



# NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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## TECHNICAL BULLETIN

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**Effective Date:** January 1, 2003

**Source Document:** 19NYCRR 1221 *Building Code of New York State (BCNYS)*

**Topic:** **BCNYS Chapter 8, Interior Finishes in the mall portion of the covered mall building and on the kiosks in the mall portion.**

This document is to clarify the requirements for interior finish in the mall portion of the covered mall building and on the kiosks in the mall portion. BCNYS Chapter 4, is entitled Special Detailed Requirements Based on Use and Occupancy. Section 401.1, Scope, provides that in addition to the occupancy and construction requirements in this code, the provisions of chapter 4 are applicable, based on special uses or occupancies identified. BCNYS section 402, Covered Mall Buildings, provides the special detailed requirements for the covered mall building, including the kiosk, but does not specify requirements for interior finish in the mall.

*Is BCNYS Chapter 8, Table 803.4, Interior Wall and Ceiling Finish Requirements by Occupancy, applicable to the mall portion of the covered mall building? If so, what is the occupancy classification of the mall?*

YES. BCNYS Table 803.4, Interior Wall and Ceiling Finish Requirements by Occupancy is applicable. The mall portion of the covered mall building is the exit access component of the means of egress from the covered mall building; the interior wall on the mall side of each tenant space and the ceiling of the mall. The occupancy classification of the mall depends upon the most restrictive occupancy classification of the tenants in the covered mall building. The following occupancy classifications may be found in the building: Group A-1, motion picture theaters; Group A-2, restaurants and food courts; Group A-3, amusement arcades and passenger transportation terminals; Group M, retail stores; and Group B offices. The Group A-1 and A-2, assembly occupancies, have the most restrictive interior finish requirements. The requirements for interior finish are also dependent upon whether the building is sprinklered or unsprinklered, and the type of the space. The space may be one of the following: vertical exits and exit passageways; exit access corridors and other exitways; or rooms and enclosed spaces. The mall is considered "exit access corridors and other exitways." BCNYS section 803.1, Wall and Ceiling Finishes, requires these finishes to be tested and classified in accordance with ASTM E84 as: Class A: flame spread 0-25; smoke developed 0-450; Class B: flame spread 26-75; smoke developed 0-450; or Class C: flame spread 76-200; smoke developed 0-450. BCNYS sections 803.2 also permits the interior wall and ceiling finish (other than textiles) to be tested to NFPA 286 and section 803.2.1 provides the acceptance criteria for that test.

*Is BCNYS Chapter 8, Table 803.4 applicable to kiosks?*

NO. Chapter 8 is applicable to Wall and Ceiling Finishes, section 803; Interior Floor Finishes, section 804; and Decorations and Trim, section 805; but not to kiosks. Kiosks are regulated only by BCNYS section 402.10 and must be noncombustible unless constructed of fire-retardant-treated wood.

**Ronald E. Piester, R.A., Director**  
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