



BULLETIN RB06-022

(Updated 2015 Dec 10)

EMERGENCY ACCESS TO FLOOR AREAS

Reference: Clause 3.4.6.17.(1)(a)

Clause 3.4.6.17.(1)(a) "In a building more than 6 storeys in building height,

a) doors providing access to floor areas from exit stairs shall not have locking devices to prevent entry into any floor area from which the travel distance up or down to an unlocked door is more than 2 storeys,"

Question:

Does the above Clause imply that either the topmost floor or the floor immediately below be an emergency access (cross-over) floor in buildings governed by **Article 3.4.6.17**.

Commentary / Relevant Facts:

Although the Code does not say so directly, unless the topmost floor or the floor immediately below is designated as an emergency access (cross-over) floor, **Article 3.4.6.17** cannot be complied without the additional crossover provision. Otherwise a dead-end corridor situation would be created for an occupant using an exit stair in such a building.

Conclusion:

Therefore, all buildings coming under **Article 3.4.6.17** shall have either the topmost floor or the floor immediately below designated and designed as an emergency access (cross-over) floor.

Note: In the event of a partial occupancy it shall be requested that the topmost floor or the floor immediately below the topmost floor to be granted partial occupancy must also be a cross-over floor.

Chief Building Inspector

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