



Florida Building Code Binding Interpretation

Report Number 263

Date: September 22, 2023

Report: 263

Code Edition: Florida Building Code, Building, 7th Edition (2020)

Sections: 903.2.4.1 and 426.1

Text of code provisions:

903.2.4.1 Woodworking operations. *An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout all Group F-1 occupancy fire areas that contain woodworking operations in excess of 2,500 square feet (232 m²) in area that generate finely divided combustible waste or use finely divided combustible materials.*

426.1 Combustible dusts, grain processing and storage. *The provisions of Sections 426.1.1 through 426.1.7 shall apply to buildings in which materials that produce combustible dusts are stored or handled. Buildings that store or handle combustible dusts shall comply with the applicable provisions of NFPA 61, NFPA 85, NFPA 120, NFPA 484, NFPA 654, NFPA 655 and NFPA 664 and the Florida Fire Prevention Code.*

Appeal question requesting a response:

Question:

Are automatic sprinklers required by section [F]903.2.4.1, Florida Building Code, Building, 7th Edition (2020), for a fire area that is larger than 2,500 square feet containing a woodworking area that is 2,500 square feet or less?

Answer:

No. However, determination of the subject woodworking operation area must be in accordance with a dust hazard analysis as required by section 426.1, Florida Building Code, Building, 7th Edition (2020), as reviewed and approved by the authority having jurisdiction.

NOTICE:

The **Building Officials Association of Florida**, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, and the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, provides this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency and application of the Building Code statewide. This interpretation is binding and not subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.