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Code Interpretation: 2015-03

Date: 12/1/2015

Code/ Edition: 2012 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC)

2012 International Residential Code (IRC)

Section(s): UPC Section 704.2 and IRC Section 3005.1

Subject: Back-to-Back Fixture Connections

Question: The Plumbing Code allows two fixtures to be set back-to-back, or

side-by-side, provided that each fixture waste separately into an approved double fitting having inlet openings at the same level. Would a double sanitary tapped tee or a double sanitary tee, if sized correctly, be approved for this use? Would two kitchen sinks set back-to-back with a 3 inch x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch double sanitary tapped tee be approved? Would two showers set back-to-back with a 3-inch x 2-inch double

sanitary tee be approved?

Answer: UPC Section 704.2 and IRC Section 3005.1 cover how two fixtures

may be set back-to-back, or side-by-side.

Commentary: Both the UPC and IRC Sections allow fixtures that are set back-to-back

to waste separately into "an approved double fixture fitting" The appropriate fitting for back-to-back trap arms would be a double inlet fitting, which is configured to create a directional flow toward its 60 degree branch inlets at the barrel connection. A sanitary cross is unacceptable as a fixture fitting, which is why the increased size option

allowed by UPC Section 706.2 is not included in Section 704.2.

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