



Building Inspection Division
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Code Interpretation: 2015-02

Date: 11/23/2015

Code/ Edition: 2012 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC)

Section(s): UPC Section 801.1

Subject: Three Compartment Sink Indirect Waste

- Question:**
1. If a three-compartment sink is installed and one of the compartments is used occasionally for the rinsing of fresh foods, vegetables, fruits, etc., what type of connection is required?
 2. Could the three-compartment sink be connected together for one waste outlet?
 3. If one compartment were used merely to thaw frozen foods which were within their own packages, what type of connection would be required?

Answer: UPC Section 801.0 covers only basic plumbing problems in food processing sanitation in separating certain critical equipment from sewer connected drains.

Commentary: 1. It is not necessarily the sole responsibility of the Building Official or Plumbing Inspector to determine specific methods of drain connection for the borderline use commercial kitchen fixtures because Public Health requirements provide overriding plan review and approval procedures. Plumbing permits may therefore be issued and inspections made on the basis of mutually acceptable approved plans.

2. It is improbable that public health approval would be given for the occasional use of one of set of three general use sinks for ready-to-serve food preparation, even if it were indirectly connected due to its other uncontrolled uses and its proximity to a possibly contaminated adjacent compartment.

3. Any vessel or compartment of a vessel which is utilized for soaking or thawing of products which are not sealed in a water-tight package must have its waste discharged through an airgap and must not be interconnected with adjacent compartments or vessels.

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