CHAPTER 23 HIGH-PILED COMBUSTIBLE STORAGE

SECTION 2302.1 IFC Interpretation No. 13-05 2003 Edition Issued: 12-15-05

2302.1 Definitions. HIGH-PILED STORAGE AREA. An area within a building which is designated, intended, proposed or actually used for high-piled combustible storage.

REFERENCED SECTION:

2306.9 Aisles. Aisles providing access to exits and fire department access doors shall be provided in high-piled storage areas exceeding 500 square feet (46 m2), in accordance with Sections 2306.9.1 through 2306.9.3. Aisles separating storage piles or racks shall comply with NFPA 13. Aisles shall also comply with Chapter 10.

Exception: Where aisles are precluded by rack storage systems, alternate methods of access and protection are allowed when approved.

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Q: Within a building, when calculating the actual floor area for that portion of the building dedicated for use as "High-Piled Storage Area", as defined in Section 2302.1 of the 2003 International Fire Code, are aisles that are required for access to exits and fire department access doors considered part of the high-piled storage area?

A: No. Where aisles are provided in addition to the aisles required by NFPA 13 they need not be included in the high-piled storage area. Section 2306.9 requires aisles for both access to exits and fire department access doors in addition to aisles separating storage piles or racks. Only those aisles separating storage piles and racks that are required by NFPA 13 need to be included in the high-piled storage area.