

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

**SECTION 407.3.1
2009 Edition
IBC Interpretation 82-12
Issued 11-13-2012
BU_09_82_12**

407.3.1 Corridor doors. Corridor doors, other than those in a wall required to be rated by Section 508.2.5 or for the enclosure of a vertical opening or an exit, shall not have a required fire protection rating and shall not be required to be equipped with self-closing or automatic-closing devices, but shall provide an effective barrier to limit the transfer of smoke and shall be equipped with positive latching. Roller latches are not permitted. Other doors shall conform to Section 715.4.

REFERENCED SECTIONS:

407.3 Corridor walls. Corridor walls shall be constructed as smoke partitions in accordance with Section 711.

711.5.2 Smoke and draft control doors. Where required elsewhere in the code, doors in smoke partitions shall meet the requirements for a smoke and draft control door assembly tested in accordance with UL 1784. The air leakage rate of the door assembly shall not exceed 3.0 cubic feet per minute per square foot (0.015424 m³/(s · m²)) of door opening at 0.10 inch (24.9 Pa) of water for both the ambient temperature test and the elevated temperature exposure test. Installation of smoke doors shall be in accordance with NFPA 105.



Q: Does Section 407.3.1 require the non-rated corridor doors that are to “provide an effective barrier to limit the spread of smoke” to be designed as “smoke and draft control doors” in compliance with Section 711.5.2?

A: No. The door assemblies need only be capable of limiting the passage of smoke. Since Section 407.3.1 contains a specific set of requirements for the corridor doors in Group I-2 occupancies the provisions of this section must be followed versus the provisions of Section 711.5.2. Section 407.3.1 does not require a seal material around the door leaf to seal the joint to limit the passage of smoke. The doors must have some measure that provides an effective limit to the passage of smoke, including any opening through the door or around the door. The door must have positive latching. Roller latches are not considered to provide positive latching.
