

WAC 51-50-1023 Section 1023—Interior exit stairways and ramps.

1023.2 Construction. Enclosures for interior exit stairways and ramps shall be constructed as fire barriers in accordance with Section 707 or *horizontal* assemblies constructed in accordance with Section 711, or both. Interior exit stairway and ramp enclosures shall have a *fire-resistance rating* of not less than 2 hours where connecting four stories or more and not less than 1 hour where connecting less than four stories. The number of stories connected by the interior exit stairways or ramps shall include any basements, but not any mezzanines. Interior exit stairways and ramps shall have a *fire-resistance rating* not less than the floor assembly penetrated, but need not exceed 2 hours.

EXCEPTIONS: 1. Interior exit stairways and ramps in Group I-3 occupancies in accordance with the provisions of Section 408.3.8.
 2. Interior exit stairways within an atrium enclosed in accordance with Section 404.6.
 3. Interior exit stairway in accordance with Section 510.2.

1023.5 Penetrations. Penetrations into or through interior exit stairways and ramps are prohibited except for the following:

1. Equipment and ductwork necessary for independent ventilation or pressurization;
2. Fire protection systems;
3. Security systems;
4. Two-way communication systems;
5. Electrical raceway for fire department communication systems;
6. Electrical raceway serving the interior exit stairway and ramp and terminating at a steel box not exceeding 16 square inches (0.010 m);
7. Structural elements supporting the interior exit stairway or ramp or enclosure, such as beams or joists.

1023.11 Smokeproof enclosures. Where required by Section 403.5.4, 405.7.2 or 412.2.2.1, interior exit stairways and ramps shall be smokeproof enclosures in accordance with Section 909.20. Where interior exit stairways and ramps are pressurized in accordance with Section 909.20.5, the smoke control pressurization system shall comply with the requirements specified in Section 909.6.3.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 19.27.031 and 19.27.074. WSR 20-01-090, § 51-50-1023, filed 12/12/19, effective 7/1/20.]