



**PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET**

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**FORMAL INTERPRETATION #2016-01**

**Document:** 2013 Kentucky Building Code

**Subject:** Combustible flooring products

**Section #** Kentucky Building Code Sections 801, 804 and 805

**Question:** Is a one inch thick combustible foam floor tile/mat that has not been classified as a class I or class II in accordance with NFPA 253 (section 804.2, 2013KBC) and does not comply with the requirements of the DOC FF-1 "pill test" or ASTM D 2859 (section 804.4.1, 2013KBC) permitted to be installed through a building of type 2B construction.

**Answer:** Yes. In accordance with Kentucky Building Code, Section 804.1, Exception: Floor finishes and coverings of a traditional type, such as wood, vinyl, linoleum or terrazzo, and resilient floor covering materials that are not comprised of fibers.

The floor covering in question is the foam floor tiles/mats that are to be installed in the fitness area. This floor covering by definition would be classified as a resilient floor covering and fall under the materials listed in the exception in Section 804.1 of the Kentucky Building Code, therefore would be exempt from the requirements listed in Section 804.2 through 804.4.2. The definition for resilient floor covering is one that once compressed will return back to its original form.

To further explain, the Building Code Handbook and Commentary both explain the floor finishes covered in the exception to Sections 804.2 through 804.4.2 all present little, if any, hazard that is due to the spread of fire along the floor surface. The focus of Code Sections 804.2 through 804.4.2 is more upon textile floor coverings, such as carpets.

  
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4/13/2016  
Date