



STATE OF WASHINGTON

STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

128-10th Avenue SW • P.O. Box 42525 • Olympia, Washington 98504-2525
(360) 725-2966 • fax (360) 586-9383 • e-mail sbcc@cted.wa.gov • www.sbcc.wa.gov

STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. 07- 05

CODE: 2006 International Building Code

SECTION: 902
903.2.2 Exception 1

QUESTIONS:

1. Does “requires a chassis” mean that the chassis is a part of the building structure?
2. Can an existing 4970 square foot portable classroom building (made of 5 modular sections) have a 3712 square foot addition (made of 4 modular sections) with a 2-hour fire-resistance-rated fire wall between the existing and the addition be approved without the requirement for an automatic fire sprinkler system?

ANSWERS:

1. **No. Section 902 defines a portable classroom as a structure designed to use a chassis for transport. The structure can be hoisted onto a flatbed trailer for relocation and still meet the definition of portable.**
2. **No. Washington State Amendment 903.2.2 requires an automatic sprinkler system in all Group E occupancies except for portable classrooms or clusters of less than 5000 square feet and Group E occupancies with an occupant load of 50 or less.**

A two hour fire-resistance-rated fire wall would not meet Section 705.4 of the IBC for separations.

SUPERSEDES: None

REQUESTED BY: City of Vancouver