



THE CODE ADVISOR

Approved Code
Services, Inc.
717-215-5849

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Professional Assistance in the Building Codes for Architects,
Engineers and Contractors

Question of the Month

From the “Quick Code Answers”
Telephone Support records.

Quick Code Answers is an annual subscription service that provides Phone & On-site technical support for Building Code questions.

Q: Must the sink in a company break room be open underneath, like a public restroom sink?



A: This “open underneath” configuration is described as a forward approach in the code. It provides Knee and Toe clearance for a person in a wheel chair. The other configuration, without this Knee and Toe clearance, is called a parallel approach. Generally, the

code requires a forward approach for kitchens in a public or common area. But, there is an exception. When there is no cook top or range, a parallel approach may be used. This would still have certain Clear Floor Space requirements but no Knee & Toe clearances.

See **A117.1-2003 606.2** for details.

Client Highlight

RMI Realty Management, Inc.

5006 East Trindle Rd., Suite 203

Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

717.790.0111

Real Estate brokerage firm that specializes in Commercial / Industrial Sales & Leasing, Commercial / Industrial Property Management and Construction Management Services

Code Tip



A Platform (wheelchair) Lift may be used in an existing building to create a required accessible means of egress. Compared to an elevator, this is a less costly option. A Platform Lift may also be used in new construction under certain specific conditions and “*where existing exterior site constraints make use of a ramp or elevator infeasible.*” This infeasibility must be approved by the code official or the accessibility appeals board.

See **2006IBC 1007.5, 1109.7 and 3409.8.3** for details.

Current Events



Plans are underway for the **2008 Midstate Home Makeover** – scheduled to begin May 2nd. The winning Myerstown, Lebanon County family will experience a life changing week in May, when their 1850’s farmhouse is dramatically remodeled. This family has several disabled children in wheelchairs. Adding accessible features to the home will be a priority along with a new kitchen, HVAC system, windows and roof. The entire structure will also be repainted inside and out. We are glad to be involved this year and encourage any of our friends to consider contributing your time and talent to this very worthy cause.

Information is available under the Features link at www.whtm.com

~“Making the Building Codes Work for You!”~

Approved Code Product Highlight

De-Coding the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Code Seminar

- *Remove the frustration from ADA (Accessibility) Inspections.
- *Learn from problems that others have had with accessibility as documented in the latest L&I (Accessibility) Audit Report.



This presentation includes many photo examples and case studies to help connect the code language with real life applications.

Topics include: Tactile Signs, Handrails, Ramps, Mounting heights for common features, Drinking Fountains, Door Hardware, Van Accessible Parking, Sinks and Lavatories, Restroom Grab Bars, Accessible restroom layout, Knee clearance, Kitchenette layout and proper counter heights.

Each participant receives the **Accessibility Pocketbook** and the **L&I Audit Report Workbook**. These two resources allow you to easily reference the seminar information at the office or job site.

Seminar is 4-hours and can be presented at your office or we can arrange a meeting room for your group. Call today! 717-215-5849

Recommended Resources

2006 Accessibility Study Companion



The Study Companion is a comprehensive self-study guide that provides a comprehensive review of the accessibility provisions in the 2006 IBC® and ICC/ANSI A117.1-2003. It covers the scoping requirements of the IBC® and the technical requirements of ICC/ANSI A117.1-2003.

The Study Companion's 18 study sessions contain practical learning assignments, applicable code text and commentary, and helpful quizzes to test your knowledge of the material. An answer key provides the correct response and code reference for each of the 520 total questions. (460 pages)

Product #: 4123S06 **Price \$54.00**

Got Questions?

Do you have a code question?

Maybe something that has been inspected and passed on one job and failed on the next?

Or maybe you are just wondering about the reason for a certain code.

Submit your code question to code_question@ApprovedCode.com

Be sure to include a daytime telephone number in case we need more information.

We will respond to your question by e-mail or phone as soon as possible.



APPROVED Code Services, Inc. provides building code support services, training and products to assist design professionals and builders in the proper application of the building code. Our staff is experienced and fully certified in all areas of the Pennsylvania State Building Code, both residential and commercial. Information provided in this newsletter is believed to be accurate and appropriate for the situation being presented. All information must be cross checked with a code book for suitability to the application. The local building code official and the appeals board have the final authority for interpreting the code in each jurisdiction.

Post Office Box 614 Dillsburg, Pennsylvania 17019

www.ApprovedCode.com

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