STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-21-08

May 20, 2009

The following is being offered in response to your email in which you seek a formal interpretation. The question applies to Section AG105.2, of the 2003 International Residential Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code.

Question:
“While Section AG105.2 does not address a pool barrier made up only of horizontal members, Section AG105.2, Item #6, does address chain link mesh size of 2-1/4 inches square. Is a pool barrier made up of horizontal members to the height of 48 inches with a 3/4 inch space between the members a code compliant barrier?”

(A photograph is included illustrating the pool barrier composed of horizontal and vertical members with horizontal members not located on the swimming pool side.)

Answer:
Section AG105.2, Item #4 requires the barriers horizontal members, where the distance between the tops of the members is less than 45 inches, to have all horizontal members be located on the swimming pool side of the barrier.