

INFORMAL CODE INTERPRETATION

**NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
1202 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1202
919-661-5880**

Crawlspace Vents Under Porch

Code: 2012 Residential Code

Date: July 2, 2012

Section: R408.1.5

Question:

Section R408.1.5 requires a solid separation wall between the building crawlspace and the porch crawlspace. Is a solid separation wall between the building crawlspace and the porch crawlspace required if both the porch and building crawlspaces have foundation vents?

Answer:

The intent of Section R408.1.5 is to assure separation between vented and unvented spaces. If both the house and porch foundations are vented, there is no need to separate the two. The required separation would be between those spaces that are vented and those that are unvented. The vented spaces would each require compliance with Section R408 which includes an 18 inch by 24 inch minimum access opening.