



UNIVERSITY OF
Rhode Island

Department of Safety and Risk Management Fire Safety Policy: Places of Assembly

1-1-2004

In the aftermath of the fire at the “ Station” nightclub on February 20th, 2003, the State of Rhode Island amended its Fire Code with the express intent “ ..to make Rhode Island the safest state in the nation in terms of fire safety ...and to foster a culture of compliance with standards for fire safety...” It is in the same spirit that the University here provides a fire safety policy so that the tragedy met by the victims of this fire and the efforts made by Rhode Island firefighters shall not be in vain.

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a fire-safe and panic-free environment for all students, staff and visitors to the several places of assembly on each of the University’ s campuses.

Strategy: To provide those persons within the University with responsibilities in planning, construction, management, student affairs, fire safety and risk management with a comprehensive source of all statutory rules, regulations and University guidelines which, collectively, make up the University’ s fire safety policy for places of assembly. This collection incorporates all relevant requirements of the RI Fire Code, as well as any national standards adopted by that code, the RI Building Code, and those regulations adopted by the University, above and beyond statutory codes.

Review: This policy shall be reviewed annually, or as deemed necessary, by the Department of Safety & Risk Management.

Contents:

I. Definitions and Classifications

- place of assembly
- place of outdoor assembly
- special amusement building concentrated occupancy
- classifications

II. Infrastructure

- acoustical materials
- alarm system, testing
- decorative materials
- emergency lighting, testing
- emergency plan
- housekeeping

III. Management

- admissions
- aisles and seating
- approval
- concerts/musical entertainment, reserved seating required
- crowd manager
- firefighter details
- occupancy, maximum
- prohibited activities/materials
- pyrotechnics
- smoke/fog generating machinery
- standing conditions
- festival seating

Addendum A: Procedures for Scheduling Events

Addendum B: Pre-event Inspection Form

I. Definitions and Classifications of Places of Assembly:

A “ place of assembly” is a room or space within a building in which the possible maximum occupancy is more than 50 persons assembling for religious, recreational, educational, political, fraternal, social or amusement purposes, or for the consumption of food or drink, except school classrooms, libraries, courtrooms, or any portion of a private dwelling.

A “ place of outdoor assembly” is a premises used or intended to be used for public gatherings of 200 or more individuals in other than buildings.

A “ special amusement building concentrated occupancy” (SAB/CO) is a place of assembly with a maximum occupancy calculated on the basis of less than 15 sq.ft. per person and for which either there is a license issued pursuant to chapter 3-7 or there is entertainment or there are both a liquor license and entertainment.

Classifications:

- i. Class A: 1001 or more persons
 - Concentrated, Class A: <15 sq.ft./person
 - less concentrated, Class A: 15 sq.ft./person
 - SAB/CO, Class A
- ii. Class B: 301 - 1000 persons
 - Concentrated, Class B: <15 sq.ft./person
 - less concentrated, Class B: 15 sq.ft./person
 - SAB/CO, Class B
- iii. Class C: 50 - 300 persons
 - Concentrated, Class C: <15 sq.ft./person
 - less concentrated, Class C: 15 sq.ft./person
 - SAB/CO, Class C

II. Infrastructure

This section applies to those persons responsible for the building or space occupied as a place of assembly, its infrastructure and the materials within.

1. acoustical materials (see decorative materials)

2. alarm system, testing. All University places of assembly shall have alarm systems tested no less than quarterly by the Alarms Division of Safety & Risk Management.

3. decorative materials. (decorative and acoustical material.)

- a. All combustible decorative and acoustical material, including curtains, but not including floor coverings, shall be rendered and maintained flame resistant. [This regulation shall not be construed to prohibit the use of wall or ceiling coverings affixed directly to the wall or ceiling, provided the surface will not be readily flammable.]
- b. No decorative material shall be in direct contact with electrical wiring or equipment of any kind, or lighted by candle or open flame or by other than indirect electrical lighting.
- c. Electrical Christmas or holiday lights may be used only on trees, garlands, or wreaths that are artificial, made of nonmetallic material, and are labeled flame resistant by the manufacturer and are UL or FM approved. The labels stating the UL or FM approval or flame resistancy of the artificial decorations shall not be removed from them. All the lights and power supplies for the lights shall meet the following requirements:
 - i. the electric lights that are to be used on the decorations shall be the low heat and low voltage type, and must be UL or FM approved. The electric cords supplying these lights must be UL or FM approved. The labels stating the UL or FM approvals shall not be removed from the lights or cords to be used.
 - ii. In-line fuses shall be provided for lights sets.
 - iii. The circuit providing power directly to or by electric cord to the lights set(s) must be properly grounded and rated at not more than 15 amps.
 - iv. Electric cords, supplying the light sets shall be the grounded type and shall be of not less than 14 ga. wire.
 - v. No electric wiring, lights or equipment shall be used on any natural tree, garland, or wreath of any kind.

- vi. It shall be the responsibility of the management of the establishment to be sure that the lights are properly installed, and that the supply wires are not placed in such manner as to create an electrical or fire hazard, or to be an obstruction to occupants exiting the building.
 - vii. The management will be responsible for the care and condition of any lights and equipment to be used. Any repairs other than changing the bulbs is prohibited. Defective light sets and cords will be discarded.
- d. All approvals of decorative materials shall be limited to one year. The manager shall file an affidavit with Safety & Risk Management certifying to the following:
- i. the product used will render the decorative material flame resistant in accordance with NFPA Standard 701, 1989 edition.
 - ii. That the product used was applied in accordance with the manufacturer' s specifications
 - iii. State the date of treatment and warranty period
- e. When doubt exists as to the fire retardant quality or the permanency of treatment, material shall be subject to the Field Check Test:

Field Check Test (aka match flame test):

- i. Samples, in dry condition, are to be selected for tests and are to be a minimum of 1-1/2" wide and 4 inches long. The fire exposure shall be the flame from a common wood kitchen match or an appropriate equivalent, applied for 12 seconds.
- ii. The test shall be performed in a draft-free and safe location. The sample shall be suspended with the long axis vertical, with the flame applied to the center of the bottom edge, and the bottom edge 1/2' above the bottom of the flame. After 12 second of exposure, the match is to be removed gently away from the sample
- iii. During the exposure, flaming shall not spread over the complete length of the sample or in excess of 4" from the bottom of the sample. Thee shall be not more than 2 seconds of afterflaming. Materials which break and drip flaming particles shall be rejected if the materials continue to burn after they reach the floor.

- f. The interior finish in all places of assembly shall be as regulated or modified by the provisions of the definition of interior finish in 23-28.1-5 and shall not exceed the following classifications for the locations indicated:
 - i. In all vertical means of egress “ Class A.”
 - ii. In all horizontal means of egress “ Class B”
 - iii. In all other rooms or spaces “ Class C”
- g. Floor coverings must conform to the requirements of the next class lower than the classifications above, but in no instance should be less than “ Class C” , except that in sprinklered buildings all floor coverings may be “ Class A” throughout.

In addition, all floor coverings referred to in NFPA Standard 253 (1984 ed.), and described as Class I and Class II in NFPA Standard 101 Life Safety Code (1985 ed.) may be used on all floors where combustible floor coverings are allowed. *RI Gen.Laws 23-28.6-15*

4. emergency lighting, testing.

- a. A functional test shall be conducted on every required emergency lighting system at 30-day intervals for not less than 30 seconds.
- b. An annual test shall be conducted on every required battery-powered emergency lighting system for not less than 1-1/2 hours. Equipment shall be fully operational for the duration of the test.
- c. Written records of visual inspections and tests shall be kept by the management for inspection by Safety & Risk Management.

NFPA 101 (2003) 7.9.3

- 5. emergency plan.** Management shall have an emergency plan, approved by Safety & Risk Management, to include the duties and responsibilities of all management personnel in the event of an emergency during a scheduled event. *RI Gen.Laws 23-28.6-22(g), RI Life Safety Code 13.4.7.1.4*

6. housekeeping.

- a. All places of assembly, egress passages therefrom, and adjacent rooms and spaces not segregated from the place of assembly or passage by closed fire resistant construction shall be kept clean and in tidy condition, and free from combustible debris.
- b. No premises shall contain storage of flammable liquids, liquefied petroleum gas, and no cooking or use of open flame or smoking shall be allowed without adequate provisions for the protection of the premises and occupants against fire. *RI Gen.Laws 23-28.6-17*

III. Management:

This section applies to those persons responsible for managing scheduled events in places of assembly.

- 1. admissions.** Management shall supervise all admissions to places of assembly such as to not allow admissions in excess of the maximum occupancy. *RI Gen.Laws 23-28.6-5(a), RI Life Safety Code 13.7.5.3*
- 2. aisles and seating.**
 - a.** All seating shall be arranged in an orderly manner with ample provision made for aisles leading to exits, and no aisle forming a part of the egress system shall be obstructed or encumbered.
 - b.** No longitudinal aisle serving seats on one side shall be less than 30" in width, and no aisle serving seats on both sides shall be less than 36" in width and shall be increased one inch for every 5' of travel toward main exits according to the number of seats served thereby.
 - c.** Ample front, rear, or through-section cross aisles at least 36" in width shall be provided where necessary for access to exit openings.
 - d.** Rows of seats between aisles shall have not more than 14 seats. Rows of seats opening onto an aisle at one end only shall have not more than 7 seats.
 - e.** The spacing of rows of seats from back to back shall be not less than 30" .
 - f.** There shall be a space of not less than 12" between the back of one seat and the front of the seat immediately behind it as measured between plumb lines.
 - g.** In every place of public assembly used principally for the presentation of theatrical performances or exhibitions, all seats in each row shall be fastened together and secured firmly to the floor.
 - h.** Tables arranged for dining or other purposes in places of assembly shall be so located in respect to exit openings, and so spaced apart, that sufficient means of access to exit openings is provided. Aisles in the direction of exits shall be at least 3' in width. Suitable access to aisles shall be provided from all tables. *RI Gen.Laws 23-28.6-11*

3. approval.

Safety & Risk Management shall review and approve or disapprove all plans for scheduled events in places of assembly.

Upon the scheduling of an upcoming event with an expected audience of 50 persons or more (200 or more for outdoor events), the management of the place of assembly shall notify Safety & Risk Management of the following:

1. the date and time of the event
2. the type of event
3. the name of the vendor
4. the expected size of the audience
5. the dimensions of the stage, if any, in the form of a plan
6. the seating plan, including aisle spaces and paths of egress
7. the use of any machinery for creating smoke/fog “ effects”

In addition, management will be asked to provide a copy of the vendor’ s Certificate of Insurance.

Safety & Risk Management shall review the event information, determine the necessity of an on duty alarm technician, and confer with the Kingston Fire District to determine the size of the firefighter detail, if any.

Upon approval, Safety & Risk Management shall then notify the event manager, Kingston Fire Department and the URI Police.

4. concerts and musical entertainment, reserved seating required.

Admissions to all indoor places of assembly seating over 2,000 persons wherein musical concerts are to be performed shall be by reserved seating only, i.e., a seat available (reserved) for each admittee. No manager or other person(s) in charge of any place of assembly shall sell or cause to be sold non-reserved seating for the performance. *RI Gen.Laws 23-28.6-20*

5. crowd manager. Management shall have trained* crowd managers on duty for the duration of any scheduled event.

*trained in accordance with guidelines set out by the State Fire Marshal, with regard to the emergency plan and basic crowd management techniques

6. festival seating. Festival seating (no seating) where audience/spectators are provided only floor space to observe a performance shall be permitted for an audience of less than 250 persons upon review of stage and seating (including festival seating) space.

Festival seating for an audience of 250 persons or more shall be permitted as above, only in building which have an approved life safety evaluation.

- 7. firefighter details.** The Rhode Island Fire Safety code requires that one or more firefighters be detailed to scheduled events in certain places of assembly. The Department of Safety & Risk Management and the Kingston Fire District share the authority to increase the number of such details as deemed necessary. The determination of the size of the firefighter detail shall be based on the nature of the event, the size of the expected audience, the seating arrangements, aisle space, means of egress and exit facilities of the place of assembly.

All scheduled events within Class A places of assembly shall have at least one uniformed firefighter on duty for the duration of the event. The need for additional firefighters shall be determined by the Department of Safety & Risk Management and the Kingston Fire District.

All other places of assembly shall have one or more uniformed firefighters on duty for the duration of the event as deemed necessary by Safety & Risk Management.

The cost of all firefighters on duty at scheduled events within places of assembly shall be borne my the management of the facility.

RI Gen Laws 23-28.6-5(g)

- 8. occupancy, maximum.** The occupant load permitted in any assembly building structure, or portion thereof, shall be determined by dividing the net floor area or space assigned to that use by the square feet per occupant as follows:

1. an assembly area of concentrated use without fixed seats such as an auditorium, gymnasium, church, chapel, dance floor, and lodge room, 7 sq.ft./person
2. an assembly area of less concentrated use such as conference rooms, dining room, drinking establishments, exhibit room, or lounge, 15 sq.ft./person
3. standing room or waiting space, 5 sq.ft./person, provided, that aisle area, except rear cross aisles, shall not be considered in determining the number of standing patrons allowed.

RI Gen Laws 23-28.6-3

9. pre-event inspection. The RI Fire Safety Code requires that the manager of any scheduled event within a place of assembly carry out a pre-event inspection ninety (90) minutes prior to the opening of doors to patrons.

This inspection includes:

1. a check to confirm all exit doors are unlocked, unobstructed and easily openable
2. a check to confirm that all exit signs are visible and unobstructed
3. a check to confirm that all accumulated combustible materials have been removed from the building
4. a check to confirm that the seating and aisle space conforms to the approved seating plan
5. a check to confirm that the stage set-up conforms to the approved plan

A checklist of each of these items, and the required pre-event public address, is found in Appendix B. The completed form shall be kept for inspection by S&RM.

The Department of Safety & Risk Management shall cause an inspection of the assembly area prior to the event. Any issue of non-compliance with this policy shall be brought to the attention of the management for immediate correction.

10. pre-event public address. The RI Fire Safety Code requires that the Event Manager make an announcement, just prior to the opening of the event, over the public address system, directing the assembly's attention to the exits to be used in case of an evacuation.

11. prohibited activities/materials (see pyrotechnics, decorative materials, acoustical materials)

12. pyrotechnics. The storage, handling, use or display of pyrotechnics is prohibited in all Class B and Class C University places of assembly. Plans for pyrotechnic displays in Class A places of assembly shall be reviewed by S&RM and the State Fire Marshal's office with respect to the RI State Fire Code. All plans must be submitted to S&RM no less than thirty days prior to the scheduled event. *RI Gen. Laws 23-28.6-23, RI Life Safety Code 13.7.2.1*

13. smoke/fog generating machinery. Information regarding the use of machinery for the purpose of generating smoke or fog "effect" related to the event must be included in management's description of the event.

14. standing conditions. Standing patrons may be allowed in places of assembly at the rate of one person for each 5 sq.ft. of area available for standing, provided, that aisle area, except rear cross aisles, shall not be considered in determining the number of standing patrons allowed.

Addendum A:

Procedures for Scheduling Events in University Places of Assembly

1. Managers of each place of assembly shall familiarize themselves with the University's Fire Safety Policy for Places of Assembly.
2. Upon the scheduling of an upcoming event with an expected audience of 50 persons or more (200 or more for outdoor events), the management of the place of assembly shall notify Safety & Risk Management of the following:
 - i. date and time of the event
 - ii. type of event
 - iii. name of the vendor
 - iv. expected size of the audience
 - v. dimensions of the stage, if any, in the form of a plan
 - vi. seating plan, including aisle spaces and paths of egress
 - vii. the use of any machinery for creating smoke/fog "effects"
3. In addition, management will be asked to provide a copy of the vendor's Certificate of Insurance.
4. Safety & Risk Management shall review the event information, determine the size of the firefighter detail and the necessity of an alarm technician.
5. Upon approval, Safety & Risk Management shall then notify the event manager, Kingston Fire Department and the URI Police.
6. Prior to admitting the audience into the place of assembly, management shall conduct an inspection, using the Pre-Event Inspection Form (Addendum B), of all exits, exit signs, paths of egress to the exits, and aisle spaces. The Form shall be completed, signed and made available to the Fire Safety Officer upon request.
7. Prior to the beginning of the event, management shall make a public address to the audience, directing the audience to the location of the exits to be used in case of an emergency evacuation.

Addendum B:

Pre-Event Inspection Form

Event Location: _____

Date/Time: _____

1. inspect all exits for unlocked, unobstructed, easily openable exit doors

2. inspect all exit signs to be visible and unobstructed

3. inspect all paths of egress to be lighted and unobstructed

4. inspect for removal of all accumulated combustible materials

5. inspect and confirm seating and aisle space in accordance with approved seating plan

6. inspect and confirm stage set-up in accordance with approved plan

7. confirm public announcement of location of emergency exits

event manager: _____

date/time: _____

Addendum C:

Special Provisions for Exposition Facilities:

Expositions within assembly occupancies have problems that differ from other assembly events. Combustible materials are frequently displayed, and the containers in which the exhibits are shipped contribute to the fuel load. Exhibitors may be unaware of local fire safety regulations. Event managers are met with a crowded event floor, continuously moving patrons and a nearly continuous exchange of patrons.

The following policies, nearly all derived from the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code (2003ed.) and adopted by the State of Rhode Island as the Life Safety Code section of its Fire Safety Code, shall be the policies controlling such events at the places of assembly of the University of Rhode Island. It shall be the responsibility of the Department of Safety and Risk Management, as the *Authority Having Jurisdiction*, to place the management of the several places of assembly on notice as to the strictures of the policy, and to provide guidance, oversight and enforcement.

1. **Exits:** No display or exhibit shall be installed or operated to interfere in any way with access to any required exit or with the visibility of any required exit or required exit sign; nor shall any display block access to fire-fighting equipment.
RILSC 13.7.4.1
2. **Storage:** A storage room having an enclosure consisting of a smoke barrier having a fire resistance rating of 1 hour and protected by an automatic extinguishing system shall be provided for combustible materials not on display, including combustible packing crates used to ship exhibitors' supplies and products. *RILSC 13.7.4.2*
3. **Plans:** Plans for the exposition, in an acceptable form, shall be submitted to the *authority having jurisdiction* for approval prior to setting up any exhibit. The plan shall show all details of the proposed exposition. No exposition shall occupy an exposition facility without approved plans. *RILSC 13.7.4.3.11*
4. **Exhibits:**
 - a. The travel distance within the exhibit booth or exhibit enclosure to an exit access aisle shall not exceed 50 feet. *RILSC 13.7.4.3.2*
 - b. The upper deck of multilevel exhibits greater than 300 sq.ft. shall have not less than two remote means of egress *RILSC 13.7.4.3.3*

Exhibit booths shall be constructed of the following:

- i. Noncombustible or limited-combustible materials
- ii. Wood exceeding ¼” nominal thickness that is pressure-treated, fire-retardant wood meeting the requirements of NFPA 703, *Standard for Fire Retardant Impregnated Wood and Fire Retardant Coatings for Building Materials*
- iii. Flame-retardant materials complying with NFPA 701, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Flame Propagation of Textiles and Films*
- iv. Textile wall coverings, such as carpeting and similar products used as wall or ceiling finishes, complying with the provisions of *RILSC 10.2.2 and 10.2.4*
- v. Plastics limited to those that comply with *RILSC 10.2 and 12.3.3*
- vi. Foamed plastics and materials containing foamed plastics having a heat release rate for any single fuel package that does not exceed 100 kW where tested in accordance with UL 1975, *Standard for Fire Tests for Foamed Plastics Used for Decorative Purposes*
- vii. Cardboard, honeycombed paper, and other combustible materials having a heat release rate for any single fuel package that does not exceed 150 kW where tested in accordance with UL 1975, *Standard for Fire Tests for Foamed Plastics Used for Decorative Purposes*

RILSC 13.7.4.3.4

- c. Curtains, drapes, and decorations shall comply with the applicable portions of *RILSC 10.3.1* *RILSC 13.7.4.3.5*
- d. Acoustical and decorative material including, but not limited to, cotton, hay, paper, straw, moss, split bamboo, and wood chips shall be flame-retardant treated to the satisfaction of the authority having jurisdiction. Materials that cannot be treated for flame retardancy shall not be used. Foamed plastics and materials containing foamed plastics used as decorative objects such as, but not limited to, mannequins, murals, and signs shall have a heat release rate for any single fuel package that does not exceed 150 kW where tested in accordance with UL 1975, *Standard for Fire Tests for Foamed Plastics Used for Decorative Purpose*

exception: where the aggregate area of such materials is less than 10% of the individual floor or wall area, such materials shall be permitted to be used subject to the approval of the authority having jurisdiction. *RILSC 13.7.4.3.6*

The following shall be protected by automatic extinguishing systems:

- i. Single-level exhibit booths exceeding 300 sq.ft. and covered with a ceiling
- ii. Each level of multilevel exhibit booths, protected throughout, including the uppermost level where the uppermost level is covered with a ceiling

A single exhibit or group of exhibits with ceilings that do not require sprinklers shall be separated by a distance not less than 10' where the aggregate ceiling exceeds 300 sq.ft.

The water supply and piping for the sprinkler system shall be permitted to be approved, temporary means that is provided by a domestic water supply, a standpipe system, or a sprinkler system.

exception #1: ceilings that are constructed of open grate design or listed dropout ceilings in accordance with NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems, shall not be considered ceilings within the context of 13.7.4.3.7

exception #2: vehicles, boats, and similar exhibited products having over 100 sq.ft. of roofed area shall be provided with smoke detectors acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

exception #3: this requirement shall not apply where fire protection of multilevel exhibit booths is consistent with the criteria developed through a life safety evaluation of the exhibition hall in accordance with RILSC 13.4.1, subject to approval of the authority having jurisdiction

RILSC 13.7.4.3.7

- e. Open flame devices within exhibit booths shall comply with RILSC 13.7.2
RILSC 13.7.4.3.8

f. Cooking and food-warming devices in exhibit booths shall comply with RILSC 13.76.1 and the following:

i. Gas-fired devices shall comply with shall comply with the following:

(1) Natural gas-fired devices shall be in accordance with RILSC 9.1.1

exception: this requirement shall not apply to compressed natural gas where permitted by the authority having jurisdiction

(2) The use of LP-Gas cylinders shall be prohibited

exception: nonrefillable LP-Gas cylinders shall be permitted to be used where permitted by the authority having jurisdiction

ii. the devices shall be isolated from the public by not less than 4' or by a barrier between the devices and the public

iii. multi-well cooking equipment using combustible oils or solids shall comply with RILSC 9.2.3

iv. Single-well cooking equipment using combustible oils or solids shall meet the following criteria:

(1) they shall have lids available for immediate use

(2) they shall be limited to 288 sq.in. of cooking surface

(3) they shall be placed on noncombustible surface materials

(4) they shall be separated from each other by a horizontal distance of not less than 2' .

exception: this requirement shall not apply to multiple single-well cooking equipment where the aggregate cooking surface does not exceed 288 sq.in.

RILSC 13.7.4.3.9

j. Combustible materials within exhibit booths shall be limited to a one-day supply. Storage of combustible materials behind the booth shall be prohibited.

RILSC 13.7.4.3.10

Vehicles: Vehicles on display within the exposition facility shall comply with the following:

- g. All fuel tank openings shall be locked and sealed in an approved manner to prevent the escape of vapors. Fuel tanks shall not contain in excess of one-half their capacity or contain in excess of 10 gal of fuel, whichever is less.
 - h. At least one battery cable shall be removed from the batteries used to start the vehicle engine. The disconnected battery cable shall then be taped.
 - i. Batteries used to power auxiliary equipment shall be permitted to be kept in service
 - j. Fueling or defueling of vehicles shall be prohibited.
 - k. Vehicles shall not be moved during exhibit hours.
5. Compressed flammable gases; flammable or combustible liquids; hazardous chemicals or materials, and Class II or greater lasers, blasting agents, and explosives shall be prohibited within exhibit halls.

exception: the authority having jurisdiction shall be permitted to allow the limited use of any items specified under special circumstances

RILSC 13.7.4.5

Notes:

1. To meet the intent of section 3 (below) it is advisable to have prepared plans or diagrams to show the arrangement of displays or exhibits, including any that are to be suspended from the ceiling or housed within an overhead structure. Displays or exhibits must not interfere with access to any required exit, and they must not conceal exit signs. A display should not block access for fire-fighting equipment or interfere with the normal operation of automatic extinguishing equipment or devices for smoke evacuation. Aisles serving rows of booths are exit accesses; therefore, booths and other temporary construction should be of minimal combustible construction or should be protected to avoid undue hazard of fire that might endanger occupants before they can reach available exits.

2. Displays or exhibits of combustible material must be limited in quantity in order to reduce the fuel load to an acceptable level. In accordance with 13.7.4.2, excess combustible display material and all other combustible materials that are not in use should be kept in a separate storage room until needed. A separation with a fire resistance rating of 1 hour is required between such a storage room and all other parts of the building, and the room must be protected by an automatic sprinkler system.

3. The travel distance requirements of section 4(a) applies to a standard exhibit booth arrangement, whether constructed of pipe supports and cloth or paper drapes, or whether it is a large exhibit enclosure designed and built from other materials, which could include small booths, open displays, large board displays, or other arrangements. This requirement also includes exhibit enclosures that are created by the arrangement of products, such as machinery or vehicles. The intent is that travel distance is not to be more than 50' for occupants that are inside the enclosure, whether they are employees or patrons. Note that this is not travel distance to an exit, but only to an aisle.
4. The means of egress requirement of section 4(b) ensures that larger exhibits with a second level will provide at least two means of egress to prevent entrapping occupants on the upper level.
5. The intent of section 4(c)(vi) is to prohibit the use of foamed plastics because of their inherent burning characteristics, unless they have been tested for heat-release rate in accordance with UL 1975, *Standard for Fire Tests for Foamed Plastic Used for Decorative Purposes*, and meet the maximum 100-kW threshold. Foamed plastics are used in sign construction and display boards, and, in some cases, the entire booth is constructed of foamed plastics.
6. The intent of section 4(c) is to regulate the materials used for large signs and display boards; small signs (approximately 2' x3' or smaller) would not normally be considered part of the wall covering. It does not apply to the goods or products that are being displayed.
7. Large booths and multistory booths pose special life safety problems in exhibit halls. A fire in these booths could grow to proportions large enough to have a significant negative impact on the performance of the building's sprinkler system. The intent of Section 4(f) is to provide sprinkler protection in these booths by means of a temporary tap into the existing sprinkler system. Sprinklers should provide the protection necessary to extinguish a fire in its incipient stage, thus reducing the life hazard to occupants.