

discharge shall be at grade or shall provide direct access to grade. The *exit discharge* shall not reenter a building. The combined use of Exceptions 1 and 2 below shall not exceed 50 percent of the number and capacity of the required *exits*.

Exceptions:

1. A maximum of 50 percent of the number and capacity of the *exit enclosures* is permitted to egress through areas on the level of discharge provided all of the following are met:
 - 1.1. Such *exit enclosures* egress to a free and unobstructed path of travel to an exterior *exit* door and such *exit* is readily visible and identifiable from the point of termination of the *exit* enclosure.
 - 1.2. The entire area of the *level of exit discharge* is separated from areas below by construction conforming to the *fire-resistance rating* for the *exit enclosure*.
 - 1.3. The egress path from the *exit enclosure* on the *level of exit discharge* is protected throughout by an *approved automatic sprinkler system*. All portions of the *level of exit discharge* with access to the egress path shall either be protected throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 or 903.3.1.2, or separated from the egress path in accordance with the requirements for the enclosure of *exits*.
2. A maximum of 50 percent of the number and capacity of the *exit enclosures* is permitted to egress through a vestibule provided all of the following are met:
 - 2.1. The entire area of the vestibule is separated from areas below by construction conforming to the *fire-resistance rating* for the *exit enclosure*.
 - 2.2. The depth from the exterior of the building is not greater than 10 feet (3048 mm) and the length is not greater than 30 feet (9144 mm).
 - 2.3. The area is separated from the remainder of the *level of exit discharge* by construction providing protection at least the equivalent of *approved* wired glass in steel frames.
 - 2.4. The area is used only for *means of egress* and *exits* directly to the outside.
3. *Stairways* in *open parking garages* complying with Section 1022.1, Exception 4, are permitted to egress through the *open parking garage* at their *levels of exit discharge*.
4. *Horizontal exits* complying with Section 1025 shall not be required to discharge directly to the exterior of the building.

1027.2 Exit discharge capacity. The capacity of the *exit discharge* shall be not less than the required discharge capacity of the *exits* being served.

1027.3 Exit discharge location. Exterior balconies, *stairways* and *ramps* shall be located at least 10 feet (3048 mm) from adjacent *plot lines* and from other buildings on the same plot unless the adjacent building *exterior walls* and openings are protected in accordance with Section 705 based on *fire separation distance*.

1027.4 Exit discharge components. *Exit discharge* components shall be sufficiently open to the exterior so as to minimize the accumulation of smoke and toxic gases.

1027.5 Egress courts. *Egress courts* serving as a portion of the *exit discharge* in the *means of egress* system shall comply with the requirements of Section 1027.