

UNIFORMITY OF INSPECTIONS COMMITTEE
Association of Minnesota Building Officials

Thursday April 12th, 2018
Blaine City Hall
9:00 am

AGENDA

1. **Attic hatches and doors.** R402.2.4 states in part; "Attic doors from conditioned spaces to unconditioned spaces shall be weather-stripped and insulated to a level equivalent to the insulation on the surrounding surfaces."

To what degree is this provision being met, and is this typically site built, or does it incorporate a separate pre-built component?

2. A plumber was faced with having to install a sump and lift station to eject wastes from a basement level. Plumbing Code sections 710.2 (Sewage Discharge), 710.3 (Sewage Ejector and Pumps) and 710.4 (Discharge Line) address the requirements and were clearly understood and would be implemented.

The basement fixtures that drained by gravity to the sump and ejector were not protected by a Backwater Valve prior to entering the sump basket. The plumbers reasoning was that since 710.3(2) and 710.4 require a back water valve and a gate valve on the discharge side of the ejector pump this met the requirements of the section 710.0 (Drainage of Fixtures Located Below the Next Upstream Manhole or Below the Main Sewer Level) and 710.1 (Backflow Protection).

Has the plumber with this backwater and gate valve on the discharge side of the ejector pump protected the lower level fixtures per the general requirement for sewer systems in 710.1? Does the plumber have a further obligation for a backwater valve other than the one required for a sump and ejector pump system?

3. The isolation of a metallic gas pipe from abrasive and corrosive materials is set forth in Minnesota Fuel Gas Code 403.8 Protective coating. The questioner was under the impression that for Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing (CSST) the polymer casing already supplied with the product met the requirements of this section. Apparently this is not the case. Research into product information and installation instructions for manufacturers and brands that could be found all indicate that separation from abrasive and corrosive materials in addition to the casing provided is required. The various manufacturer's emphasis ranges from "should" to "must" types of language for their own product requirements. Additionally section 404.2 is specific in that CSST be installed per its listing and the manufacturer's instructions.

I'd like to suggest that the committee take up this information for a brief discussion and if determined appropriate post an opinion that inspectors require a shield in addition to the casing already provided as a matter routine and especially where the pipe must penetrate through masonry or concrete.

4. A contractor is partially remodeling an office space and one of two existing breakrooms. The remodeled break room will be compliant with the 2015 Minnesota Accessibility Code while the existing break room to remain will not be code compliant. Both break rooms have kitchens. This situation would be allowed since section 1109.4 (Kitchens and kitchenettes) has a Minnesota Exception that states where multiple kitchens or kitchenettes are provided at least one shall be accessible.

The problem comes in that the remodeled break room kitchen while fully compliant will be converted to a kitchenette and be reduced in size to less than the unaltered break room. Section 1101.3 (Equity) a Minnesota provision requires that if similar type facilities are provided accessible and non-accessible they shall be the same or have equivalent elements.

Could you determine if the breakrooms are meeting the "equity" requirement even if they aren't a point by point match?

Other discussion items : _____

Next Meeting: Thursday May 10th, 2018 at 9:00 am - Roseville

