

CHAPTER 10 MEANS OF EGRESS

SECTION [B] 1015.2.1 2012 Edition IBC Interpretation 42-12 Issued 5-5-15 BU_12_42_12

[B] 1015.2.1 Two exits or exit access doorways. Where two *exits* or *exit access doorways* are required from any portion of the *exit access*, the *exit* doors or *exit access doorways* shall be placed a distance apart equal to not less than one-half of the length of the maximum overall diagonal dimension of the building or area to be served measured in a straight line between *exit* doors or *exit access doorways*. Interlocking or *scissor stairs* shall be counted as one *exit stairway*.

Exceptions:

1. Where *interior exit stairways* are interconnected by a 1-hour fire-resistance-rated *corridor* conforming to the requirements of Section 1018, the required *exit* separation shall be measured along the shortest direct line of travel within the *corridor*.
2. Where a building is equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2, the separation distance of the *exit* doors or *exit access doorways* shall not be less than one-third of the length of the maximum overall diagonal dimension of the area served.

REFERENCED SECTIONS:

[B] 1015.1 Exits or exit access doorways from spaces. Two *exits* or *exit access* doorways from any space shall be provided where one of the following conditions exists:

1. The *occupant load* of the space exceeds one of the values in Table 1015.1.

Exceptions:

1. In Group R-2 and R-3 occupancies, one *means of egress* is permitted within and from individual dwelling units with a maximum *occupant load* of 20 where the dwelling unit is equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2.
2. Care suites in Group I-2 occupancies complying with Section 407.4.3.
2. The *common path of egress travel* exceeds one of the limitations of Section 1014.3.
3. Where required by Section 1015.3, 1015.4, 1015.5, or 1015.6.

Where a building contains mixed occupancies, each individual occupancy shall comply with the applicable requirements for that occupancy. Where applicable, cumulative *occupant loads* from adjacent occupancies shall be considered in accordance with the provisions of Section 1004.1.

**[B] TABLE 1015.1
SPACES WITH ONE EXIT OR EXIT ACCESS DOORWAY**

OCCUPANCY	MAXIMUM OCCUPANT LOAD
A, B, E, F, M, U	49
H-1, H-2, H-3	3
H-4, H-5, I-1, I-2, I-3, I-4, R	10
S	29



Q: A single story “modular building” consists of two separate rooms and has a combined occupant load of 50 to 98. The rooms are located side by side. Each room is required to have only one exit access door. The exit access doors from each room are located side by side. The exit access door from each room opens directly to the exterior onto a common landing located above grade, which is in turn served by a set of steps and a ramp which descend to grade. Are the exit doors required to be placed the distance apart as specified in Section 1015.2.1?

A: No.

Based on the facts that each room is required to have only one exit access door, each exit access door opens directly to the exterior, and each access door serves as the exit door; the doors are not required to be separated the distance specified in Section 1015.2.1.

Where the platform is at the level of exit discharge, it is considered part of the exit discharge, and must comply with the provisions of Chapter 10 as applicable to that portion of the means of egress. If the platform is considered a story above grade, it is part of the exit access portion of the means of egress similar to an egress balcony (Sections 1016.2, 1019).
