

BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE
AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC

INTERPRETATION

Interpretation Date:	March 27, 2002	File No.:
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 1998	98-0048
Subject:	Toilet compartments	
Keywords:	Toilet compartment, clearance	
Building Code Reference(s):	3.7.4.8.(2)(b), 3.3.1.12.(13)	Page 1 of 2

Question:

What is the required clearance around the outside perimeter walls of an *accessible* toilet compartment?

Interpretation:

Clause 3.7.4.8.(2)(b) requires that the outside face of the partition walls of an *accessible* toilet compartment be a minimum of 1700 mm clear from the inside face of an in-swinging washroom entry door.

Clause 3.7.4.8.(2)(b) also requires that the outside face of the partition walls of an *accessible* toilet compartment be a minimum of 1400 mm clear of "any wall mounted fixture". This clearance is intended to provide sufficient room for a wheelchair to pass by someone who is standing in front of the wall mounted fixture.

The 1400 mm clearance does not apply to floor-mounted fixtures or to washroom perimeter walls that do not contain wall mounted fixtures.

Furthermore, it is interpreted that the 1400 mm clearance only applies to wall mounted fixtures that are located within the path of travel to the door of the toilet compartment. Therefore the 1400 mm clearance is not required between the sidewall of a toilet compartment to an adjacent wall mounted urinal (see the attached drawing on Page 2)

The minimum aisle width in front of the door to the toilet compartment is not specifically governed by code when the door does not have a self closing device as per 3.3.1.12.(13), although it is prudent to provide a reasonable level of manoeuvrability for wheelchairs for accessing the toilet compartment door.


R.J. Light, Committee Chair

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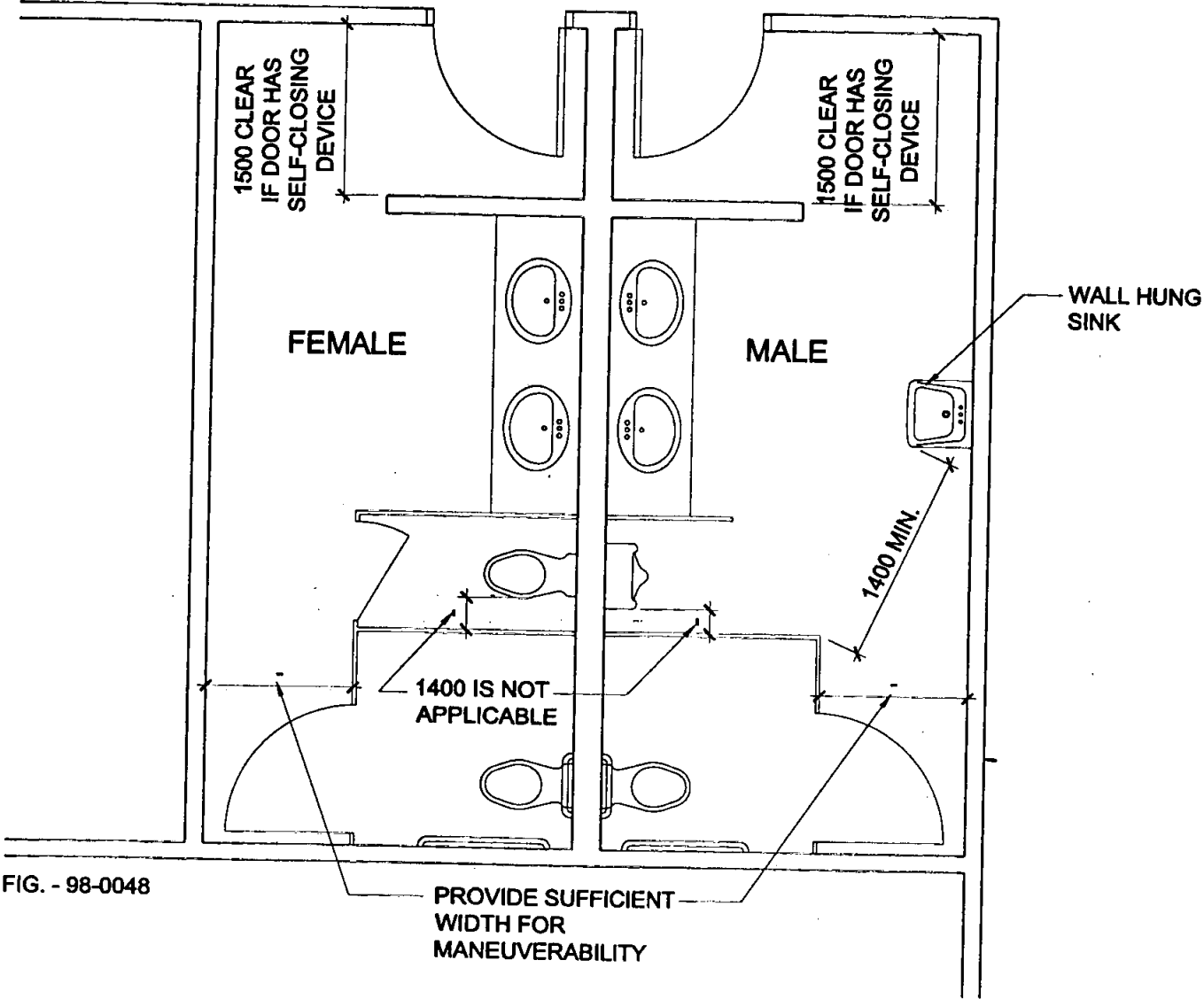


FIG. - 98-0048