

STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-22-08

November 18, 2008

The following is offered in response to your email dated November 13, 2008 in which you seek a formal interpretation. This question would apply to Section 1009.11.2, of the 2003 International Building Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code.

Question: Is an intermediate handrail required for an egress stair which is nominally nine feet wide with all of this width required to meet the required occupant load, i.e., our required egress width is the width of the stair?

Answer: Yes Section 1009.11.2 requires an intermediate handrail so that all portions of the stairway width required for egress capacity are within thirty inches of a handrail. An intermediate handrail is needed for this nine foot wide stair to accommodate the occupant loading capacity of the stair.