



## Clark County Department of Building & Fire Prevention

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<b>Division:</b>	Fire Prevention	<b>Code Interpretation:</b>	FP-CI-48
<b>Subject:</b>	TEMPORARY ENTRANCE UNITS	<b>Effective Date:</b>	6-8-15
<b>Code:</b>	2012 IBC/IFC Section 1003.6	<b>Revised Date:</b>	5-13-15

### A. SUBJECT:

This code interpretation addresses the use of temporary entrance units, also sometimes referred to as truss displays, which are installed within the means of egress to guide customers into exhibits, meeting rooms, trade shows, and conventions. The design components of a temporary entrance unit vary depending on the span of the entrance unit, but typically include trusses or other types of supports, bracing, counter weights, lights, signage, etc.

### B. CODE REQUIREMENT:

Section 1003.6 of the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Fire Code (IFC) requires that the path of egress travel along a means of egress shall not be interrupted by any building element other than a means of egress component. Obstructions shall not be placed in the required width of a means of egress except projections specifically permitted by IBC/IFC Sections 1003.3 and 1005.7.2. The required capacity of a means of egress system shall not be diminished along the path of egress travel.

IBC/IFC Section 1003.3.1 permits protruding objects to extend below the minimum 7'6" ceiling height required by Section 1003.2 provided a minimum headroom of 80 inches (6'8") is provided for any walking surface and not more than 50 percent of the ceiling area of a means of egress is reduced in height by protruding objects.

### C. INTERPRETATION:

A temporary entrance unit shall be permitted to be installed at exit access doors or required exit doors, including doors that serve as a horizontal exit from the space, and the means of egress shall be permitted to pass through (under) or around the temporary entrance unit, provided the minimum required egress width and headroom are maintained along the required means of egress.

Examples of allowable configurations of temporary entrance units installed at or near means of egress doors are illustrated in the attached figures. In these sample configurations, the entrance unit components are considered to abut the wall if the nearest edge of the component is within six (6) inches of the wall.

- Figures 2.0, 2.1, 3.0, 3.1, and 4.0 show entrance unit installations in which the components do not have the possibility of reducing the required egress width or reasonably being struck by occupants during an emergency egress situation. When the doors open in these configurations, the clear width is maintained through the door opening to the corridor or circulation area. In Figures 2.0, 3.0, and 4.0, the entrance unit has no intermediate support posts and the support posts on either end of the entrance unit abut the wall outside of the fully-open door positions. In Figures 2.1 and 3.1, the entrance unit has an intermediate

support post, but the intermediate support post does not interfere with the operation of the doors or reduce the required means of egress width, and the support post in Figure 2.1 is not offset from the wall by more than one door width.

- Figure 4.1 shows an entrance unit with intermediate support posts with recessed doors. Although the intermediate support posts do not infringe on the required egress width, occupants may possibly walk into them since the intermediate support posts are located more than one door width away from the wall. To ensure that occupants will not walk into the intermediate support posts in this situation, a minimum 36-inch high temporary partition (wing wall) shall be provided from the intermediate support post to the wall between the open doors. The temporary wing wall shall not reduce the minimum egress width or prevent the egress doors from reaching the fully open position.
- Figures 5.0, 5.1, 5.2, and 5.3 show an entrance unit spanning a corridor or a pre-function or circulation area. In these situations, the required clear width of the means of egress is maintained between the support posts, even when there is an intermediate support post.

Temporary entrance units similar to those depicted in Figures 4.1, 5.0, 5.1, 5.2, and 5.3 that are installed near exit access or exit doors, or within means of egress paths, shall either be weighted down with approved concrete blocks or mechanically anchored to the floor, wall, and/or ceiling with guide wires or other approved means in order to reduce the chance that the entrance unit can be inadvertently pushed over.

**D. RATIONALE:**

Temporary entrance units are commonly used at exhibits, meeting rooms, trade shows, and conventions. This code interpretation is intended to identify the minimum requirements to ensure the safe use of temporary entrance units near exits and exit access paths at exhibits, meeting rooms, trade shows, and conventions.

**Revision History:**

POLICY #	TITLE	Effective Date	Revised	Reviewed

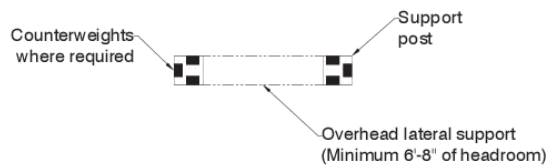
Prepared by: <i>Fulton Cochran</i> Fulton Cochran, Assistant Fire Chief	Prepared by: <i>Adolf A. Zubia</i> Adolf A. Zubia, Assistant Fire Chief
Concurred by: <i>Girard Page</i> Girard Page, Senior Deputy Fire Chief	Concurred by: <i>Kevin T. McOsker</i> Kevin T. McOsker, Building Plans Exam Manager
Approved by: <i>Ron L. Lynn</i> Ronald L. Lynn, Director/Building & Fire Official	Concurred by: <i>Ron L. Lynn</i> Samuel D. Palmer, Assistant Director

## Explanatory Figures - Entrance Units and Truss Displays

These figures are intended to be representative of the principles addressed in this code interpretation when applied to realistic scenarios where temporary entrance units or truss displays are a consideration. These figures also represent how compliance with the applicable principles might be demonstrated on plan submittals. Actual entrance unit or truss display designs and structural components will vary according to the specific contexts in which they occur, depending on actual building features and applicable egress requirements. For the purposes of these figures, the terms "entrance unit" and "truss display" are interchangeable. Counterweights and/or wing walls are shown where an approved mechanism is required to reduce the chance that an entrance unit or truss display can be inadvertently pushed over. Other approved means are delineated herein with verbiage. All distances and building features depicted are hypothetical.

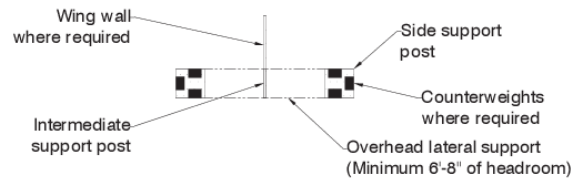
**Figure 1.0**

This figure depicts typical structural features of entrance units and truss displays without intermediate supports, and corresponds with Figures 2.0 - 6.0.



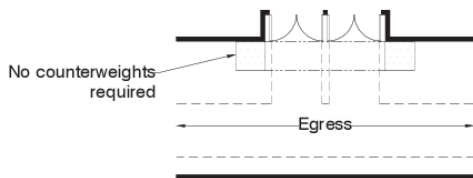
**Figure 1.1**

This figure depicts typical structural features of entrance units and truss displays utilizing intermediate supports, and corresponds with Figures 2.1 - 4.1. The size and placement of the intermediate support varies in Figures 5.1 & 6.1.



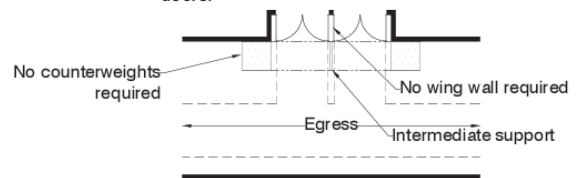
**Figure 2.0**

Entrance unit with no intermediate support posts, abutting a wall with recessed doors.



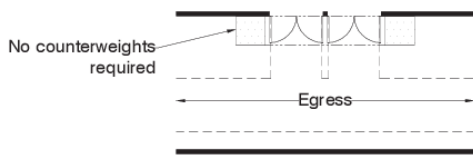
**Figure 2.1**

Entrance unit with at least one intermediate support post, abutting a wall with recessed doors.



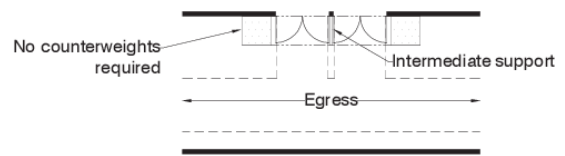
**Figure 3.0**

Entrance unit with no intermediate support posts, abutting a wall with non-recessed doors.



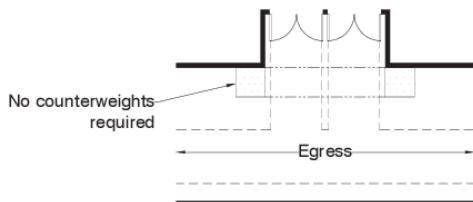
**Figure 3.1**

Entrance unit with at least one intermediate support post, abutting a wall with non-recessed doors.



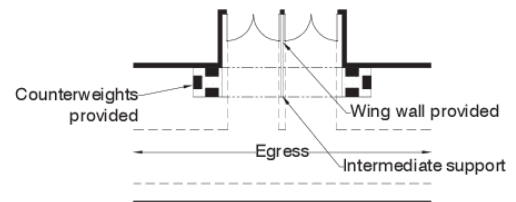
**Figure 4.0**

Entrance unit with no intermediate support posts, abutting a wall with doors recessed beyond the width of the door.

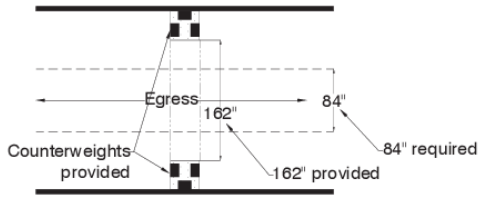


**Figure 4.1**

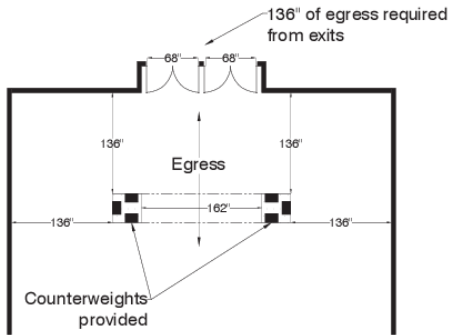
Entrance unit with at least one intermediate support post and wing wall, abutting a wall with doors recessed beyond the width of the door.



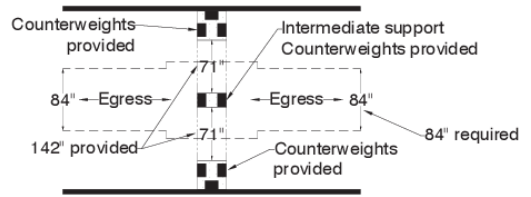
**Figure 5.0**  
Entrance unit with no intermediate support posts, spanning a corridor. The clear width provided between supports exceeds the required egress width.



**Figure 5.2**  
Entrance unit offset from doors, with no intermediate supports. Required egress width from exits is provided by multiple pathways.



**Figure 5.1**  
Entrance unit with at least one intermediate support post, spanning a corridor. Egress path splits and then converges past the entrance unit. Minimum egress width is 42 inches.



**Figure 5.3**  
Entrance unit abutting a wall with recessed doors, with intermediate support offset from doors. Required egress width from exits and through corridor is provided by multiple pathways.

