



**City of Milpitas
Building and Safety Department**

Mailing Address: 455 East Calaveras Boulevard, Milpitas, California
95035-5479 – Tel. 408.586.3240, Fax 408.586.3285 www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov

**GROUP H-5 OCCUPANCY IN
UNLIMITED AREA BUILDINGS**

Policy:	BDP-BLG23
Effective Date:	7/1/2008
Proposed by:	TUCC
Last Reviewed/ Revised:	3/21/11
Reviewed/ Revised by:	BYC/LS/BK
Approved By:	Keyvan Irannejad P.E. Chief Building Official

CODE REFERENCE (S):

2010 CBC Sections 507.8, 507.3, 507.4, 508.2 and 508.2.4.

ISSUE:

10% of the area of Group H-2, H-3 and H-4 occupancies is permitted in unlimited area Group F and S occupancy buildings, but the code is silent with Group H-5 or Group B buildings. This created a problem particular for existing buildings. The hazardous level of Group H-5 is not higher than Group H-2 or H-3 occupancies. Some jurisdictions have allowed H occupancy as accessory use in unlimited area buildings including “B” occupancy.

POLICY:

Although Section 507.8 does not mention H-5 for the allowable 10% area in unlimited area buildings, there is nothing in the code that says that Group H-5 is not allowed or Groups H-2, H-3, H-4 and H-5 are not allowed in unlimited “B” occupancy buildings. Section 508.2.1 clearly allows 10% accessory use for all occupancies provided the occupancy separation and other code requirements are met. Use Section 508.2.1 to allow 10 % accessory use for Groups H-2, H-3, H-4 and H-5 occupancies in unlimited area buildings containing Groups B, F or S occupancies.