

# CHAPTER 4 - HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

400

## 404.03 CARPET SYSTEMS



### INTENT

To minimise the amount of indoor air contaminants from carpets thereby reducing its impacts on health, productivity and well-being of occupants.

### REQUIREMENT

For all new and existing public and commercial buildings, each new carpet system (carpets or new permanently installed carpet padding) must be certified / accredited from Dubai Central Laboratory or any other laboratory, approved by Dubai Municipality (DM).

Carpets are not allowed to be used in labor accommodation, educational facilities or any other places as determined by DM.

### SIGNIFICANCE

Carpet systems (consisting of the carpet, carpet cushion, and carpet adhesive) have wide range of uses such as cushioning the impact of slips and falls, dampening unwanted noise and for aesthetic appeal. Carpets system also works as a sound barrier between floors by blocking sound transmission to spaces below. Carpet systems can also trap particles like dust, pollen and pet and insect dander and removes them from the breathing zone by reducing their circulation.

Selection of carpet systems is important as they may contain Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC). VOCs have an adverse impact on indoor air quality. New carpet systems (including adhesives used to adhere face fibers to backing materials, carpet cushion and the adhesives used to install carpets), will off-gas VOCs after being installed. This can expose building occupants to contamination and has a significant influence on their well-being, productivity and quality of life.

The use of carpet systems made of low-emitting materials will help to minimise air quality problems in buildings. Healthy building occupants are more productive and will have less illness-related absenteeism.

### APPLICABILITY

This regulation is applicable to all building types except labor accommodation and educational facilities. Refer to Table 101.07(1) in Section One - Administration for detailed applicability levels.