

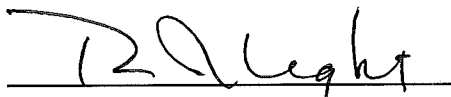
BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 12-0108

INTERPRETATION

Page 1 of 1

Interpretation Date:	November 21, 2017
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2012
Subject:	Standpipe Hose Connections at Horizontal Exits
Keywords:	Hose Connections, Exit, Horizontal Exit, Firewall
Building Code Reference(s):	3.2.5.8.; 3.2.5.9.(1); 3.2.5.10.(1); 3.2.5.10.(2); NFPA 14-2010
Question:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. In a building that is required to have a standpipe system in accordance with Article 3.2.5.8., are hose connections required on each side of a firewall that provides required horizontal exits?2. In a sprinklered building, are the standpipes supplying the hose connections required to be protected by a degree of fire resistance equal to that required for enclosed exit stairways in the building in which they are located?
Interpretation:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Yes. Sentence 3.2.5.10.(1) requires hose connections in exits in accordance with NFPA 14-2010, "Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems". Sentence 3.2.5.10.(2) states "Hose connections are not required within a floor area". Floor area means "the space on any storey of a building between the exterior walls and required firewalls, including the space occupied by interior walls and partitions, but not including exits, vertical service spaces, and their enclosing assemblies". As stated in Building Code Appeal Board (BCAB) decision #1702, "Each floor area is considered an exit for the adjacent floor area, therefore the hose connections adjacent to the horizontal exit are "in" an exit facility". NFPA 14-2010 also requires hose connections on each side of the wall adjacent to the openings of horizontal exits referenced by Sentence 7.3.2.(2). The Committee is aware that there may be some changes in the 2016 edition of NFPA 14 which may relax the foregoing, however, the current edition of NFPA 14 referenced by the 2012 BC Building Code does not contain this allowance. The above interpretation is consistent with BCAB decisions #1702 and #1645.2. No. The hose connections are located in an area that is considered to be protected appropriately, by the fire suppression system and the firewall, and provides a staging point for the local fire department per NFPA 14-2010.  <p>R. J. Light, Committee Chair</p>
<p>The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee with members representing AIBC, EGBC and BOABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The Building and Safety Standards Branch, Province of BC and the City of Vancouver participate in the committee's proceedings with respect to interpretations of the BC Building Code. 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 <i>Authority Having Jurisdiction</i>. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.</p>	