



Uniform Building Code Commission
Staff Comment Form – BEBF 97
BEFB Technical Committee

Review of the 2021 Editions of the International Building Code® (IBC®), International Existing Building Code® (IEBC®), International Fire Code®

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Code Change Information

Originating Committee: BEFB-2015

Code Modified: 2018 IFC

Original Comment Form Number: BEFB-75

Rule Number: 748:20-4-62

Which area of the code (Section, Table, Figure) was be revised?

IFC Ch 57, Section 5705.5

Page Number:

Previous change:

5705.5 Alcohol-based hand rubs classified as Class I or II liquids. The use of wall-mounted dispensers containing alcohol-based hand rubs classified as Class I or II liquids shall be in accordance with all of the following:

- (1) The maximum capacity of each dispenser shall be 68 ounces (2 L).
- (2) The minimum separation between dispensers shall be 48 inches (1219 mm)
- (3) The dispensers shall not be installed above, below, or closer than 1 inch (25 mm) to an electrical receptacle, switch, appliance, device or other ignition source. The wall space between the dispenser and the floor or intervening counter top shall be free of electrical receptacles, switches, appliances, devices or other ignition sources.
- (4) Dispensers shall be mounted so that the bottom of the dispenser is not less than 42 inches (1067 mm) and not more than 48 inches (1219 mm) above the finished floor.
- (5) Dispensers shall not release their contents except when the dispenser is manually activated. Facilities shall be permitted to install and use automatically activated "touch free" alcohol-based hand-rub dispensing devices with the following requirements:

(A) The facility or persons responsible for the dispensers shall test the dispensers each time a new refill is installed in accordance with the manufacturer's care and use instructions.

(B) Dispensers shall be designed and must operate in a manner that ensures accidental or malicious activations of the dispensing devices are minimized. At a minimum, all devices subject to or used in accordance with this section shall have the following safety features:

- (i) Any activations of the dispenser shall only occur when an object is placed within 4 inches (98 mm) of the sensing device.
- (ii) The dispenser shall not dispense more than the amount required for hand hygiene consistent with label instructions as regulated by the United States Food and Drug Administration (USFDA).
- (iii) An object placed within the activation zone and left in place will cause only one activation.

(6) Storage and use of alcohol-based hand rubs shall be in accordance with the applicable provisions of Sections 5704 and 5705.

(7) Dispensers when installed in occupancies with over a carpeted floors area shall only be allowed in smoke compartments or fire areas equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2 have a guard or shield to prevent alcohol-based hand rub product from dispensing onto the floor.

Historical information:

The modification was made by the 2015 BEBF committee due to concerns with possible buildup of alcohol-based hand rub product on the carpet regardless of whether the structure was sprinklered. The language in the 2021 code is the same as was published in the 2015 and 2018 codes and does not contain the OUBCC modification.