



**TOPIC: Accessible Design - IBC/11/#10**

**CODE: Structural Specialty Code: 2010 Edition**

**REVISED: April 17, 2013 [Paul L. Scarlett] Director**

**REFERENCE: Structural Specialty Code Chapters 10 and 11**

**SUBJECT: Flip-up Counters at Entries to Employee Work Areas**

**QUESTION:** What is the minimum width of passageways to employee-only work areas located behind display counters, sales counters, bars and similar spaces? Do these areas need to be provided with doorways or gates large enough to permit the installation of a side-swinging door or gate, or can flip-up counters be used?

**RESPONSE:** Employee-only work areas such as those described above are not required to be accessible; however, a person with disabilities must be able to approach, enter and exit such spaces. Each area must be provided with a clear passageway, door or gate, not less than 32 inches in clear width between permanently installed counters, equipment and walls, with appropriate maneuvering space on both sides of the opening.

Flip-up counters may be installed at these openings provided the work area is less than 1,000 square feet in area. This is based on the assumption that they could be removed should accessibility for an employee be needed in the future.

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Updates March 1, 1999 edition

Updates July 1, 1996 edition

Replaces Code Guide UBC/33/#3 which replaced Policy & Procedure # D-24.