

Section 3 – Fire Safety Provisions for Cinemas and Theatres

Subsection C18 - Fire Safety Provisions for Cinemas and Theatres

Clause C18.1

Cinemas in a non-domestic building or the non-domestic part of a composite building that shares exit routes with other parts of the non-domestic uses in the same building should comply with the following requirements:

- (a) each cinema auditorium should form a fire compartment of its own having an FRR complying with Table C1;
- (b) a dedicated smoke extraction should be provided to all cinema auditoria, activated by ceiling mounted smoke detection system, designed and installed to the satisfaction of the Director of Fire Services;
- (c) fixed seating and furnishing materials should comply with the requirements for the retarding of ignition as stipulated in Part E; and
- (d) all projectors and the associated equipment should be placed within a projector room or projector rooms which are separated from the cinemas and other accommodations by walls and floors having an FRR of not less than -/60/60. Every door to a projection room should have an FRR of not less than that of the wall and be provided with a smoke seal. This requirement should not apply to cinemas where no film projection, and no electric arc, xenon, or other light source projection equipment which generates hazardous gases, dusts or radiation are used.

Clause C18.2

Theatres should have the following fire safety provisions:

- (a) the theatre should be fully sprinkler protected, designed and installed to the satisfaction of the Director of Fire Services and provided with a proscenium wall that separates the stage area from the seating areas;
- (b) the proscenium wall separating the stage and the seating area should have an FRR of not less than -/60/60; and
- (c) the opening within the proscenium wall should be provided with a fire curtain or water curtain to achieve fire separation between the stage and seating areas, designed and installed to the satisfaction of the Director of Fire Services. The fire curtain should have an FRR of at least -/30/- and be able to restrict the passage of smoke.