GOODYEAR FIRE DEPARTMENT
Fire, Building & Life Safety Section

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CODE INTERPRETATION

Subject:	Reaming of pipe and tubing ends.	**Code Interpretation**	09-UPC-002
Code:	UPC Section 310.3	**Effective Date:**	May 20, 2009
Edition:	1994	**Revised Date:**	August 8, 2009

A. Code Requirement

The Uniform Plumbing Code Section 310.3 requires burred ends of all pipes and tubing shall be reamed to the full bore of the pipe or tube and all chips shall be removed.

B. Interpretation

Plumbing code, design and manufacturer requirements for pipes for flow, velocity, thickness and allowable materials are based upon the pipes being correctly reamed. Failure to ream piping impacts the entire plumbing design, not just a single aspect like pipe flow from decreased diameters which adversely affect the demand in gallons per minute required at the fixtures.

C. Rationale

Burrs left on the inside of the pipe or tubing can cause interruption of smooth flow resulting in localized high water velocity and cavitation. Immediately downstream of the unreamed pipe or tubing end local flow pressure will be drastically reduced, allowing air bubbles entrained in the water to escape and scour the pipe/tubing fitting wall, creating pits that may eventually cause failure.

Also see UPC Answer & Analysis Committee Item #09-61:

Yes, both Section 310.3 as well as Section 316.1.2.3.of IAPMO IS 3-93 (the Installation for Copper Tubing, Pipe and Fittings) found in the 1997 UPC, require all pipe and tube to be reamed to the full bore of the pipe or tubing.

Prepared By:	Approved By:
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