

*National Building Code of Canada:
Comparison of 2015 NBC to 2020 NBC and
Adoption by NS to be N.S. Reg. 198/2024*

Construction Association of Nova Scotia



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- + Introduction
- + General (3.1)
- + Building Fire Safety (3.2)
- + Safety within Floor Areas (3.3)
- + Exits (3.4)
- + Vertical Transportation (3.5)
- + Service Facilities (3.6)
- + Health Requirements (3.7)
- + Accessibility (3.8)
- + Key Takeaways
- + Questions

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Introduction

Background

- + Part 3 of the 2020 NBC introduces significant changes to
 - Accessibility requirements
 - Reduced barriers relating to anthropometrics, signage, entrances and elevators
 - Use of encapsulated mass timber construction (EMTC)
 - Enables the construction of wood buildings up to 12 storeys

Timeline

- + Nova Scotia to adopt 2020 NBC effective April 1, 2025

Changes to Section 3.1

- + 3.1.3.1. Major Occupancy Fire Separations
- + 3.1.4.8. Exterior Cladding
- + 3.1.5. Noncombustible Construction
- + 3.1.6. Encapsulated Mass Timber
- + 3.1.7.5. Rating of Supporting Construction
- + 3.1.8. Fire Separations and Closures
- + 3.1.9. Penetrations in Fire Separations and Fire-Rated Assemblies
- + 3.1.11. Fire Blocks in Concealed Spaces
- + 3.1.13.12. Encapsulated Mass Timber Construction
- + 3.1.15.2. Roof Coverings

(3.1)

General

Table 3.1.3.1. Major Occupancy Fire Separations

National Building Code – 2020 (New Notes to Table)

- 7) Where the building or part thereof is constructed in accordance with Article 3.2.2.48., a fire separation with a 2 h fire-resistance rating is required between the Group C major occupancy and a storage garage.
- 8) Where the building or part thereof is constructed in accordance with Article 3.2.2.57., a fire separation with a 1 h fire-resistance rating is required between the Group D and Group E or Group F, Division 2 or 3 major occupancies.

Article 3.2.2.48. Group C, up to 12 storeys, Sprinklered

Article 3.2.2.57. Group D, up to 12 storeys, Sprinklered

| Major Occupancy | Minimum Fire-Resistance Rating of Fire Separation, h | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----|------------------|------------------|
| | Adjoining Major Occupancy | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | A-1 | A-2 | A-3 | A-4 | B-1 | B-2 | B-3 | C | D | E | F-1 | F-2 | F-3 |
| ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| C | 1 | 1 ⁽³⁾ | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | — | 1 | 2 ⁽⁵⁾ | (2) | 2 ⁽⁶⁾ | 1 ⁽⁷⁾ |
| D | 1 | 1 ⁽⁴⁾ | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | — | — ⁽⁸⁾ | 3 | — ⁽⁸⁾ | — ⁽⁸⁾ |
| E | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 ⁽⁵⁾ | — ⁽⁸⁾ | — | 3 | — | — |
| F-1 | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) | 3 | 3 | — | 2 | 2 |
| F-2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 ⁽⁶⁾ | — ⁽⁸⁾ | — | 2 | — | — |
| F-3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 ⁽⁷⁾ | — ⁽⁸⁾ | — | 2 | — | — |

New Notes to the Table as Reproduced by Jensen Hughes.

Article 3.1.4.8. Exterior Cladding

National Building Code – 2015

- 1) Not less than 90% of the exterior cladding on each exterior wall of buildings conforming to Article 3.2.2.50. or 3.2.2.58. shall consist of
 - a) non-combustible cladding, or
 - b) a wall assembly that satisfies the criteria of Clause 3.1.5.5.(1)(b). (See Note A-3.1.4.8.(1).) (See also Notes A-3.1.5.5.(1)(b)(i) and A-3.1.5.5.(1)(b)(ii).)
- 2) A wall assembly conforming to Clause (1)(b) that includes combustible cladding made of fire-retardant-treated wood shall be tested for fire exposure after the cladding has been subjected to the accelerated weathering test specified in ASTM D 2898, “Accelerated Weathering of Fire-Retardant-Treated Wood for Fire Testing.”

National Building Code – 2020

- 1) Rewording – Except as provided in Sentence (2).
- 2) Where a building is considered to face 1 street in accordance with Clause 3.2.2.10.(3)(b), the exterior cladding on each exterior wall of buildings conforming to Article 3.2.2.51. or 3.2.2.60. shall consist of
 - a) non-combustible cladding, or
 - b) except as provided in Sentence (4), a wall assembly that satisfies the criteria of Clause 3.1.5.5.(1)(b).
- 3) Rewording – conforming to Clause (1)(b) or (2)(b) ... Renamed standard ASTM D2898, “Standard Practice for Accelerated Weathering of Fire-Retardant-Treated Wood for Fire Testing.”
- 4) Exterior wall assemblies constructed in accordance with Section D-6 of Appendix D are deemed to comply with Clauses (1)(b) and (2)(b).

Subsection 3.1.5. Noncombustible Construction

| Article | <i>National Building Code – 2015</i> | <i>National Building Code – 2020</i> |
|--|---|---|
| 3.1.5.2. Minor Combustible Components | g) wood blocking within wall assemblies intended for the attachment of handrails, fixtures, and similar items mounted on the surface of the wall, and ... | g) Reworded – wood blocking intended for the attachment of window elements within exterior wall assemblies, ... |
| 3.1.5.3. Combustible Roofing Materials | 4) Wood nailer facings to parapets, not more than 600 mm high, are permitted on a building required to be of non-combustible construction, if the facings and any roof membranes covering the facings are protected by sheet metal. | 4) Wood nailer facings to parapets that are not more than 610 mm high are permitted on a building required to be of non-combustible construction, provided the facings and any roof membranes covering the facings are protected by sheet metal. |

Article 3.1.5.4. Combustible Windows, Glazing and Skylights

National Building Code – 2015

- 5) Combustible window sashes and frames are permitted in a building required to be of noncombustible construction provided
 - a) each window in an exterior wall face is an individual unit separated by non-combustible wall construction from every other opening in the wall,
 - b) windows in exterior walls in contiguous storeys are separated by not less than 1 m of noncombustible construction, and
 - c) the aggregate area of openings in an exterior wall face of a fire compartment is not more than 40% of the area of the wall face.

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National Building Code – 2020

- 5) Rewording – Combustible window sashes and frames are permitted in a building required to be of non-combustible construction, provided they are vertically non-contiguous between storeys.

Article 3.1.5.5. Combustible Cladding on Exterior Walls

National Building Code – 2015

- 1) Except as provided in Sentences (2) and (3), combustible cladding is permitted to be used on an exterior wall assembly in a building required to be of non-combustible construction, provided
 - a) the building is
 - i. not more than 3 storeys in building height, or
 - ii. sprinklered throughout, and
 - b) when tested in accordance with CAN/ULC-S134, “Fire Test of Exterior Wall Assemblies,” the wall assembly satisfies the following criteria for testing and conditions of acceptance (see Note A-3.1.5.5.(1)(b)):
 - i. flaming on or in the wall assembly does not spread more than 5 m above the opening (see Note A-3.1.5.5.(1)(b)(i)), and
 - ii. the heat flux during the flame exposure on the wall assembly is not more than 35 kW/m² measured at 3.5 m above the opening (see Note A-3.1.5.5.(1)(b)(ii)).

National Building Code – 2020

- 1) Renamed standard CAN/ULC-S134, “Standard Method of Fire Test of Exterior Wall Assemblies,”
- 2) Unchanged
- 3) Unchanged
- 4) Added – Exterior wall assemblies constructed in accordance with Section D-6 of Appendix D are deemed to comply with clause (1)(b).

Article 3.1.5.6. Combustible Components in Exterior Walls

National Building Code – 2015

- 1) Combustible components, other than those permitted by Article 3.1.5.5., are permitted to be used in an exterior wall assembly of a building required to be of non-combustible construction, provided
 - a) the building is
 - i. not more than 3 storeys in building height, or
 - ii. sprinklered throughout, and
 - b) the wall assembly
 - i. meets the requirements of Clause 3.1.5.5.(1)(b), or
 - ii. is protected by masonry or concrete cladding not less than 25 mm thick (see Note A3.1.5.5.(1)(b)).

National Building Code – 2020

- 1) Combustible components, other than those permitted by Article 3.1.5.5. **and Sentence 3.1.5.7.(2)**, are permitted to be used in an exterior wall assembly of a building required to be of non-combustible construction, provided
 - a) the building is
 - i. not more than 3 storeys in building height, or
 - ii. sprinklered throughout, and
 - b) the wall assembly
 - i. meets the requirements of Clause 3.1.5.5.(1)(b), or
 - ii. is protected by masonry or concrete cladding not less than 25 mm thick (see Note A3.1.5.5.(1)(b)).

Article 3.1.5.15. Foamed Plastic Insulation

National Building Code – 2015

- 2) Except as provided in Sentences (3) and (4), foamed plastic insulation with a flame-spread rating not more than 500 on any exposed surface, or any surface that would be exposed by cutting through the material in any direction, is permitted in a building required to be of noncombustible construction, provided the insulation is protected from adjacent space in the building, other than adjacent concealed spaces within wall assemblies, by a thermal barrier consisting of
- a) not less than 12.7 mm thick gypsum board mechanically fastened to a supporting assembly independent of the insulation,
 - b) lath and plaster, mechanically fastened to a supporting assembly independent of the insulation,
 - c) masonry,
 - d) concrete, or
 - e) any thermal barrier that meets the requirements of classification B when tested in conformance with CAN/ULC-S124, “Test for the Evaluation of Protective Coverings for Foamed Plastic.”

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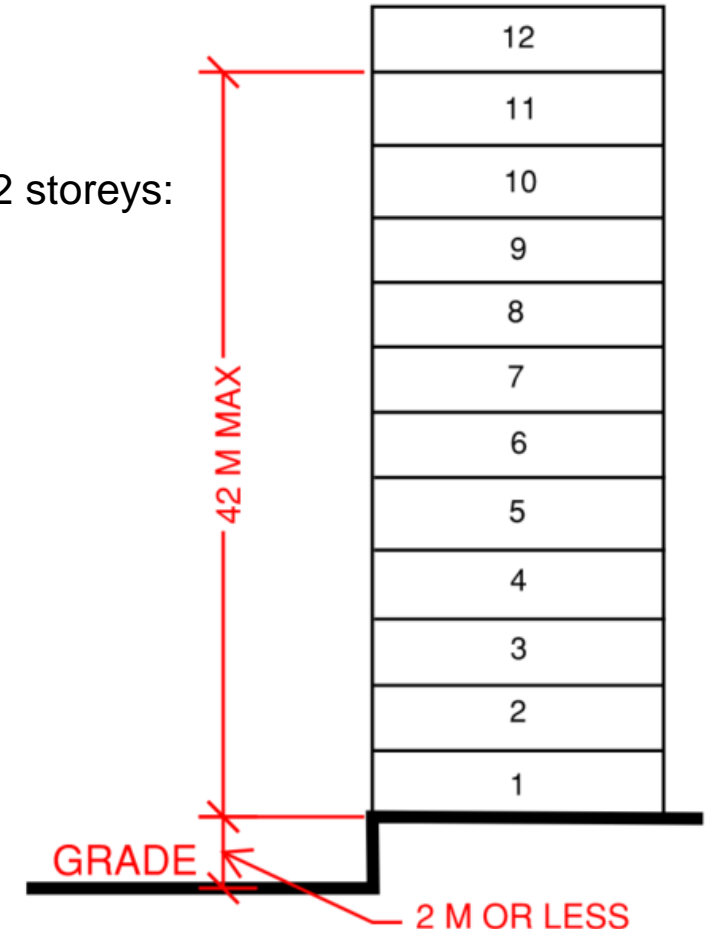
National Building Code – 2020

- 2) Except as provided in Sentences (3), (4) and 3.1.5.7.(1), ...

Subsection 3.1.6. Encapsulated Mass Timber Construction

National Building Code – 2020

- + Previously Tents and Air-Supported Structures (changed numbering)
- + New Subsection 3.1.6 for EMTC Construction
- + Enables the construction of wood buildings with encapsulated mass timber up to 12 storeys:
 - 3.2.2.48. Group C, up to 12 storeys, Sprinklered
 - 3.2.2.57. Group D, up to 12 storeys, Sprinklered



Subsection 3.1.6. Encapsulated Mass Timber Construction

Construction Requirements

- + EMTC or noncombustible construction (singly or in combination)
- + Sprinklered
- + It's not more than 12 storeys in building height,
- + The height is not more than 42 m (from the floor of the first storey to the floor level of the highest storey),
- + The building area $\leq 6,000 \text{ m}^2$ for Group C & $7,200 \text{ m}^2$ for Group D
- + Allows mixed-use assembly, retail and parking garage spaces in the lower 4 storeys
- + Allows exposure of some wood surfaces



Subsection 3.1.6. Encapsulated Mass Timber Construction

3.1.6.2. Materials Permitted / 3.1.6.4. Encapsulation of Mass Timber Elements

- + Encapsulation materials permitted:
 - New CAN/ULC-S146 encapsulation rating of 50 minutes
 - gypsum board/concrete, noncombustible, CAN/ULC-S135 material
- + Exposed beams, columns and arches within a suite or fire compartment
 - 10% of the total wall area of the perimeter, and
 - Maximum flame-spread rating of 150
- + Exposed walls within a suite
 - Each exposed surface must face the same direction, and
 - Maximum flame spread rating of 150
- + Exposed ceilings within a suite can be EITHER
 - 10% of the total ceiling area with maximum flame-spread rating of 150, OR
 - 25% of the total ceiling area if there are no exposed mass timber walls and exposed surfaces have a maximum flame-spread rating of 75
- + Maximum aggregate exposed surface area of beams, columns, arches + walls within a suite is 35% of the total wall area of the perimeter of the suite.



Subsection 3.1.6. Encapsulated Mass Timber Construction

Other EMTC Construction Requirements

- + Structural mass timber elements 96-224 mm thick [3.1.6.3]
- + Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) must have heat-resistant adhesives per ANSI/APA PRG 320-2018 [3.1.6.3.]
- + Roofing sheathing – permitted above concrete deck or EMTC with conditions; combustible cant strips, roof curbs, nailing strips, nailing facings, etc. are allowed [3.1.6.7.]
- + Exterior cladding – noncombustible; combustible cladding with certain conditions such as number of storeys, flame-spread rating, proportion/arrangement on exterior face, distance offset from street/fire access route, etc.; wall conforming with CAN/ULC S134; fire-retardant-treated wood [3.1.6.9.]
- + Combustible interior finishes – similar to what is allowed in typical noncombustible construction i.e. ≤ 1 mm thick (walls and ceiling), ≤ 25 mm thick with a flame-spread rating of 150 (walls), ≤ 25 mm thick with a flame-spread rating of 25 (ceiling, other than foamed plastics), ≤ 25 mm fire-retardant-treated wood ceiling [3.1.6.14]
- + Combustible elements in partitions – ≥ 38 mm thick solid lumber, protected with not less than 1 layer of 12.7 mm thick Type X gypsum board, or 19 mm thick fire-retardant-treated wood, and it is not installed as enclosures for exits or vertical service spaces [3.1.6.15]

Subsection 3.1.6. Encapsulated Mass Timber Construction

New NFC 2020 Provisions for EMTC Buildings at the Construction Stage

- + Adequate on-site water supply
- + Standpipe progressive installation at each level
- + 2 exit stairs at least 30 minutes fire rating at all times
- + Protective Encapsulation
 - Not less than 25 minutes encapsulation rating
 - 20% exposed underside of floor assemblies
 - 0% exposed lumber or interior partitions
 - 0% of exposed interior of 2 exit stairs and vertical service spaces
 - Total exposed surface of walls $\leq 35\%$
 - Not more than the 4 uppermost stories are permitted to be unprotected



Article 3.1.7.5. Rating of Supporting Construction

National Building Code – 2015

- + Noncombustible construction required to support assemblies requiring
 - A fire-resistance rating
 - Noncombustible construction



National Building Code – 2020

- + Encapsulated mass timber construction permitted to support
 - Assemblies of noncombustible construction in buildings
 - Portions of buildings permitted to be constructed of encapsulated mass timber
- + Exceptions exist for superimposed major occupancies requiring noncombustible construction

Subsection 3.1.8. Fire Separations and Closures

National Building Code – 2020

- + Expanded to include references to safety glazing
- + New 45 min minimum fire-protection rating option for doors in a firewall
 - Maximum temperature rise on opaque portion of unexposed side of door = 250 °C after 30 min
 - Maximum aggregate area of wired glass / safety glazing in a door = 0.0645 m²



Article 3.1.8.3 Continuity of Fire Separations

National Building Code – 2015

- + Fire separations dividing horizontal service spaces or other concealed spaces above a vertical fire separation require smoke-tight joints at intersecting:
 - a) Floors,
 - b) Roof slabs / decks
- + Shafts penetrating fire separations are to:
 - a) Extend through horizontal service spaces
 - b) Maintain smoke-tight joints at intersection / abutting:
 - i. Floors
 - ii. Roof slabs / decks

National Building Code – 2020

- + Continuity of a rated fire separation abutting another separation, floor, or roof must be maintained by a firestop.
 - Firestop FT rating must be \geq the fire-resistance rating of abutting separation
- + Joints located in a horizontal plane between a floor and an exterior wall require firestop
 - F rating not less than the fire-resistance rating of the horizontal fire separation
- + Not required for joints between walls and ceilings / floors / corners where gypsum board restricts smoke / flame travel

Subsection 3.1.9. Penetrations in Fire Separations and Fire-Rated Assemblies

National Building Code – 2020

- + More reference to use of fire stops
- + Service equipment penetrations through horizontal fire separations that are contained within the cavity of a wall above and below the separation are permitted to be sealed with a firestop
 - F rating \geq the fire-resistance rating for the fire separation
- + Service equipment penetrations through a horizontal fire separation are permitted to be sealed by a firestop with an F rating \geq the fire-resistance rating for the fire separation, provided the penetration
 - a) is contained within the concealed space of a floor or ceiling assembly having a fire-resistance rating,
 - b) is located above a ceiling membrane that is a horizontal fire separation, or
 - c) is contained within a horizontal service space directly above or below the floor
- + Combustible outlet boxes now permitted to penetrate fire separations with use of a firestop

Article 3.1.9.4. Combustible Piping

National Building Code – 2020

- + Buildings > 3 storeys require combustible piping to be sealed by a firestop
 - Pressure differential of 50 Pa between exposed and unexposed sides
 - Higher pressure on exposed side
- + Penetrations through a fire separation that transition between combustible and noncombustible drain, waste and vent piping must be sealed by a firestop
 - Subject to the same pressure requirements



Article 3.1.11. Fire Blocks in Concealed Spaces

National Building Code – 2015

- + Concealed spaces containing exposed ceiling finish with a flame-spread rating > 25 requires fire blocks
 - Applicable to noncombustible construction



National Building Code – 2020

- + Covers concealed spaces in EMTC buildings
 - Fire blocks required where there is exposed ceiling finishes
 - Same maximum area requirements as noncombustible structures

3.1.13.12. Encapsulated Mass Timber Construction

National Building Code – 2020

- + In a building or part of a building permitted to be of encapsulated mass timber construction,
 - a) the flame-spread ratings required by Subsections 3.1.6. and 3.1.13. shall apply, and
 - b) the flame-spread ratings for required exits shall also apply to any surface in the exit that would be exposed by cutting through the material in any direction, except that this requirement does not apply to doors, structural mass timber elements conforming to Sentence 3.1.6.4.(3), heavy timber construction, and fire-retardant-treated wood.
- + Sentence 3.1.6.4.(3) applies to structural mass timber elements where:
 - a) their aggregate surface area does not exceed 10% of the total wall area of the perimeter of the suite or fire compartment in which they are located, and
 - b) the flame-spread rating on any exposed surface is not more than 150.

Article 3.1.15.2. Roof Coverings

National Building Code – 2020

- + Expanded to include EMTC building requirements
 - Roof coverings required to have a Class A classification where roof height is > 25 m
 - Exceptions exist for sprinklered Group C/D buildings that are 6 or 12 storeys in height
 - Non-contiguous roof assemblies at different elevations may have roof coverings assessed separately to determine required classifications



Changes to Section 3.2

- + 3.2.2.10. Streets
- + 3.2.2.11. Exterior Balconies
- + 3.2.2.17. Roof Assemblies and Mezzanines
- + 3.2.2.48. Group C, up to 12 Storeys, Sprinklered
- + 3.2.2.57. Group D, up to 12 Storeys, Sprinklered
- + 3.2.3. Spatial Separation and Exposure Protection
- + 3.2.4. Fire Alarm and Detection Systems
 - + 3.2.4.19. Visible Signals
 - + 3.2.4.20. Smoke Alarms
- + 3.2.6. Additional Requirements for High Buildings
- + 3.2.7. Lighting and Emergency Power
- + 3.2.9.1. CAN/ULC S1001 Compliance

(3.2)

Building Fire Safety

Article 3.2.2.10. Streets

National Building Code – 2015

- + Group C or D, up to 6 storeys and sprinklered is considered to face 1 street where not less than 25% of the building perimeter is within 15 m of a streets.

National Building Code – 2020

- + Group C or D, up to 6 storeys and sprinklered is considered to face 1 street where:
 - a) $\geq 25\%$ of the building perimeter is within 15 m streets, or
 - b) **$\geq 10\%$ of the building perimeter is within 15 m of streets, provided the exterior cladding is noncombustible or constructed in accordance with Section D-6**

Article 3.2.2.11. Exterior Balconies

National Building Code – 2015

- + Exterior balconies required to be constructed based on building features and occupancy classification.
 - Dependent on
 - Occupancy type
 - Building height
 - Building area
 - Fire protection

National Building Code – 2020

- + Additional options for structural mass timber elements to be incorporated into exterior balcony construction
- + Applicable to Group C and D, up to 12 storeys and sprinklered



Article 3.2.2.17. Roof Assemblies and Mezzanines

National Building Code – 2020

- + Fire-resistance rating requirements for mezzanines may now be conditionally waived for:
 - a) Gymnasiums
 - b) Swimming pools
 - c) Arenas
 - d) Rinks
- + The mezzanine must not be considered as a storey and only be used for ventilation, sound, and lighting equipment
- + No part of the mezzanine may be less than 6 m above the main floor / balcony, except for ascending inclined and stepped floors used for seating

Article 3.2.2.48. Group C, up to 12 Storeys, Sprinklered

National Building Code – 2020

- + New construction requirements for Group C occupancies that are up to 12 storeys and sprinklered
- + Only applicable to building areas $\leq 6,000 \text{ m}^2$
- + EMTC permitted
- + Required fire-resistance ratings are
 - 2 hours for floor assemblies
 - 1 hour for mezzanines
- + Group A, Division 2 major occupancies, Group E major occupancies, and storage garages located within may follow the same construction requirements provided:
 - a) The Group A, Division 2 major occupancy is located below the fourth storey,
 - b) The Group E major occupancy is located below the third storey, and
 - c) The storage garage is located below the fifth storey

Article 3.2.2.57. Group D, up to 12 Storeys, Sprinklered

National Building Code – 2020

- + New construction requirements for Group D occupancies that are up to 12 storeys and sprinklered
- + Only applicable to building areas $\leq 7,200 \text{ m}^2$
- + EMTC permitted
- + Required fire-resistance ratings are:
 - 2 h for floor assemblies
 - 1 h for mezzanines
- + Group A, Division 2 major occupancies, Group E major occupancies, Group F, Division 2 and 3 major occupancies, and storage garages located within may follow the same construction requirements provided:
 - a) The Group A, Division 2 major occupancy is located below the fourth storey,
 - b) The Group E major occupancy and Group F, Division 2 or 3 major occupancy are located below the third storey, and
 - c) The storage garage is located below the fifth storey

Subsection 3.2.3. Spatial Separation and Exposure Protection

National Building Code – 2015

- + Minimum construction requirements for exposing building faces only references combustible / noncombustible materials

National Building Code – 2020

- + Encapsulated mass timber integrated into minimum construction requirements for exposing building faces



Subsection 3.2.4. Fire Alarm and Detection Systems

National Building Code – 2015

- + Fire alarm systems required for unsprinklered residential occupancies
- + Heat-tracing cables on standpipe risers and sprinkler lines do not require supervision for loss of power

National Building Code – 2020

- + Fire alarm systems no longer required for unsprinklered residential occupancies where:
 - a) ≤ 4 suites share a common means of egress
 - b) Each suite has direct access to an exit leading to ground level
- + Heat-tracing cables on standpipe risers and sprinkler lines now required to be supervised for loss of power
- + Low frequency signals required from audible signal devices in residential / care occupancy sleeping rooms

Article 3.2.4.19. Visible Signals

National Building Code – 2015

- + Visible signals required in areas where hearing may be impaired



National Building Code – 2020

- + Visible signals now additionally required in:
 - a) Public corridors serving a Group B, C, D or E major occupancies
 - b) Corridors used by the public serving a Group A major occupancy
 - c) $\geq 10\%$ of suites in residential occupancies, hotels or motels
 - d) In washrooms not found within:
 - i. Residential suites
 - ii. Care occupancy suites
 - iii. Patient sleeping rooms
- + Visible signal devices may now be installed in lieu of audible signal devices for areas of refuge

Article 3.2.4.20. Smoke Alarms

National Building Code – 2015

- + No specified sound pressure levels required for audible signals triggered by smoke detectors installed in lieu of smoke alarms



National Building Code – 2020

- + Sound pressure levels required for audible signals triggered by smoke detectors must fall between 75 dBA and 110 dBA
- + Hotels / motels without fire alarm systems require smoke alarms with a visual component in at least 10% of suites

Subsection 3.2.6. Additional Requirements for High Buildings

National Building Code – 2015

- + High building requirements applicable to:
 - a) Group A, D, E, or F major occupancies that are
 - i. Greater than 36 m high (measured grade to floor level of top storey)
 - ii. Greater than 18 m high with proportionally high occupant loads
 - b) Group B major occupancies greater than 18 m high
 - c) Buildings with Group B, Division 2 or 3 occupancy above the third storey, or
 - d) Group C major occupancy whose floor level is more than 18 m above grade.

National Building Code – 2020

- + Expanded to include Group D major occupancies that are 12 storeys and sprinklered
 - Applicable if the floor level of the highest storey is greater than 18 m measured from grade



Subsection 3.2.7. Lighting and Emergency Power

National Building Code – 2015

- + Focuses on the illumination of:
 - a) Public corridors
 - b) Exits
 - c) Public rooms and spaces
 - d) Lighting outlets within residential occupancies

National Building Code – 2020

- + Expanded to include:
 - a) Illumination of escalators
 - i. ≥ 100 lx at tread and walking level
 - b) Illumination of controls
 - i. i.e. electrical switches, thermostats, faucets, door hardware, and intercom switches
 - ii. ≥ 100 lx (200 lx for visual information)
 - iii. Does not include light switches
 - c) Doors with electromagnetic locks
 - d) Universal washrooms, shower rooms, and accessible change spaces

Article 3.2.9.1. CAN/ULC S1001 Compliance

National Building Code – 2015 & 2020

- + Where fire protection and life safety systems and systems with fire protection and life safety functions are integrated with each other, they shall be tested as a whole in accordance with CAN/ULC-S1001, “Standard for Integrated Systems Testing of Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems,” to verify that they have been properly integrated.
- + Though this requirement is not new as part of the 2020 NBC, it is worthwhile to raise as a continued item of importance for new construction projects as well as buildings with fire alarm systems undergoing modifications.

Changes to Section 3.3

- + 3.3.1. All Floor Areas
- + 3.3.2. Assembly Occupancies

(3.3)

Safety within Floor Areas

Subsection 3.3.1. All Floor Areas

National Building Code – 2015

- + Minimum head clearance requirements for every access to exit (3.3.1.8.)
- + 800 mm clear openings on doorways in public corridors and access to exit
- + Door release hardware installed at 1,200 mm above floor

+

National Building Code – 2020

- + Expanded to prohibit protruding objects into paths of travel
- + **850 mm** clear openings on doorways in public corridors and access to exit (3.3.1.13.(1)(a))
- + Door release hardware installed **between 900 mm and 1,100 mm** above floor
- + Tactile attention indicators now required
 - At the top of enclosed flights of stairs
 - At steep drop-off edges that are unprotected by a guard

Article 3.3.2.17 Safety Glazing (NEW ADDITION)

National Building Code – 2020

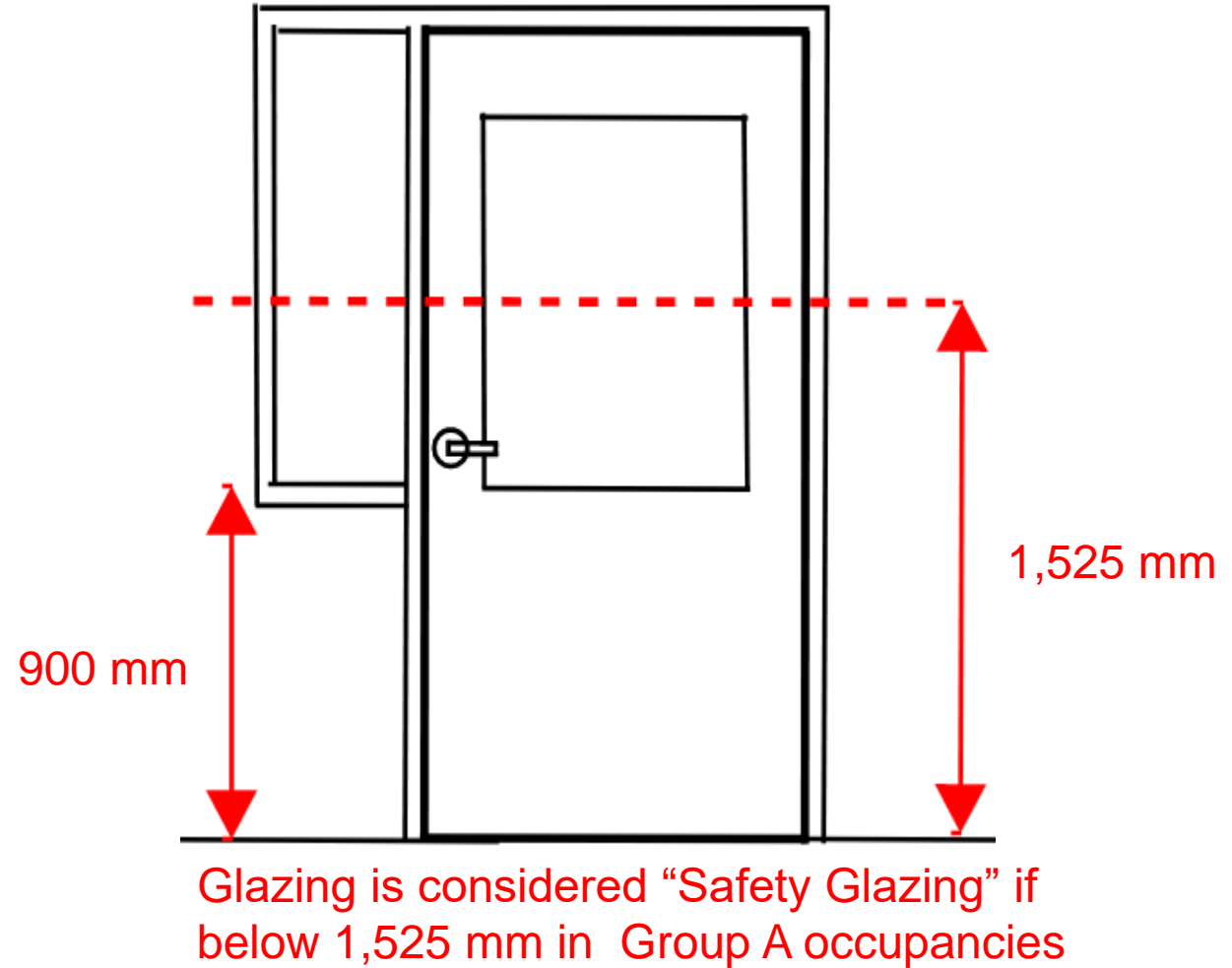
- + New provision for Group A (assembly) occupancies
- + Glazing in fixed and operable panels of doors and windows requires conformance with Class A requirements of CAN/CGSB-12.1, "Safety Glazing."
- + Doors need not comply if:
 - Bottom edge of glass is more than 1,525 mm above the finished floor (AFF), or
 - Opening would not permit the passage of a 75 mm sphere
- + Windows need not comply if:
 - Bottom edge of glass is more than 1,525 mm AFF, or
 - Glazing is more than 915 mm away from the walking surface on each side of a window

Article 3.3.2.17 Safety Glazing (NEW ADDITION)

National Building Code – 2020

- + New provision for Group A (assembly) occupancies
- + Glazing in fixed and operable panels of doors and windows requires conformance with Class A requirements of CAN/CGSB-12.1, "Safety Glazing."
- + Doors need not comply if:
 - Bottom edge of glass is more than 1,525 mm above the finished floor (AFF), or
 - Opening would not permit the passage of a 75 mm sphere
- + Windows need not comply if:
 - Bottom edge of glass is more than 1,525 mm AFF, or
 - Glazing is more than 915 mm away from the walking surface on each side of a window

Article 3.3.2.17 Safety Glazing (NEW ADDITION)



Changes to Section 3.4

- + 3.4.6.4. Handrails
- + 3.4.6.7. Ramp Slopes
- + 3.4.6.18. Emergency Crossover Access to Floor Areas
- + 3.4.6.19. Floor Numbering

(3.4)

Exits

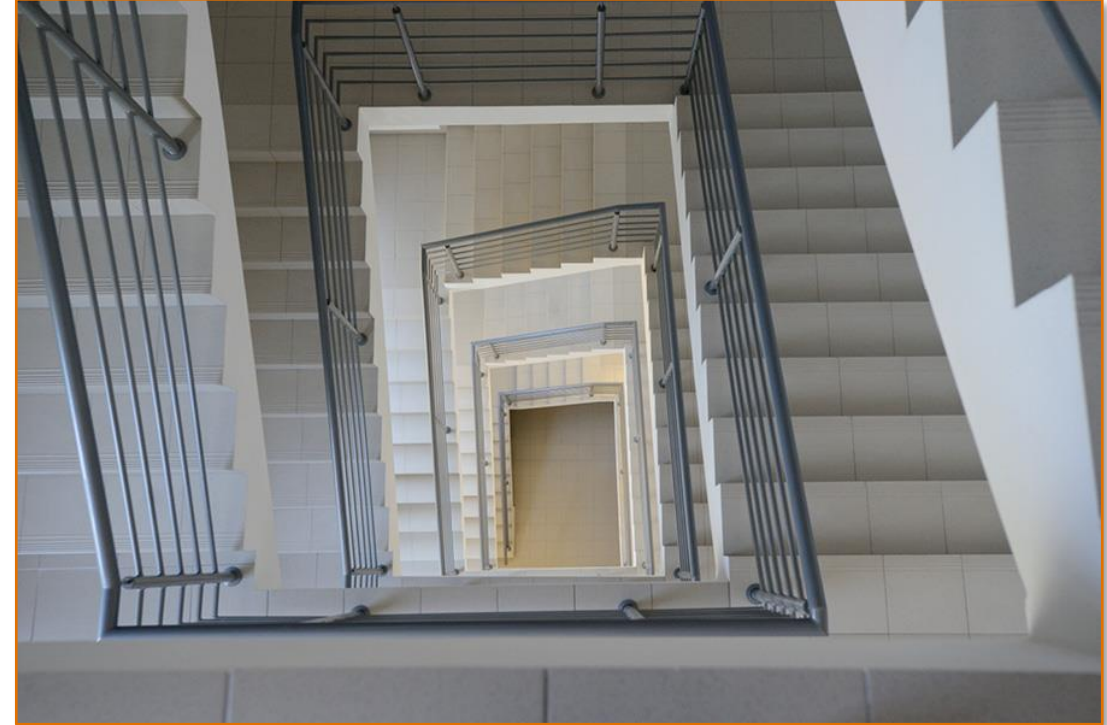
Article 3.4.6.4. Handrails

National Building Code – 2015

- + Handrails require
 - a) a circular cross-section with an outside diameter between 30 mm and 43 mm
 - b) a non-circular cross-section with a perimeter between 100 mm and 125 mm with the largest cross-sectional dimension ≤ 45 mm.

National Building Code – 2020

- + Handrails require
 - a) a circular cross-section with an outside diameter between 30 mm and **50 mm**
 - b) a non-circular cross-section with a perimeter between 100 mm and **160 mm** and with the largest cross-sectional dimension \leq **57 mm**.



Article 3.4.6.7. Ramp Slopes

National Building Code – 2015

- + Maximum slope of a ramp is
 - a) 1 in 10 in any assembly, care, treatment, detention or residential occupancy,
 - b) 1 in 6 in an industrial occupancy,
 - c) 1 in 8 in all other occupancies, and
 - d) 1 in 10 for an exterior ramp.

+

National Building Code – 2020

- + Ramps require a uniform slope with a maximum slope of 1 in 12
- + Industrial occupancies may have a maximum slope of
 - a) 1 in 6 for interior ramps, and
 - b) 1 in 10 for exterior ramps.

Article 3.4.6.18. Emergency Crossover Access to Floor Areas

National Building Code – 2015

- + Only visual information signs required for
 - Doors providing access to floor areas from exit stairs
 - Locked doors intended to prevent entry into a floor areas from an exit stair

National Building Code – 2020

- + Visual **and tactile** information signs now required to be mounted on the stairway side of exit stairs
 - Indicates the door is openable from the stairwell side of doors providing access
 - Indicates the nearest unlocked door in cases where a door is locked
 - Tactile signs required to comply with accessible design requirements (Subsection 3.8.3.)

Article 3.4.6.19. Floor Numbering

National Building Code – 2015

- + Arabic numerals indicating the assigned floor number are required to be
- + Mounted on the stair side of the wall at the latch side of doors to exit stair shafts,
- + Not less than 60 mm high, raised ~0.7 mm above the surface,
- + c) Located 1,500 mm from the finished floor and ≤ 300 mm from the door, and
- + d) be contrasting in colour

+

National Building Code – 2020

- + Arabic numerals indicating the assigned floor number in both visual and tactile forms required
- + Upper case letters indicating the designation assigned to each exit stair shaft in both visual and tactile forms required to be mounted on
 - The wall of the stair side
 - On the floor at the latch side of doors to exit stair shafts

Changes to Section 3.5

- + No major notable changes
 - + 3.5.4.1. - Elevator car dimension requirements (3.5.4.1.) no longer apply to limited-use elevators installed in accordance with ASME A17.1/CSA B44, “Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators.”

(3.5)

Vertical Transportation

Changes to Section 3.6

- + 3.6.2.5. Storage of Combustible Refuse and Recycling

(3.6)
Service Facilities

Article 3.6.2.5. Storage of Combustible Refuse and Recycling

National Building Code – 2015

- + Storage rooms for combustible refuse is required to be
 - Sprinklered
 - Separated from the remainder of the building by a 1 h fire separation



National Building Code – 2020

- + A room for the temporary storage of combustible refuse and **materials for recycling** shall be
 - Sprinklered
 - Separated from the remainder of the building by a 1 h fire separation, **except**
 - A fire-resistance rating ≥ 45 min is permitted where the floor assembly is not required to exceed 45 min

Changes to Section 3.7

- + 3.7.2.1. Plumbing Facilities Plumbing and Drainage Systems
- + 3.7.2.4. Safety Glazing (previously Mobile Home Facilities)

(3.7)

Health Requirements

Article 3.7.2.1. Plumbing Facilities Plumbing and Drainage Systems

National Building Code – 2015

- 1) Except as permitted in Sentence (2), if the installation of a sanitary drainage system is not possible because of the absence of a water supply, sanitary privies, chemical closets, or other means for the disposal of human waste shall be provided.
- 2) Waterless urinals are permitted to be used in buildings provided with a water supply

+

National Building Code – 2020

- 1) Except as permitted in Sentence (2), **for the purpose of this Subsection, the occupant load shall be determined in accordance with Subsection 3.1.17.**
- 2) **For the purpose of this Subsection, the occupant load for floor areas that are classified as an industrial occupancy is permitted to be based solely on the total number of staff for which the floor area is designed, where the floor area is only intermittently occupied or where the presence of occupants is transitory. (See Note A-3.7.2.1.(2)).**
- 3) 1) was moved here – Except as permitted in Sentence (4)
- 4) 2) was moved here

Article 3.7.2.4. Safety Glazing (previously Mobile Home Facilities)

National Building Code – 2015

+ Previously Mobile Home Facilities → Removed

National Building Code – 2020

- 1) Glazing used for a shower or bathtub enclosure shall conform to Class A of CAN/CGSB-12.1, "Safety Glazing."



Changes to Section 3.8

- + 3.8.2. Application
 - + 3.8.2.2. Entrances – Example
 - + 3.8.2.3. Areas Requiring a Barrier-Free Path of Travel
 - + 3.8.2.7. Power Door Operators
 - + 3.8.2.8. Plumbing Facilities – Example
 - + 3.8.2.9. Assistive Listening Systems
 - + 3.8.2.10. Signs and Indicators
 - + 3.8.2.11. Counters
 - + 3.8.2.12. Telephones
- + 3.8.3. Design
 - + 3.8.3.3. Exterior Walks
 - + 3.8.3.5. Ramps
 - + 3.8.3.6. Doorways and Doors
 - + 3.8.3.7. Passenger-Elevating Devices
 - + 3.8.3.8. Controls
 - + 3.8.3.9. Accessibility Signs
 - + 3.8.3.10. Drinking Fountains
 - + 3.8.3.11. Water-Bottle Filling Stations
 - + 3.8.3.12. Water-Closet Stalls
 - + 3.8.3.13. Universal Washrooms
 - + 3.8.3.15. Water-Closet Stalls and Urinals for Persons with Limited Mobility
 - + 3.8.3.16. Lavatories and Mirrors
 - + 3.8.3.17. Showers
 - + 3.8.3.18. Accessible Bathtubs
 - + 3.8.3.19. Assistive Listening Systems
 - + 3.8.3.20. Counters
 - + 3.8.3.21. Telephones
 - + 3.8.3.22. Spaces in Seating Area

(3.8)

Accessibility

Article 3.8.2.2. Entrances

National Building Code – 2015 Amendment for NSBCR

- 1) In addition to the barrier-free entrances required by Sentence (2), not less than 50% of the pedestrian entrances of a building referred to in Sentence 3.8.2.1.(1) shall be barrier-free and shall lead from
 - a) the outdoors at sidewalk level, or
 - b) a ramp that complies with Subsection 3.8.3. and leads from a sidewalk.
- 2) A barrier-free entrance required by Sentence (1) shall be designed in accordance with Subsection 3.8.3.
- 3) At a barrier-free entrance that includes more than one doorway, only one of the doorways is required to be designed in accordance with Subsection 3.8.3.
- 4) If a walkway or pedestrian bridge connects two barrier-free storeys in different buildings, the path of travel from one storey to the other storey by means of the walkway or bridge shall be barrier-free.

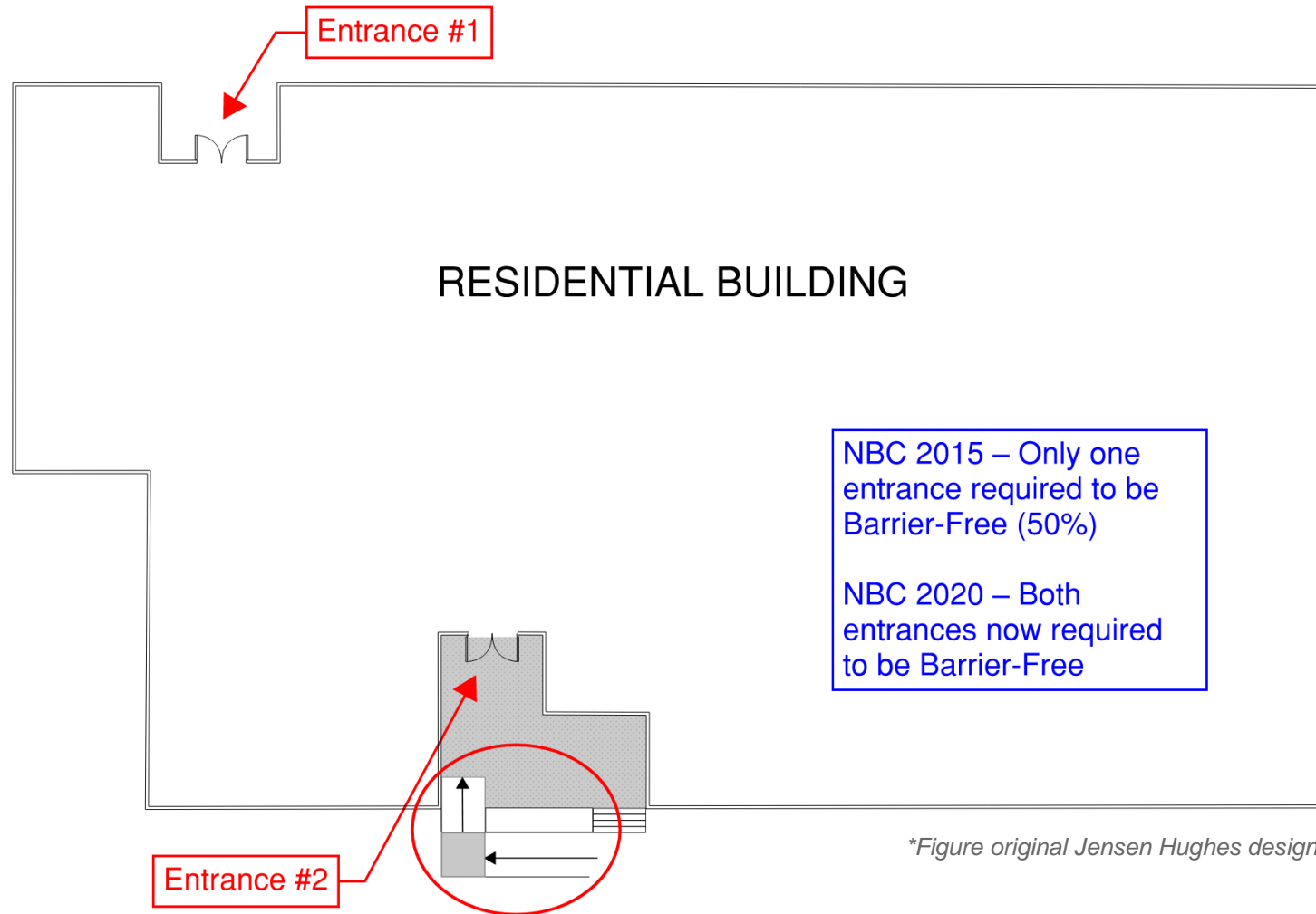
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National Building Code – 2020 Amendment for NSBCR

- 1) Except for service entrances and entrances to suites described in Clause 3.8.2.3.(2)(l), **all** pedestrian entrances to a barrier-free storey of a building referred to in Sentence 3.8.2.1.(1) **shall be barrier-free and shall connect to a barrier-free exterior path of travel complying with Sentence 3.8.2.5.(1).**
- 2) Unchanged
- 3) Unchanged
- 4) Unchanged
- 5) Unchanged
- 6) Unchanged
- 7) Unchanged

Article 3.8.2.2. Entrances – Example

Example: 50% versus All Pedestrian Entrances



**Figure original Jensen Hughes design*

Article 3.8.2.3. Areas Requiring a Barrier-Free Path of Travel

National Building Code – 2015 Latest Amendment for NSBCR

- 2) A barrier-free path of travel for persons in wheelchairs is not required
 - a) to service rooms,
 - b) to elevator machine rooms,
 - c) to janitor's rooms,
 - d) to service spaces,
 - e) to attic or roof spaces,
 - e) to crawl spaces,
 - g) to floor levels not served by a passenger elevator, a platform-equipped passenger-elevating device, an escalator, or an inclined moving walk,
 - h) to high-hazard industrial occupancies,
 - i) within portions of a floor area with fixed seats in an assembly occupancy where those portions are not part of the barrier-free path of travel to spaces designated for wheelchair use,
 - j) within floor levels of a suite of residential occupancy that are not at the same level as the entry level to the suite,
 - k) within a suite of residential occupancy that has not been designated by an authority having jurisdiction to be accessible for use by persons with physical disabilities, or
 - l) within those parts of a floor area that are not at the same level as the entry level, provided amenities and uses provided on any raised or sunken level are accessible on the entry level by means of a barrier-free path of travel.

Article 3.8.2.3. Areas Requiring a Barrier-Free Path of Travel

NBC – 2020 Amendment for NSBCR

2) Changes to (g) to (k), and (h) moved to (i)

- g) to the floor level above or below the entrance level in buildings no more than 2 storeys in building height or in 2-storey suites, unless the floor level above or below (see Note A-3.8.2.3.(2)(g))
 - i. is served by a passenger elevator, a platform-equipped passenger-elevating device, an escalator or an inclined moving walk,
 - ii. is 600 m² or more in floor area,
 - iii. contains facilities that are not contained on the entrance level, but that are integral to the principal function of the entrance level, or
 - iv. contains an assembly occupancy more than 100 m² in floor area,
- h) within a parking level with no barrier-free parking spaces,
- i) within high-hazard industrial occupancies,
- j) within portions of a floor area with fixed seats in an assembly occupancy where those portions are not part of the barrier-free path of travel to spaces designated for wheelchair use,
- k) within floor levels of a suite of residential occupancy that are not at the same level as the entry level to the suite, or
- l) Unchanged

Article 3.8.2.3. Areas Requiring a Barrier-Free Path of Travel

National Building Code – 2020 Amendment for NSBCR

- + Additional Sentences (4), (5), and (6)
- 4) The number of spaces designated for wheelchair use within waiting rooms or areas with fixed seats shall conform to Table 3.8.2.3. (See Note A-3.8.2.3.(4).) (See also Article 3.8.3.22. for additional requirements.)
- 5) Except as provided in Sentence (6), in an assembly occupancy with more than 25 fixed seats, each row of seats served by two aisles shall have one adaptable seat conforming to Subsection 3.8.3. located adjacent to one of the aisles. (See Note A-3.8.2.3.(5) and (6) and 3.8.3.22.(1) and (4).)
- 6) At least 5% of the adaptable seats required by Sentence (5) but no more than 20 adaptable seats shall adjoin a barrier-free path of travel. (See Note A-3.8.2.3.(5) and (6) and 3.8.3.22.(1) and (4).)
- + Changes to Table 3.8.2.3. Designated Wheelchair Spaces

Table 3.8.2.3. Designated Wheelchair Spaces

NBC – 2015 Latest Amendment for NSBCR

| Number of Fixed Seats in Seating Area | Number of Spaces Required for Wheelchairs |
|--|---|
| 2 - 100 | 2 |
| 101 - 200 | 3 |
| 201 - 300 | 4 |
| 301 - 400 | 5 |
| 401 - 500 | 6 |
| 501 - 900 | 7 |
| 901 - 1 300 | 8 |
| 1 301 - 1 700 | 9 |
| each increment of up to 400 seats in excess of 1 700 | one additional space |

Table Reproduced by Jensen Hughes.

NBC – 2020 Amendment for NSBCR

| <i>Number of Fixed Seats in Seating Area</i> | <i>Number of Spaces Required for Wheelchairs</i> |
|--|--|
| 2 - 99 | 2 |
| 100 – 499 | 3, plus 1 for each additional increment of 70 seats in excess of 100 |
| 500 - 1 999 | 3, plus 1 for each additional increment of 70 seats in excess of 500 |
| 2 000 - 7 999 | 3, plus 1 for each additional increment of 70 seats in excess of 2 000 |
| Over 7 999 | 3, plus 1 for each additional increment of 70 seats in excess of 8 000 |

New Notes to the Table as Reproduced by Jensen Hughes.

Article 3.8.2.7. Power Door Operators

National Building Code – 2015 Latest Amendment for NSBCR

- 1) Except as provided in Sentences (2) and (3), every door that provides a barrier-free path of travel through an entrance referred to in Article 3.8.2.2., including the interior doors of a vestibule where provided, shall be equipped with a power door operator that complies with Subsection 3.8.3. and allows persons to activate the opening of the door in the intended direction of travel, where the entrance serves
 - a) a hotel,
 - b) a building of Group B, Division 2 major occupancy, or
 - c) a building of Group A, Group B, Division 3, Group D or E major occupancy more than 500 m² in building area.
- 2) The requirements of Sentence (1) do not apply to an individual suite having an area less than 500m² in a building having only suites of assembly, care, business and personal services or mercantile occupancy if the suite is completely separated from the remainder of the building so that there is no access to the remainder of the building.
- 3) Only the active leaf in a multiple leaf door in a barrier-free path of travel need conform to the requirements of this Article.



Article 3.8.2.7. Power Door Operators

NBC – 2020 Amendment for NSBCR

- 1) Except as provided in Sentences (2) and (3), and except for doors provided with hold-open devices, doors equipped with a self-closing device shall be equipped with power door operators complying with Subsection 3.8.3. that allow persons to activate the opening of the doors in the intended direction of travel, where the doors are located
 - a) in an entrance referred to in Article 3.8.2.2., including the interior doors of a vestibule where provided,
 - b) in a barrier-free path of travel, between the entrance referred to in Clause (a) and the entrance doors to suites or rooms served by a public corridor or a corridor used by the public (see Note A-3.8.2.7.(1)(b)), and
 - c) in an entrance to a washroom with a barrier-free water closet.
- 2) Unchanged
- 3) Where more than one doorway is provided at a barrier-free entrance, only one of them is required to comply with this Article. (See Note A-3.8.2.7.(3).)
- 4) Doors other than (1) require compliance with Subsection 3.8.3.



Article 3.8.2.8. Plumbing Facilities

National Building Code – 2015 Latest Amendments for NSBCR

- 1) Except as permitted by Sentence (2), a washroom in a storey to which a barrier-free path of travel is required in accordance with Article 3.8.2.3., shall be barrier-free in accordance with Subsection 3.8.3. (See Note A-3.8.2.8.(1)to(4).)
- 2) A washroom need not conform to the requirements of Sentence (1) provided
 - a) It is located with in a suite of residential occupancy or a suite of care occupancy,
 - b) other barrier-free washrooms are provided on the same floor area within 45 m, or
 - c) it is located in an individual suite that is
 - i. used for a business and personal services occupancy, a mercantile occupancy or an industrial occupancy,
 - ii. less than 500 m² in area, and
 - iii. completely separated from, and without access to, the remainder of the building. (See Note A-3.8.2.8.(1) to (4).)
- 6) Where urinals are provided in a barrier-free washroom, at least one urinal shall comply with Subsection 3.8.3.
- 7) A barrier-free washroom shall be provided with a lavatory that complies with Subsection 3.8.3.
- 10) Except within a suite of care occupancy or a suite of residential occupancy, where showers are provided in a building, at least one shower stall in each group of showers shall comply with Subsection 3.8.3.



Article 3.8.2.8. Plumbing Facilities

National Building Code – 2020 Amendment for NSBCR

- 1) Except as permitted by Sentence (3), **at each location** where washrooms are provided in a storey to which a barrier-free path of travel is required in accordance with Article 3.8.2.3., at least one universal washroom complying with Subsection 3.8.3. shall be provided. (See Note A-3.8.2.8.(1) to (4).)
- 2) Except as permitted by Sentence (3), where more than two water closets or a combination of more than one water closet and one urinal are provided in a washroom located in a storey to which a barrier-free path of travel is required in accordance with Article 3.8.2.3., at least one water-closet stall shall be barrier-free in accordance with Subsection 3.8.3. (See Note A-3.8.2.8.(1) to (4).)
- 6) Where urinals are provided in a barrier-free washroom, at least one **urinal for persons with limited mobility** conforming to Subsection 3.8.3. shall be provided for every 10 urinals.
- 7) Where water-closet stalls are provided in a barrier-free washroom, at least one **stall for persons with limited mobility** conforming to Subsection 3.8.3. shall be provided for every 10 stalls.
- 10) At each location where one or more drinking fountains are provided, at least one of them shall comply with Subsection 3.8.3.
- 14) A bathtub or shower in a barrier-free residential suite, it's required to conform to Subsection 3.8.3.
- 15) Additional Sentence – In buildings containing Group A, Group B, Division 2 or Group E major occupancies where at least one of these major occupancies has an occupant load of more than 500, at least one universal washroom on the storey on which the main barrier-free entrance to the building is located shall incorporate an **accessible change space** conforming to Subsection 3.8.3. (See Note A-3.8.2.8.(15).)
- 16) One in 20 sinks or part thereof are required to conform to Subsection 3.8.3.

Article 3.8.2.8. Plumbing Facilities – Example

Example: New Build Warehouse – NBC 2015 and Latest Amendment of NSBCR

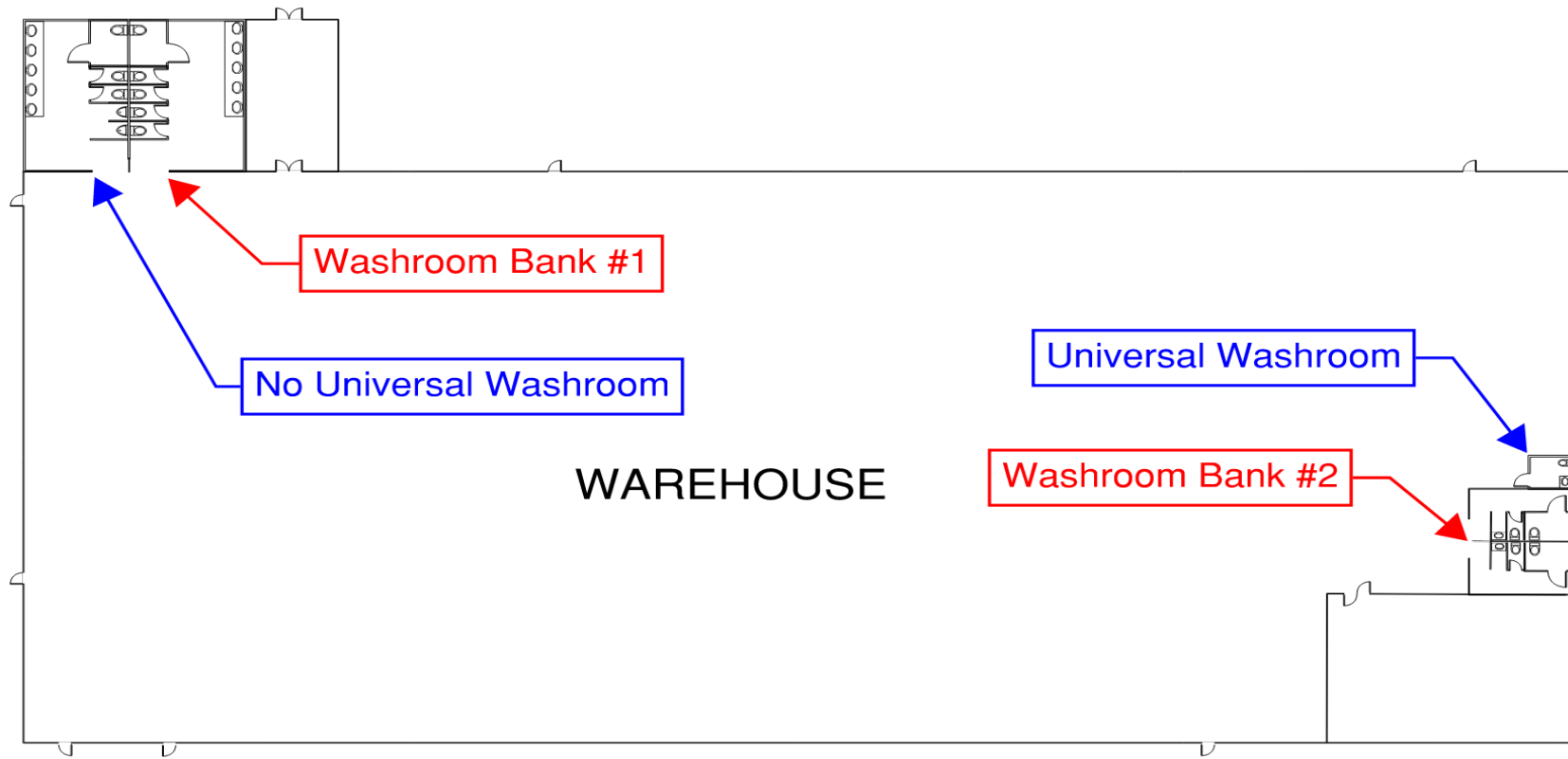
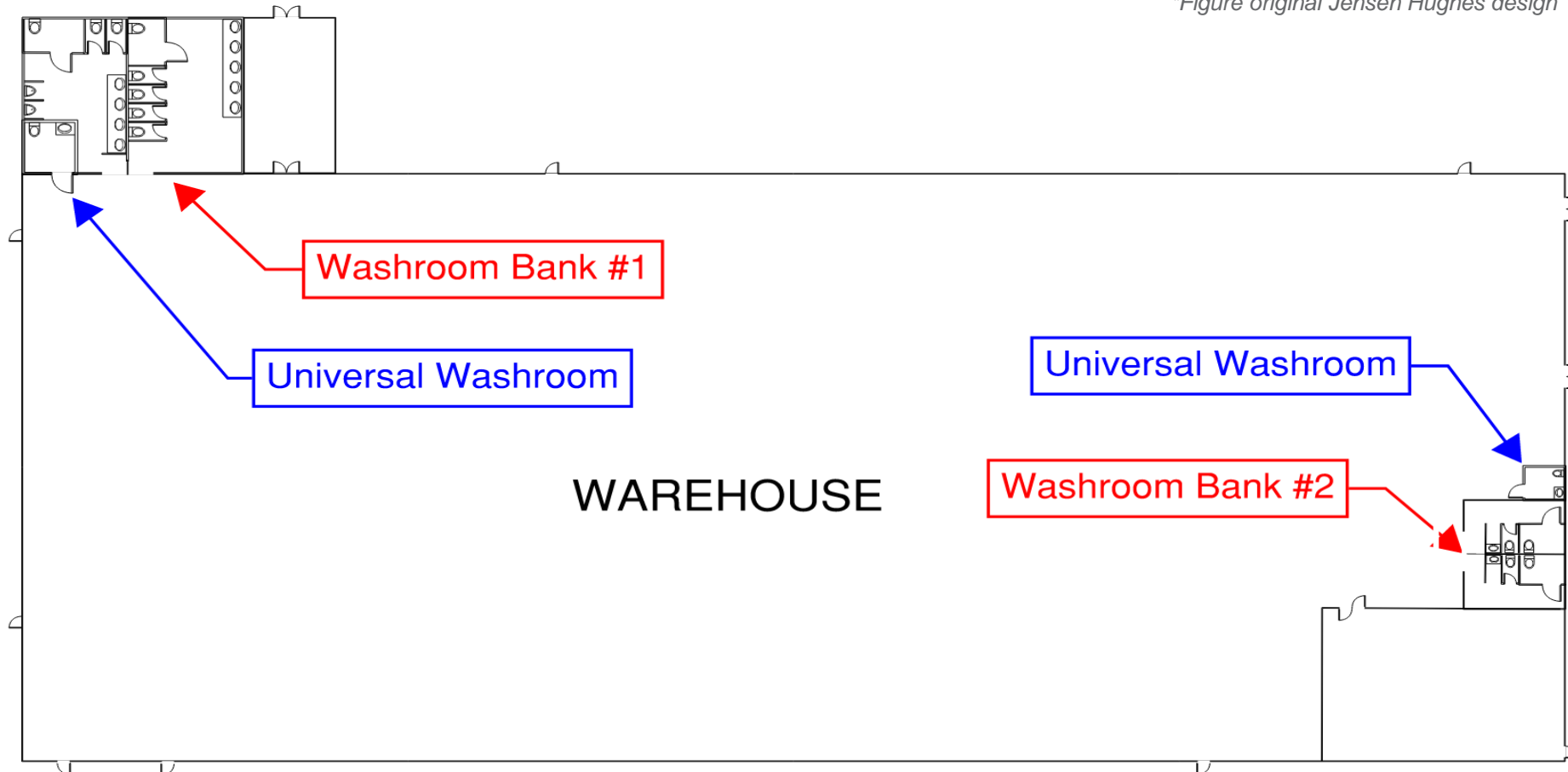


Figure is of an original Jensen Hughes design

Article 3.8.2.8. Plumbing Facilities – Example

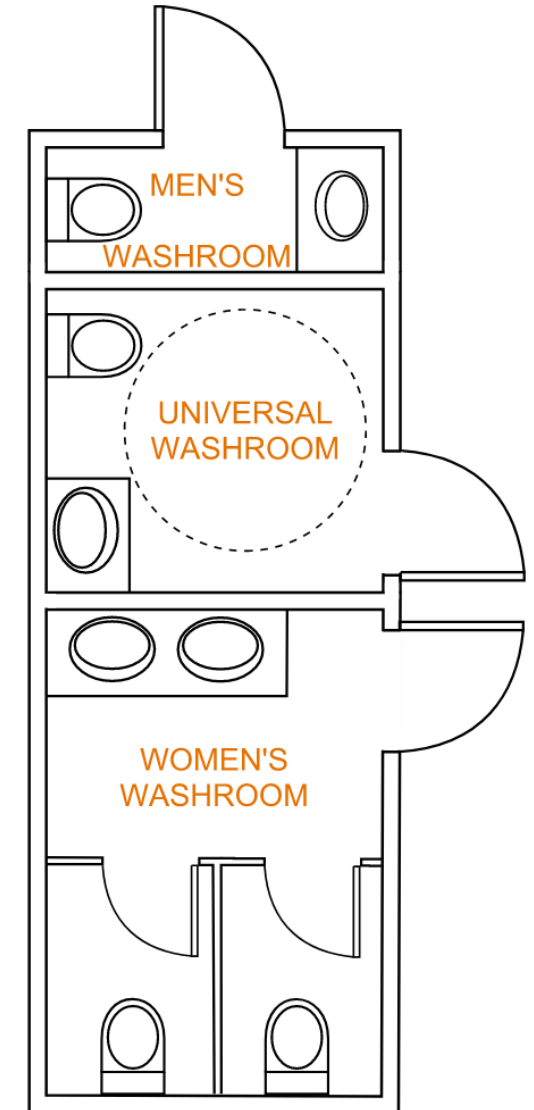
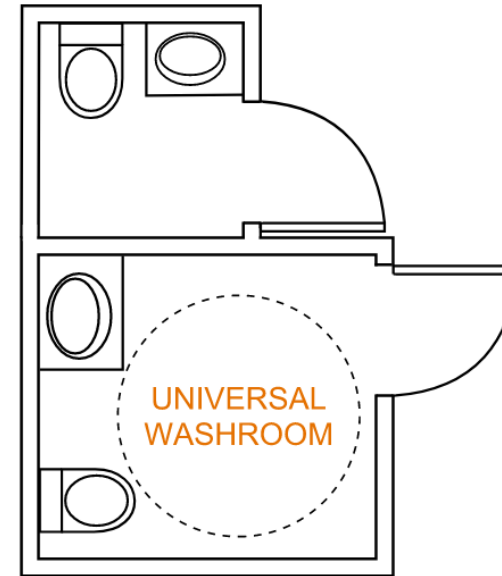
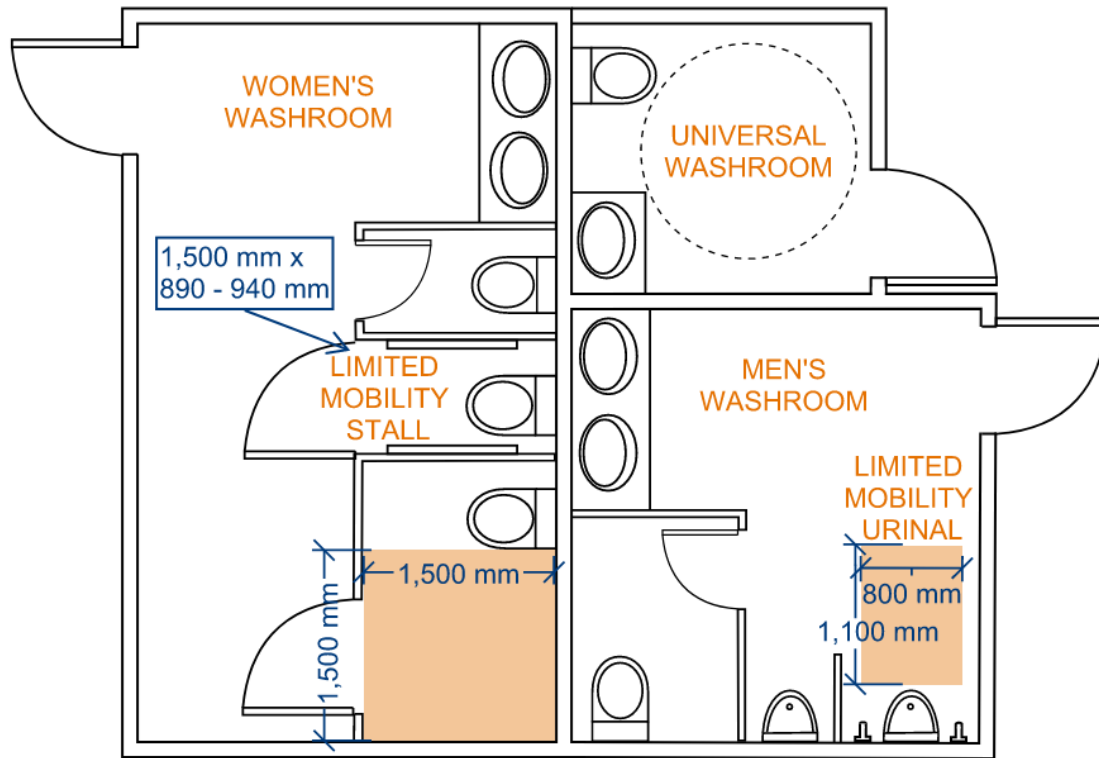
Example: New Build Warehouse – NBC 2020 and Upcoming Amendment for NSBCR

**Figure original Jensen Hughes design*



Article 3.8.2.8. Plumbing Facilities

*NBC 2020 – Several optimization options to consider
(See Figure A-3.8.2.8)*



**Figure original Jensen Hughes design*

Article 3.8.2.9. Assistive Listening Systems

National Building Code – 2015 Latest Amendment for NSBCR

- 1) In a building of assembly occupancy, all classrooms, auditoria, meeting rooms and theatres with an area of more than 100 m² shall be equipped with an assistive listening system complying with Subsection 3.8.3.

National Building Code – 2020 Amendment for NSBCR

- 1) Unchanged
- 2) Additional Sentence – In each location where information, goods or services are provided to the public at service counters in buildings of assembly occupancy, at least one of the service counters shall be equipped with
 - a) an assistive listening system or adaptive technology conforming to Subsection 3.8.3., and
 - b) An amplification system, where there is a barrier to communication, such as a glass screen.

(See Note A-3.8.2.9.(2).)



Article 3.8.2.10. Signs and Indicators

NBC– 2015 NSBCR Update

- 1) Signs complying with Subsection 3.8.3. shall be installed to indicate the location of
 - a) barrier-free entrances,
 - b) barrier-free washrooms,
 - c) barrier-free showers,
 - d) barrier-free elevators,
 - e) barrier-free parking spaces, and
 - f) facilities for persons with hearing disabilities.
- 2) Where a washroom is not designed to accommodate persons with physical disabilities in a storey to which a barrier-free path of travel is required, signs shall be provided to indicate the location of barrier-free facilities.

+

NBC– 2020 NSBCR Update

- 1) Change in Clause (f)
 - f) assistive listening systems or adaptive technologies.
- 2) Where a washroom is not designed to accommodate persons with physical disabilities in a storey to which a barrier-free path of travel is required, signs **providing visual and tactile information in accordance with Subsection 3.8.3.** shall be installed to indicate the location of barrier-free facilities.
- 3) **Additional Sentence** – Except for doors that serve service spaces or are located within a suite, signs installed at or near doors shall provide the same information in both visual and tactile forms in accordance with Subsection 3.8.3.
- 4) **Additional Sentence** – Directional signs shall provide visual information in accordance with Subsection 3.8.3. (See Note A-3.8.2.10.(4).)
- 5) **Additional Sentence** – floorplan diagram as per Article 3.8.3.9 to detail exits, egress routes, etc.

Article 3.8.2.11. Counters and Counters for Telephones

NBC– 2015 Latest Amendment for NSBCR

- 1) Every counter more than 2 m long at which the public is served shall comply with Subsection 3.8.3. (See Note A-3.8.2.11.(1).) (See also Note A-3.8.2.3.)
- 2) Built-in shelves and counters provided for public telephones shall comply with Subsection 3.8.3.

NBC– 2020 Amendment for NSBCR

3.8.2.11. Counters

- 1) Where a service counter is provided, at least one section of it shall comply with Subsection 3.8.3. (See Note A-3.8.2.11.(1).) (See also Note A-3.8.2.3.)

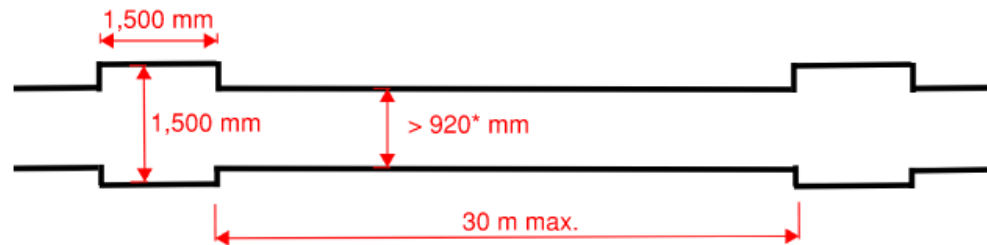
3.8.2.12. Telephones

- 1) In each location where one or more public telephones are installed, at least one telephone shall comply with Subsection 3.8.3.

Subsection 3.8.3. Design

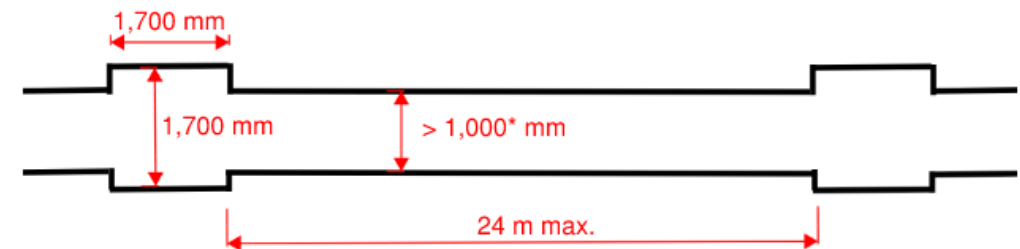
NBC – 2015 Latest Update for NSBCR

- + Flexible option between NBC and CSA B651 design options for width of doorways, hardware locations, doorway clearances, and the width of the barrier-free travel path, etc.
- + The width of a barrier-free path of travel greater than 30 m long is required to be increased to 1,500 mm x 1,500 mm at intervals not more than 30 m [3.8.3.2.].



NBC – 2020 Amendment for NSBCR

- + Enhanced width of doorways, hardware locations, doorway clearances, and the width of the barrier-free travel path to provide greater accessibility.
- + The width of a barrier-free path of travel greater than 24 m long is required to be increased to 1,700 mm x 1,700 mm at intervals not more than 24 m [3.8.3.2.].



- + Additional requirements for wheelchair turning space in corridors > 12 m

Article 3.8.3.3. Exterior Walks

NBC – 2015 Latest Amendments for NSBCR

- 1) Exterior walks that form part of a barrier-free path of travel shall
 - a) have a slip-resistant, continuous and even surface, and
 - b) be not less than 1 100 mm wide.

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

- 1) Exterior walks that form part of a barrier-free path of travel shall
 - a) unchanged
 - b) be not less than 1 600 mm wide, and
 - c) have a level area conforming to Clause 3.8.3.5.(1)(c) adjacent to an entrance doorway, and
 - d) be designed in accordance with Clause 8.2.1. of CSA B651, “Accessible design for the built environment.”



Article 3.8.3.5. Ramps

NBC – 2015 Latest Amendment for NSBCR

- 1) A ramp located in a barrier-free path of travel shall
 - a) have a clear width not less than 870 mm (see Note A-3.4.3.4.),
 - b) have a slope not more than 1 in 12 (see Note A-3.8.3.5.(1)(b)),
 - c) have a level area not less than 1500 by 1500 mm at the top and bottom and at intermediate levels of a ramp leading to a door, so that on the latch side the level area extends not less than
 - i. 600 mm beyond the edge of the door opening where the door opens towards the ramp, or
 - ii. 300 mm beyond the edge of the door opening where the door opens away from the ramp, (see Note A-3.8.3.5.(1)(c)),
 - d) have a level area not less than 1200 mm long and at least the same width as the ramp
 - i. at intervals not more than 9 m along its length, and
 - ii. where there is an abrupt change in the direction of the ramp, and
 - e) except as provided in Sentences (2) and (3), be equipped with handrails conforming to Article 3.4.6.5., except that they shall be not less than 865 mm and not more than 965 mm high, and
 - f) be equipped with guards conforming to Article 3.4.6.6.



NBC – 2020 Amendment for NSBCR

- 1) A ramp located in a barrier-free path of travel shall
 - a) have a clear width not less than **1000 mm** (see Note A-3.4.3.4.),
 - b) have a **uniform** slope along its length not more than 1 in 12 (see Note A-3.8.3.5.(1)(b)),
 - c) have a level area not less than **1700 mm by 1700 mm**... (minor dimensional changes for d-f)

Article 3.8.3.6. Doorways and Doors

NBC – 2015 Latest Updates to NSBC

- 2) Clear width not less than 800 mm when the door is in the open position. (Doorways in a path of travel to at least one bathroom within a suite of residential occupancy shall have a clear width not less than 800 mm when the doors are open.)
- 12) A vestibule shall allow movement of a wheelchair between doors with a distance between 2 doors in series of not less than 1 200 mm plus the width of any door that swings into the space of the path of travel from one door to another.
- 14) Clear floor space on each side of a door (rectangular area)
 - a) As wide as the door plus the clearance required by Sentence (11) → 600 mm if the door swings toward the approach side, 300 mm if the door swings the other way
 - b) Dimension perpendicular to the closed door is not less than 1 500 mm

+

NBC – 2020 Amendment for NSBCR

- 1) Clear width: ≥ 850 mm (both general and to at least one bathroom within a suite of residential occupancy)
- 12) Distance between doors in series for a vestibule: ≥ 1 350 mm
- 14) Clear floor space on the pull side of a swinging door: ≥ 1 700 mm by 1 500 mm measured from the hinged side of the door
- 15) Clear floor space on the push side of a swinging door and on each side of a sliding door: ≥ 1 200 mm (parallel to the closed door) and ≥ 1 500 mm (perpendicular to the closed door)
- + Modifications to Sentence (16), and (17) and (18) are new.

Article 3.8.3.6. Doorways and Doors

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

- 16) Where a door referred to in Sentences (14) and (15) is equipped with a power door operator (PDO) complying with Sentence (6), the width of the clear floor space parallel to the closed door is permitted to be reduced to not less than 1 000 mm.(See Note A-3.8.3.6.(14) to (16).)
- 17) Where a PDO is required, one leaf in a set of doors in the barrier-free path shall meet these requirements.
- 18) Except for Group B, Division 1, glass or transparent doors or doors with vision glass complying with Article 3.3.1.20 shall be used in barrier-free entrances.



Article 3.8.3.7. Passenger-Elevating Devices

NBC – 2015 Latest Amendments for NSBCR

- 1) A passenger-elevating device referred to in Article 3.8.2.3. shall conform to CSA B355, “Lifts for Persons with Physical Disabilities.”

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

- 1) A passenger-elevating device referred to in Article 3.8.2.3. located in a barrier-free path of travel shall
 - a) conform to CSA B355, “Platform lifts and stair lifts for barrier-free access,”
 - b) have a **clear floor space** not less than **1 500 mm long by 1 000 mm wide**, and
 - c) have **entry doors or gates**
 - i. providing a **clear width** not less than **850 mm** in the open position **if located on the short side of the passenger-elevating device**, or
 - ii. providing a **clear width** not less than **1 000 mm** in the open position **if located at either end of the long side of the passenger-elevating device**.



Article 3.8.3.8. Controls

NBC – 2015 Latest Amendment for NSBCR

- 1) Controls described in this Section shall
 - a) where located in or adjacent to a barrier-free path of travel, and unless otherwise stated,
 - i. be mounted 400 mm to 1 200 mm above the floor,
 - ii. be adjacent to and centered on either the length or the width of a clear floor space of 1 350 mm by 800 mm, and
 - b) be operable
 - i. with one hand in a closed fist position, without requiring tight grasping, pinching with fingers, or twisting of the wrist, and
 - ii. unless otherwise stated, with a force not more than 22 N.

NBC – 2020 Amendment for NSBCR

- 1) Controls described in this Section shall
 - a) where located in a storey where a barrier-free path of travel is required and unless otherwise stated,
 - i. **be in or adjacent to the barrier-free path of travel,**
 - ii. be mounted 400 mm to 1 200 mm above the floor,
 - iii. be adjacent to and centered on either the length or the width of a clear floor space of 1 350 mm by 800 mm, and
 - b) be operable
 - i. with one hand in a closed fist position, without requiring tight grasping, pinching with fingers, or twisting of the wrist, and
 - ii. unless otherwise stated, with a force not more than 22 N, **and**
 - c) **where controls provide a feedback signal to the user, it shall be both audible and visible (see Note A-3.8.3.8.(1)(c)).**

Article 3.8.3.9. Accessibility Signs

NBC – 2015 Latest Amendments for NSBCR

- 1) Signs required by Article 3.8.2.10. shall incorporate the International Symbol of Access or the International Symbol of Access for Hearing Loss and appropriate graphical or textual information that clearly indicates the type of facilities available. (See Note A-3.8.3.9.(1).)

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

- 1) Visual information signs required by Subsections 3.4.5. and 3.4.6. and Article 3.8.2.10. shall comply with Clauses 4.5.2, 4.5.3 and 4.5.4 of CSA B651, “Accessible design for the built environment.” (See Note A-3.8.3.9.(1)and(2).)
- 2) Tactile information signs required by Subsections 3.4.5. and 3.4.6. and Article 3.8.2.10. shall
 - a) have Braille and tactile characters in accordance with Clauses 4.5.6.2 and 4.5.6.3 of CSA B651, “Accessible design for the built environment,”
 - b) be installed on the wall closest to the latch side of the door or on the nearest wall on the right side of the door, where there is no wall at the latch side, and
 - c) be centred 1 500 mm above the finished floor with the edge of the sign located not more than 300 mm from the door. (See Note A-3.8.3.9.(1) and (2).)
- 3) Signs required by Article 3.8.2.10. shall incorporate the International Symbol of Access or the International Symbol of Access for Hearing Loss and appropriate graphical or textual information that clearly indicates the type of facilities available. (See Note A-3.8.3.9.(3).)

Article 3.8.3.9. Accessibility Signs

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

- 4)
 - a) The floorplan required by Sentence 3.8.2.10.(5) shall be installed 900-1,100mm above the floor to the highest point of the diagram,
 - b) have a clear floor space of 800 mm by 1,350 mm in front of the floor plan diagram,
 - c) be installed near elevators or in a central location where elevators are not installed,
 - d) Incorporate appropriate tactile, graphical, or textual information indicating the location of all provided facilities, and
 - e) be colour-contrasted with the background.

Article 3.8.3.10. Drinking Fountains

NBC – 2015 Latest Amendments for NSBCR

- 1) Drinking fountains required by Sentence 3.8.2.8.(9) shall
 - a) be located along a barrier-free path of travel, and
 - b) have a minimum clear floor space of 800 mm by 1 350 mm in front of it.
 - c) where it has frontal access, provide a knee clearance in accordance with Clause 3.8.3.15.(1)(d),
 - d) have a spout that
 - i. is located near the front of the unit, at a height between 750 mm and 915 mm above the floor,
 - ii. directs water flow in a trajectory that is nearly parallel to the front of the unit, at a height of not less than 100 mm, and
 - e) be equipped with controls that
 - i. activate automatically, or
 - ii. are located either on the front or on both sides of it and comply with Clause 3.8.3.8.(1)(b).

Article 3.8.3.10. Drinking Fountains

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

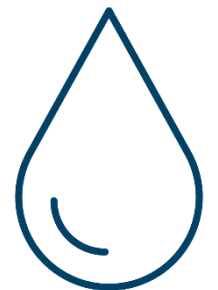
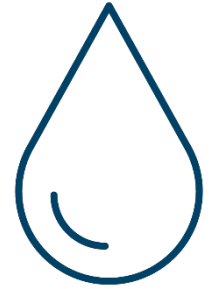
- 1) Drinking fountains required by Sentence 3.8.2.8.(10) shall be equipped with controls that
 - a) Activate automatically, or
 - b) Comply with Clause 3.8.3.8.(1)(b) and are located on the front or on both sides of the fountain.
- 2) Where drinking fountains referred to in Sentence (1) are located in a storey where barrier-free path of travel is required, they shall
 - a) be located along the barrier-free path of travel,
 - b) have minimum clear floor space of 800 mm by 1 350 mm in front of them,
 - c) where they have frontal access, provide a knee clearance in accordance with Clause 3.8.3.16(1)(e), and
 - d) Have a spout located near the front at a height between 750 mm and 915 mm above the floor, and directs water flow in a trajectory that is nearly parallel to the front of the unit, at a height of not less than 100 mm.

Article 3.8.3.11. Water-Bottle Filling Stations (NEW Addition)

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

- 1) Water-bottle filling stations required by Sentence 3.8.2.8.(11) shall be equipped with controls that
 - a) activate automatically, or
 - b) comply with Clause 3.8.3.8.(1)(b).
- 2) Water-bottle filling stations required by Sentence 3.8.2.8.(11) that are located in a storey where a barrier-free path of travel is required shall
 - a) Be located along the barrier-free path of travel,
 - b) have a clear floor space of 800 mm by 1 350mm in front of them (see Note A-3.8.3.11.(2)(b) and (d)),
 - c) where they have frontal access, provide a knee clearance in accordance with Clause 3.8.3.16.(1)(e), and
 - d) be operable at a height of not more than 1200mm above the floor (see Note A-3.8.3.11.(2)(b) and (d)).

(See Notes A-3.8.3.11.(2)(b) and (d), NBC.)



Article 3.8.3.12. Water-Closet Stalls

NBC – 2015 Latest Amendment for NSBCR (previously 3.8.3.11)

- 1) Water-closet stalls and enclosures required by Sentence 3.8.2.8.(5) shall
 - a) be not less than 1 500 mm wide by 1 500 mm deep,
 - b) have a clear floor space of 1 500 mm by 1 500 mm in front of the accessible stall,
 - c) be equipped with a door that
 - i. can be latched from the inside with a mechanism conforming to Clause 3.8.3.8.(1)(b),
 - ii. is aligned with either the transfer space adjacent to the water closet or with a clear floor space not less than 1 500 mm by 1 500 mm within the stall,
 - iii. provides a clear opening not less than 850 mm wide when it is open,
 - iv. is self-closing so that, when at rest, the door is ajar by not more than 50 mm beyond the jamb,
 - v. swings outward, unless there is sufficient floor space within the stall for the door to swing inward in addition to a clear floor space of at least 800 mm by 1 350 mm (see Note A-3.8.3.11.(c)(v)),
 - vi. where the door swings outward, is provided with a horizontal, D-shaped, visually contrasting door pull not less than 140 mm long located on the inside such that its midpoint is 200 mm to 300 mm from the hinged side of the door and 800 mm to 1 000 mm above the floor (see Note A-3.8.3.11.(1)(c)(vi)), and
 - vii. is provided with a horizontal, D-shaped, visually contrasting door pull not less than 140 mm long located on the outside such that its midpoint is 120 mm to 220 mm from the latch side and 800 mm to 1 000 mm above the floor,

Article 3.8.3.12. Water-Closet Stalls

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

- 1) Water-closet stalls and enclosures required by Sentence 3.8.2.8.(5) shall
 - a) unchanged
 - b) have a clear lateral transfer space adjacent to the water closet that
 - i. is at least **1 500 mm long**, measured from the wall behind the water closet, and
 - ii. is at least **900 mm wide**, measured from the closest edge of the water closet seat,
 - c) have a clear floor space of **1 700 mm by 1 700 mm** in front of the accessible stall,
 - d) be equipped with a door that
 - i. can be latched from the inside with a mechanism **conforming to Clause 3.8.3.8.(1)(b)**,
 - ii. is aligned with either the transfer space adjacent to the water closet or with a clear floor space not less than **1 700 mm by 1 700 mm** within the stall,
 - iii. to vii. Unchanged
 - e) **to i)** remain unchanged.

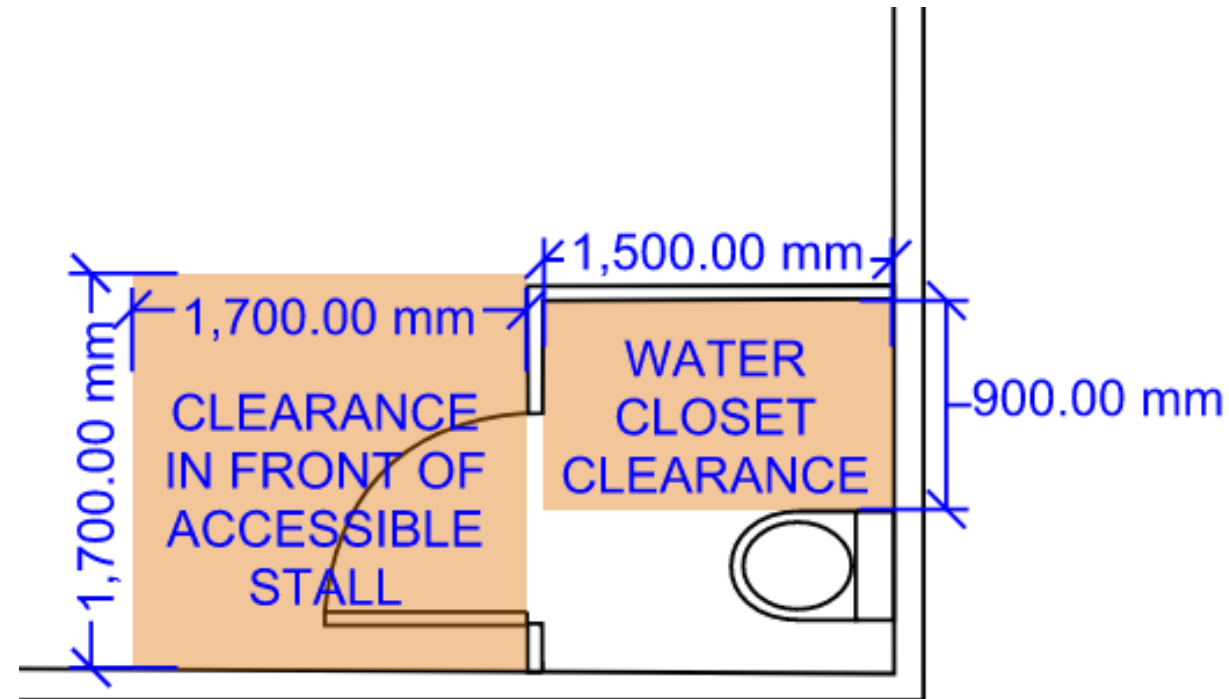


Figure is of an original Jensen Hughes design

Article 3.8.3.13. Universal Washrooms

NBC – 2015 Latest Amendments for NSBCR (previously 3.8.3.12.)

- 1) A universal washroom shall
 - a) be served by a barrier-free path of travel,
 - b) have a door complying with Article 3.8.3.6. that
 - i. has a latch-operating mechanism located 900 mm to 1 000 mm above the floor that complies with Clause 3.8.3.8.(1)(b) and is capable of being locked from the inside, and released from the outside in case of emergency, and
 - ii. if it is an outward swinging door that is not self-closing, has a door pull not less than 140 mm long located on the inside so that its midpoint is not less than 200 mm and not more than 300 mm from the hinged side of the door and not less than 900 mm and not more than 1 000 mm above the floor (see Note A-3.8.3.11.(1)(c)(vi)),
 - c) have one lavatory conforming to Article 3.8.3.15.,
 - d) have one water closet conforming to Article 3.8.3.13. and Clause 3.8.3.11.(1)(d), with a clear floor space at least 900 mm wide that is parallel and adjacent to the open side of the water closet,
 - e) have grab bars conforming to Clauses 3.8.3.11.(1)(e) and (f),
 - f) have a coat hook conforming to Clause 3.8.3.11.(1)(g),
 - g) have a toilet paper dispenser conforming to Clause 3.8.3.11.(1)(h),
 - h) unless a counter is provided, have a shelf located not more than 1 200 mm above the floor, and
 - i) be designed to permit a wheelchair to turn in an open space not less than 1 500 mm in diameter.

Article 3.8.3.13. Universal Washrooms

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

- 1) A universal washroom shall
 - a) unchanged → c) d) f) g) h) change of reference number
 - b) have a door complying with Article 3.8.3.6. that
 - i. has a latch-operating mechanism located **900 mm to 1 100 mm** above the floor that complies with Clause 3.8.3.8.(1)(b) and is capable of being locked from the inside, and released from the outside in case of emergency, and
 - ii. if it is an outward swinging door that is not self-closing, has a door pull not less than 140 mm long located on the inside so that its midpoint is not less than 200 mm and not more than 300 mm from the hinged side of the door and not less than 900 mm and not more than 1 100 mm above the floor (see Note A-3.8.3.11.(1)(c)(vi)),
 - e) **have a clear lateral transfer space adjacent to the water closet that conforms to Clause 3.8.3.12.1(1)(b)**
 - f) to i) unchanged, and
 - j) be designed to permit a wheelchair to turn in an open space not less than **1 700 mm** in diameter.
- 2) A universal washroom **required to have an accessible change space** as stipulated in Sentence 3.8.2.8.(15) shall
 - a) be equipped with an **adult-sized change table**,
 - b) have a **clear floor space** to accommodate the **adult-sized change table that is 810 mm wide by 1 830 mm long and does not overlap with the clear spaces** required by Clauses (1)(e), (1)(j) and (c), and
 - c) have a **clear transfer space of 900 mm by 1 350 mm** adjacent to the long side of the clear floor space for the adult-sized change table.

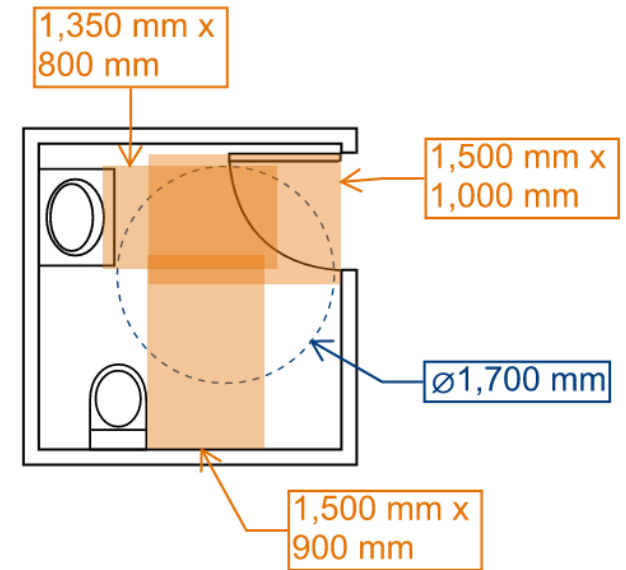


Figure is of an original Jensen Hughes design

Article 3.8.3.15. Water-Closet Stalls and Urinals for Persons with Limited Mobility

NBC – 2020 Amendment for NSBCR (NEW Article)

- 1) Water-closet stalls for persons with limited mobility required by Sentence 3.8.2.8.(7) shall
 - a) be at least 1 500 mm deep and 890 mm to 940 mm wide,
 - b) be equipped with a door that
 - i. has a latch-operating mechanism conforming to Clause 3.8.3.8.(1)(b) and is capable of being locked from the inside, and released from the outside in case of emergency,
 - ii. provides a clear opening not less than 850 mm wide when it is open,
 - iii. swings outward, unless the minimum dimensions required by Clause (1) do not overlap with the area of the door swing,
 - iv. is self-closing so that, when at rest, the door is ajar by not more than 50 mm beyond the jamb, and
 - v. has a door pull on both sides of the door, near the latch side, located 900 mm to 1 100 mm above the finished floor,
 - c) have one water closet conforming to Article 3.8.3.14. centred within the stall,
 - d) have a horizontal grab bar conforming to Article 3.7.2.7.on each side of the water closet that
 - i. is located 750 mm to 850 mm above the floor,
 - ii. begins not more than 300 mm from the wall behind the water closet, and
 - iii. extends at least 450 mm in front of the toilet seat, and
 - e) be equipped with a coat hook mounted not more than 1 200 mm above the floor on a side wall and projecting not more than 50 mm from the wall.

Article 3.8.3.15. Water-Closet Stalls and Urinals for Persons with Limited Mobility

NBC – 2020 Amendment for NSBCR (NEW Article)

- 2) Urinals described in Sentence 3.8.2.8.(6) shall
 - a) Be wall mounted with the opening in the basin located not more than 430 mm above the floor,
 - b) Be adjacent to an accessible route,
 - c) Have a clear width of approach of 800 mm wide by 1350 mm long centered on the urinal and unobstructed by privacy screens,
 - d) Have no step in front of it,
 - e) Have a flush that
 - a) Is automatic, or
 - b) Complies with Clause 3.8.3.8.(1)(b) and is located 900-1100 mm above the floor, and
 - f) Have a vertically-mounted grab bar installed on each side that
 - a) Complies with Article 3.7.2.7,
 - b) Is not less than 600 mm long, with its center line 1000 mm above the floor, and
 - c) Is located not more than 380 mm from the center line of the urinal.



Article 3.8.3.16. Lavatories and Mirrors

NBC – 2015 Latest Updates for NSBCR (previously 3.8.3.15.)

- 1) Lavatories required by Sentence 3.8.2.8.(7) shall
 - a) be equipped with faucets complying with Sentence 3.7.2.3.(4),
 - b) be located so that the distance between the centre line of the lavatory and any side wall is not less than 460 mm,
 - c) have a rim height not more than 865 mm above the floor,
 - d) have a clearance beneath the lavatory not less than
 - i. 760 mm wide,
 - ii. 735 mm high at the front edge,
 - iii. 685 mm high at a point 200 mm back from the front edge, and
 - iv. 230 mm high over the distance from a point 280 mm to a point 430 mm back from the front edge,(see Note A-3.8.3.15.(1)(d))
 - e) have insulated water supply and drain pipes where these pipes are exposed (see Note A-3.8.3.15.(1)(e)),
 - f) have a soap dispenser that:
 - i. is automatic, or
 - ii. complies with Clause 3.8.3.8.(1)(b) and is located not more than 1 100 mm above the floor, within 500 mm from the front of the lavatory (see Note A3.8.3.15.(1)(f)), and
 - g) have a towel dispenser or other hand-drying equipment located close to the lavatory, not more than 1 200 mm above the floor in an area that is accessible to persons in wheelchairs.

Article 3.8.3.16. Lavatories and Mirrors

NBC – 2020 Updates for NSBCR

- 1) Lavatories required by Sentence 3.8.2.8.(7) shall
 - c) Have a rim height not more than 865 mm above the floor,
 - d) Have a clearance beneath the lavatory not less than
 - i. 800 mm wide, centred on the lavatory, and
 - ii. 1350 mm long, of which no more than 430 mm is beneath the lavatory.
 - e) Have a clearance beneath the lavatory not less than
 - i. 800 mm wide,
 - ii. 735 mm high at the front edge,
 - iii. 685 mm high at a point 200 mm back from the front edge and
 - iv. 230 mm high over a distance from a point 280 mm to a point 430 mm back from the front edge.
- 2) Mirrors required by Sentence 3.8.2.8.(10) shall be
 - 1) Mounted with their bottom edge not more than 1000 mm above the floor, or
 - 2) Fixed in an inclined position so as to be usable by a person in a wheelchair.

Article 3.8.3.17. Showers

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

2) A universal dressing and shower room required by Sentence 3.8.2.8.(13) shall

- a) be located in a barrier-free path of travel,
- b) have a door capable of being locked from the inside and released from the outside in the event of an emergency,
- c) have a lavatory and mirror conforming to Article 3.8.3.16,
- d) have a shower conforming to Sentence (1),
- e) have a bench that is at least 1830 mm long by 760 mm wide and 480-520 mm high,
- f) have a clear transfer space adjacent to the long side of the bench that is 900 mm wide and as long as the bench, and
- g) have a hook conforming to Clause 3.8.3.12.(1)(h).

3) (UPDATED) If individual shower stalls are provided for use by residents and patients in buildings of Group B, Division 2, 3, or 4, care, treatment, or home-care occupancies, they shall conform to the requirements of Clauses (1)(a) to (j) except where

- a) common showers are provided in conformance with Clauses (1)(a) to (j), or
- b) common bath tubs equipped with hoist mechanisms to accommodate residents and patients are available.

Article 3.8.3.18 Accessible Bathtubs

NBC – 2015 Latest Updates for NSBCR

- + Accessible bathtubs must
 - a) be in a room with a clear floor space ≥ 1.5 m in diameter,
 - b) be not less than 1.5 m long,
 - c) have a clear floor space ≥ 0.75 m wide adjacent to its entire length,
 - d) be capable of being accessed along its full length with no tracks mounted on its rim,
 - e) have faucets and controls that comply with 3.8.3.8.(1)(b), or that are located on the centre line or between the centre line and the exterior edge of the bathtub rim, at a maximum height of 450 mm above the rim,
 - f) have three grab bars
 - g) have a slip-resistant bottom surface, and
 - h) be equipped with a hand-held shower head with ≥ 1.8 m of flexible hose that can be used in a fixed position at a height of 1.2 m and 2.03 m.

+ *NBC – 2020 Updates for NSBCR*

- + Accessible bathtubs must now be located in a room with a clear floor space of ≥ 1.7 m in diameter
 - Must also have a clear floor space ≥ 0.9 m wide adjacent to its entire length

Article 3.8.3.19. Assistive Listening Systems

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

- + Required assistive listening systems or adaptive technologies must provide for the clear communication required for the exchange of information, goods and services.
 - Applies to assistive listening systems / adaptive technology in areas relating to the exchange of
 - Information
 - Goods
 - Services
 - Applies to assembly occupancy types
- + Sentence (2) has been updated to be the following: assistive listening system or adaptive technology required by Sentence 3.8.2.9.(2) shall provide for the clear communication required for the exchange of information, goods, or services.

Article 3.8.3.20. Counters

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

- + A section of a service counter required to be barrier-free is to
 - a) be ≥ 800 mm long centred over a knee space conforming to Clause (c),
 - b) have a surface not more than 865 mm above the floor, and
 - c) where forward-facing interaction with a person or a device is required, have a knee space underneath it that is
 - i. not less than 800 mm wide,
 - ii. not less than 685 mm high, and
 - iii. not less than 485 mm deep.



Article 3.8.3.21. Telephones and TTY/TTD Telephone Services

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

1. A telephone required to be barrier-free in accordance with Article 3.8.2.12. shall
 - a) Be adjacent and centered on either the length or the width of a clear floor space not less than 1350 by 800 mm.
 - b) Where a forward approach is provided, have knee clearance underneath conforming to Clause 3.8.3.20.(1)(c), and
 - c) Located so the receive and operable parts are not more than 1200 mm above the floor.
4. Clause D has been modified to reference camping accommodations instead of the previous reference to tourist cabins.
 - Sentences (2), (3), Clauses (4)(a) to (c), and (5) remain unchanged.



Article 3.8.3.22. Spaces in Seating Area

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

- + Spaces designated for wheelchair use in assembly occupancies are required to:
 - Have at least one designated space for each increment of 200 seats
 - Remaining designated spaces should have removable seats
- + Be at least 900 mm x 1 700 mm, and 1350 mm long where the wheelchair enters from the front or rear
- + Minimum of 1 fixed seat located beside a designated space
- + Spaces must be clear and level
- + Adaptable seats must be equipped with a movable/removable armrest on the side of the seat adjoining an aisle
- + Storage spaces for mobility aids must be provided in a location that is
 - On the same level as and in proximity to any required adaptable seats
 - Within the room side of the required fire separations for seating areas in Group A, Division 1 occupancies

Article 3.8.3.23. Emergency Equipment and Laboratory Sinks (NEW)

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

- + Eye wash stations required by Sentence 3.8.2.13.(1) to be barrier-free require the following:
 - Be located in the barrier-free path of travel,
 - Minimum clear floor space of 800 mm wide by 1350 mm deep in front of them,
 - Be provided with knee clearances in conformance with Clause 3.8.3.16.(1)(e),
 - Provided with door controls in compliance with Sentence 3.8.3.8.(1), and
 - Have spray heads located at a height between 750-915 mm above the floor.
- + Emergency showers required as per Sentence 3.8.2.13.(1) to be barrier-free shall be located in a barrier-free path of travel, and provided with floor space clearances and controls like eye wash stations.

Article 3.8.3.23. Emergency Equipment and Laboratory Sinks (NEW)

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

- + Laboratory sinks and counters in classrooms required by Sentence 3.8.2.8.(16) to be barrier-free shall be:
 - Minimum clearance counters and cabinets, countertops, or walls of at least 1200 mm,
 - Sinks shall be
 - Mounted with the rim between 810-860 mm above the floor,
 - Knee space at least 800 mm wide and 200 mm deep, and toe space 800 mm wide, 230 mm deep, and 230 mm high,
 - Clear floor space 800 mm wide by 1350 mm long, of which 480 mm may extend under the work surface,
 - Have faucets equipped with lever handles or automatic activation, and
 - Insulated hot water and drain pipes that do not abut the required clear space.
 - Base cabinets with toe spaces at least 150 mm deep and 230 mm high, and
 - Any workspaces provided near laboratory sinks shall be designed as per Clause 3.8.3.23.(3)(d).

Article 3.8.3.24. Kitchens and Break Rooms(NEW)

NBC – 2020 Amendments for NSBCR

- + Kitchens and break rooms referred to in Sentence 3.8.2.14.(1) shall comply with the following:
 - One section of the counter shall comply with Sentence 3.8.3.20.(1) or be adjustable between a height of 735 mm and 915 mm,
 - An electrical receptacle shall be located at the front or side of the counter referred to in Clause (a),
 - Where a sink is provided, the trap arm shall be installed no higher than 305 mm to the centerline of the pipe measured from the finished floor, and
 - A clear floor space of 800 mm by 1350 mm and shall be centered in front of each sink, range, cooktop, refrigerator, dishwasher, and other major appliance.

Articles 3.8.3.25. and 3.8.3.26, and Subsection 3.8.4

- + Not included as part of this presentation due to time. However, the requirements of NSBCR 198/24 (upcoming amendment on April 1, 2025) will apply.

Key Takeaways

- + Encapsulated Mass Timber
 - New construction option
 - Subject to height and fire protection implications
 - Enables the construction of wood buildings with encapsulated mass timber up to 12 storeys
- + Accessibility
 - Enhanced entry and increased clearances
 - Increased clearances for universal washrooms
 - New limited mobility water closets
 - Tactile and visual information enhancement



Thank You