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No: 2007 OSSC, Section 903.2.3.1

Code Reference: Oregon Structural Specialty Code, Section 903.2.3.1

Edition: 2007

Date: April 2, 2009

Subject: Automatic sprinkler requirements in F-1 woodworking operations.

Question: OSSC Section 903.2.3.1 states that; *“An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided throughout all Group F-1 occupancy fire areas that contain woodworking operations in excess of 2,500 square feet in area which generate finely divided combustible waste or use finely divided combustible materials.”*

Is an automatic sprinkler system required where the woodworking area noted above comprises 2,500 square feet or less of the overall F-1 fire area?

Answer: No.

Analysis: As noted in the 2006 IBC Commentary for this section; *“The extent of the sprinkler coverage is only intended to be for the Group F-1 occupancy involved in the woodworking activity. If the fire area is larger than 2,500 square feet but the woodworking area is less than 2,500 square feet, sprinklers are not required.”*

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