

## HEALTHCARE INTERPRETATIONS TASK FORCE INTERPRETATION

**Number:** HITF.2005.001

**Date:** June 7, 2005

**Code:** NFPA 101, 19.3.6.2.3; 2000 Edition

**Code Language:**

**19.3.6.2.3\*** In smoke compartments protected throughout by an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with 19.3.5.3, a corridor shall be permitted to be separated from all other areas by non-fire-rated partitions and shall be permitted to terminate at the ceiling where the ceiling is constructed to limit the transfer of smoke.

**A.19.3.6.2.3** An architectural, exposed, suspended-grid acoustical tile ceiling with penetrating items such as sprinkler piping and sprinklers; ducted HVAC supply and return-air diffusers; speakers; and recessed lighting fixtures is capable of limiting the transfer of smoke.

**Did this question arise from an actual field situation?** Yes

**Please state your business interest in the matter and identify other parties involved:**

This question continues to surface with state officials interpreting the Life Safety Code for CMS.

**Question:** Is it the intent of the LSC to require the architectural suspended-grid ceiling to have the acoustical ceiling tiles clipped in place or of a specific weight (e.g. one pound per square foot) to meet the requirements of paragraph 19.3.6.2.3?

**Answer:** NO.