



2015 SBC Code Solution

SBC Section 1607.2
Clustered Conference Rooms-Live
Load and Occupancy

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The following interpretation, policy or code alternate is intended to provide guidance to staff for consistency of review and is subject to change without notice. Application of this interpretation, policy or code alternate to specific projects may vary.

Code Issue:

Question: When will SDCI require the structural framing for a cluster of conference rooms be designed for an assembly live load, even though each individual conference room is classified a B Occupancy per SBC 303.1.1 or 303.1.2? At what size will the clustered conference rooms be classified as an A (Assembly) occupancy?

Interpretation:

As permitted by SBC 1607.2, SDCI will require a cluster of conference rooms in a B occupancy meeting the criteria below to be designed for an assembly live load of 100 psf per SBC Table 1607.1. We will allow the 100 psf to be reduced per SBC 1607.10. This includes both the conference rooms and their path of egress travel.

- The area of the clustered conference rooms including contiguous assembly areas is greater than or equal to 25% of the floor area of the story.
- The conference rooms are contiguous and shall include conference rooms that are individually classified as a B occupancy.
- The clustered conference rooms are located on a story with full (or mostly full) floor tenants OR multi-floor tenant.

If the total occupant load for the clustered conference room including contiguous assembly areas is greater than or equal to 300 occupants, SDCI may classify the clustered conference rooms as an A (Assembly) occupancy.

For questions about whether this code solution applies to your project:

- If you have submitted a permit application, contact the Building Code plan reviewer assigned to your application
- If you have not submitted an application, send us a question through the SDCI website
<http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/toolsresources/sendusaquestion/default.htm> or in person at the Applicant Services Center. Visit the Applicant Services Center website for more information about hours and location
<http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/aboutus/whoware/applicantservicescenter/default.htm>

