

**CHAPTER 4
SPECIAL DETAILED REQUIREMENTS BASED ON USE AND OCCUPANCY**

**SECTION 403.1
2009 Edition
IBC Interpretation 41-13
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403.1 Applicability. High-rise buildings shall comply with Sections 403.2 through 403.6.

Exception: The provisions of Sections 403.2 through 403.6 shall not apply to the following buildings and structures:

1. Airport traffic control towers in accordance with Section 412.3.
2. Open parking garages in accordance with Section 406.3.
3. Buildings with a Group A-5 occupancy in accordance with Section 303.1.
4. Special industrial occupancies in accordance with Section 503.1.1.
5. Buildings with a Group H-1, H-2 or H-3 occupancy in accordance with Section 415.



Q: Does Exception #5 prohibit Group H-3 occupancies from being located within high-rise buildings?

A: No.

Similar to the occupancies addressed in the other exceptions, Group H-1, H-2 and H-3 occupancies typically require special design considerations to build such structures. While these occupancies may potentially require significant heights depending upon the nature of the use involving hazardous materials associated with these occupancies, they are not typical of the type of occupancies the high-rise provisions were intending to regulate. Exception #5 is not intended to prohibit a properly separated and protected Group H-3 occupancy from being located within a high-rise building.
