

**CHAPTER 5  
GENERAL BUILDING HEIGHTS AND AREAS**

**SECTION 507.6  
IBC Interpretation No. 45-06  
2003 Edition  
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**507.6 High-hazard use groups.** Group H-2, H-3 and H-4 fire areas shall be permitted in unlimited area buildings having occupancies in Groups F and S, in accordance with the limitations of this section. Fire areas located at the perimeter of the unlimited area building shall not exceed 10 percent of the area of the building nor the area limitations specified in Table 503 as modified by Section 506.2, based upon the percentage of the perimeter of the fire area that fronts on a street or other unoccupied space. Other fire areas shall not exceed 25 percent of the area limitations specified in Table 503. Fire-resistance-rating requirements of fire barrier assemblies shall be in accordance with Table 302.3.3.



**Q:** The provisions of Section 507.6 of the *International Building Code* permit limited areas of high-hazard use Groups H-2, H-3 and H-4 to be located in unlimited area buildings in use Group F and/or use Group S.

Can high-hazard use Groups H-2, H-3 and/or H-4 be located in a Group F or Group S unlimited area building that also contains a use Group B?

**A:** Yes. A Group B fire area is permitted, provided the use Group H-2, H-3, or H-4 is not located within a Group B fire area. While an use Group B (office) is permitted and commonly found within a use Group F and/or S occupancy, the Group H fire area must be located within the Group F and/or Group S fire area of the unlimited area building.

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