



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

**FPB POLICY
C-08-3**

**STORAGE RESTRICTIONS IN CORRIDORS
CFC 315.2.2; 1003.6 and Title 19,
California Code of Regulations, Section 3.11**

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the restrictions regarding storage of equipment and materials in exit corridors.

II. SCOPE

This policy shall apply to the storage of equipment and materials in corridors of new and existing buildings.

Exceptions:

- A. Buildings where specific equipment has been approved for storage in corridors as shown on an approved set of building plans or in a written agreement endorsed by the building management and Fire-Rescue Department (Fire Marshal) and Development Services Department.
- B. State Fire Marshal Occupancies regulated under Title 19, California Code of Regulations.

III. DEFINITIONS

LIMITED COMBUSTIBLE: (combine below)

LIMITED: A continuing element or restriction.

COMBUSTIBLE: Capable of catching fire and burning.

- A. Such equipment would include (but is not limited to) electronic or mechanical equipment in which the only combustible portion of the equipment is the wiring, controls, motors, etc.
- B. Items which are **not** considered to have limited combustibility would include equipment in plastic casings, equipment containing combustible materials such as copiers and filing cabinets, fabrics, and similar items.

Fire Prevention Bureau

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IV. STORAGE OF NON-COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS

Materials and equipment which are entirely non-combustible may be stored in corridors providing they do not obstruct the required width of the exit. Presence of the equipment or material shall not render the exit hazardous.

V. STORAGE OF EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS WITH LIMITED COMBUSTIBILITY

Items with limited combustibility may be stored in corridors providing the following conditions are complied with:

1. The building shall be equipped with an approved fire sprinkler system throughout.
2. Items shall not obstruct the required width of the corridor.
3. The corridor shall be equipped with an approved smoke detection system. The detectors shall be tied into the building fire alarm system. Should a fire occur in the corridor, the system will alert all building occupants to evacuate the building.
4. All equipment in corridors shall be secured to eliminate the possibility of movement during a seismic event.

Note: Automatic fire sprinkler systems and smoke detection systems required by items IV-A1 and A3 above shall be permitted and approved by Development Services Department prior to installation.

VI. GENERAL RESTRICTIONS FOR ALL CORRIDOR STORAGE

- A. Hazardous materials shall not be used or stored in a corridor.
- B. Personnel shall not have work stations in a corridor.
- C. Mechanical equipment shall not draw power via an extension cord.
- D. If, in the opinion of the fire code official, any equipment, material, or activity would unduly impede exiting or render the corridor hazardous, that equipment, material, or activity shall be removed.

Promulgated by: _____

Date: _____