



An exit enclosure is a protected egress path — usually an interior exit stair or ramp in fire-resistance-rated construction. IMC 601.3 is not comfort HVAC. Ventilation serving that space has to follow one of three permitted arrangements, stay independent of other building ventilation, and keep openings limited and protected. Tying a stair fan into general HVAC is the usual redline.

Original Masterbuild PE packet from Daily Code Talk on 2024 IMC 601.3. Confirm the adopted edition and the IBC shaft and opening-protection path. Distinct from 607 dampers. This is not a stair-pressurization design.

☐ **Item 1: equipment and ductwork outside the building, connecting directly to the exit enclosure through ductwork enclosure**

Item 2: equipment and ductwork within the exit enclosure only where intake is taken directly from outdoors and exhaust discharges directly outdoors, or those air paths are routed through IBC shaft-enclosed ductwork.

☐ **Item 3: equipment and ductwork in the building but outside the exit enclosure, separated from the rest of the building —**

Openings into fire-resistance-rated construction limited to those needed for operation and maintenance, protected with self-closing fire-resistance-rated devices per the IBC. The exit-enclosure ventilation system is independent of other building ventilation systems.

☐ **On the set: which 601.3 path, intake and discharge to outdoors explicit, shaft ratings and opening protection coordinated**

Do not leave intake or discharge routing vague. Do not penetrate rated construction without showing the required protection.

The fail we see first

A stair exhaust tapped off the toilet-exhaust riser. Or a rooftop unit serving the stair and the corridor on the same system. If the drawings cannot name which of the three items is used, the system has not been designed for 601.3.

What to send: life-safety / stair plan, the fan serving that enclosure, and whether intake and discharge are shown to outdoors on their own system.

Send the comments. Not the County guideline.

Folio (does it start with 30?), process or UP number, and the comments PDF. Masterbuild will say which row is actually open.

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+1 (786) 398-6940 · Calendly: 30-minute scoping call

Masterbuild provides engineering services under a written scope. Not a stair-pressurization design. Confirm adopted 601.3. This is not legal advice.