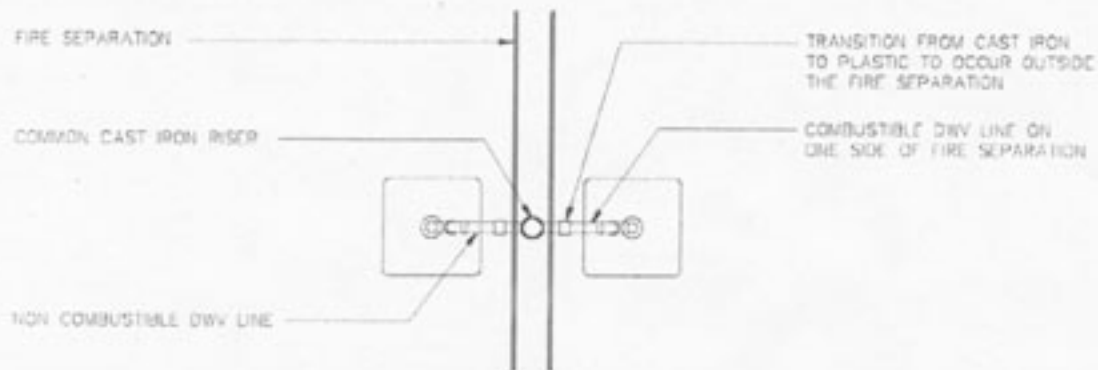
The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee of AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, and POABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The purpose of the committee is to encourage uniform province wide interpretation of the BC Building Code. These views should not be considered as 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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AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC

File No: 98-0159

INTERPRETATION

Page 2 of 3



SINGLE CAST IRON RISER

COMBUSTIBLE DWV PIPE PERMITTED ON ONE SIDE OF FIRE SEPARATION ONLY PER 3.1.9.4.(6)

  
R. J. Light, Committee Chair

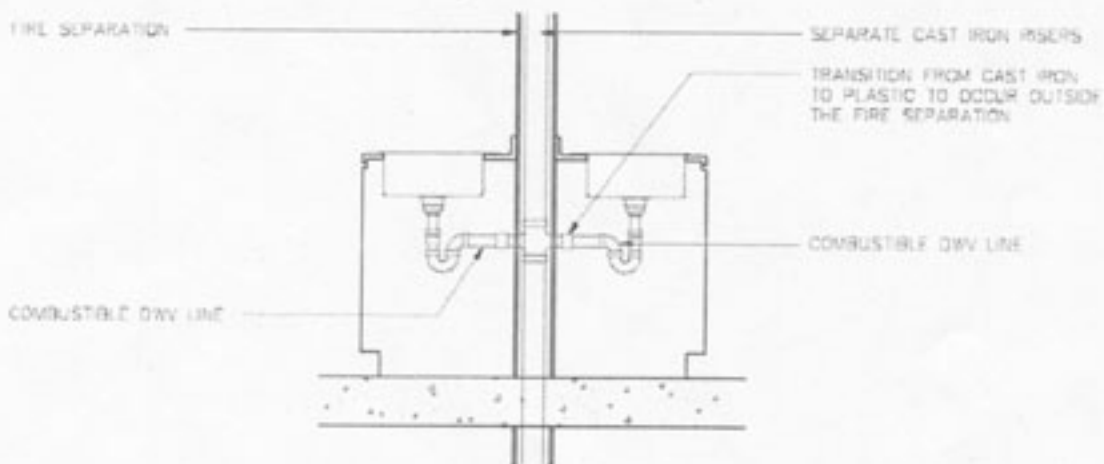
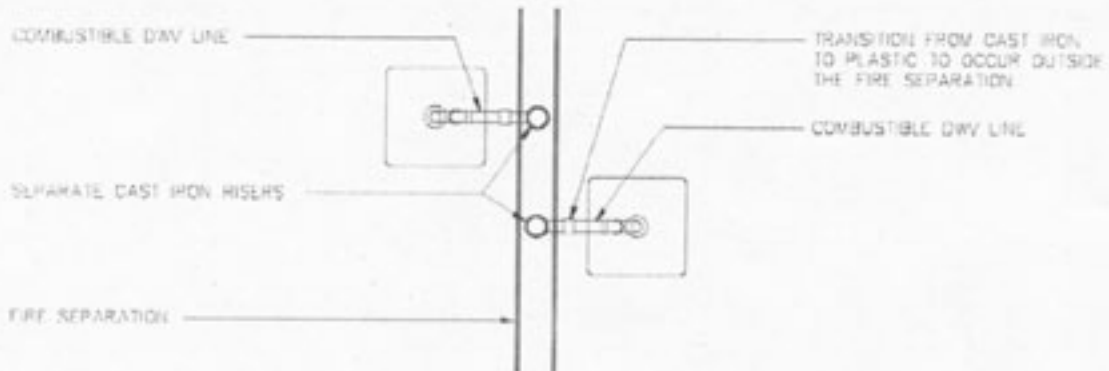
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AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC

File No: 98-0159

INTERPRETATION

Page 3 of 3



TWO SEPARATE CAST IRON RISERS

COMBUSTIBLE DWV PIPE PERMITTED ON BOTH SIDES OF FIRE SEPARATION PER 3.1.9.4.(6)

*R. J. Light*

R. J. Light, Committee Chair

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