1.4. Special Definitions

1.4.1. Common Path of Travel

The portion of exit access that must be traversed before two separate and distinct paths of travel to two exits are available.

1.4.2. Travel Distance to Exits

The portion of exit access that must be traversed before reaching an exit, which is measured along the natural path of travel on the floor or walking surface.

1.4.3. Dead end corridor

The portion of corridor that when traversed leads to no exit at the end that portion has to be traversed back to get to reach a choice of exits and is measured along the natural path of travel, on the floor or walking surface.

1.4.4. Occupant Load

The total number of persons that might occupy a building or portion thereof at any one time for whom number of exits and widths of such exits needs to be designed.

1.4.5. Occupant Load Factor

A designation of square meters per person based upon the use of a given space. It is used to determine occupant load by dividing the occupant load factor from the overall square meters of an area.

The occupant load in any building or portion thereof shall be not less than the number of persons determined by dividing the floor area assigned to that use by the predetermined occupant load factor for that use. Where both gross and net area figures are given for the same occupancy, calculations shall be made by applying the gross area figure to the gross area of the portion of the building devoted to the use for which the gross area figure is specified and by applying the net area figure to the net area of the portion of the building devoted to the use for which the net area figure is specified.

1.4.6. Gross Floor Area

Total floor area within the inside perimeter of the outside walls of the building under consideration with no deductions for hallways, stairs, closets, thickness of interior walls, columns, elevator and building services shafts, or other features, but excluding floor openings associated with atriums and communicating spaces.

1.4.7. Net Area

The floor area within the inside perimeter of the outside walls, or the outside walls and fire walls of a building, or outside and/or inside walls that bound an occupancy or incidental use area requiring the occupant load to be calculated using net floor area under consideration with deductions for hallways, stairs, closets, thickness of interior walls, columns, or other features.

Areas consumed by services, structural elements, shafts etc. are not included in the net area.

