

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 8, 1981

TO: BOROUGH SUPERINTENDENTS
FROM: IRWIN FRUCHTMAN, P. E., COMMISSIONER
SUBJECT: TYPE M COPPER TUBING

On March 3, 1981, the Board of Standards & Appeals granted an appeal for a waiver of Building Code restrictions against the use of Type M copper tubing for water supply for the specific premises affected due to the hardship regarding said premises. Subsequent to the decision of the Board which referred to alleged inconsistencies and ambiguities in the Code, we have received numerous inquiries, as to whether the Board's decision constituted a general city-wide generic waiver of the code.

In view of all of the foregoing you are advised as follows:

1. The provisions of Reference Standard RS-16 shall not be construed to include the List of National Reference Standards. Similarly, in all portions of the Building Code Reference Standards, the lists of National Reference Standards shall not be considered to be part of the Reference Standards per se, but simply a bibliography of the publications which are subsequently utilized within the text of Reference Standards either in their entirety, or in part, or as modified, as specifically delineated within the text of the Reference Standards, as referred to by appropriate provisions within Article 1 through 19 of the Building Code.

2. In the instant case, Table RS16-1 incorporates American National Standards Institute (ANSI) No. H23.1-1967 as one of the multitude of standards for plumbing materials. However, the utilization thereof is preceded by subdivision (a) of Section P 102.1 of Reference Standard RS-16, which states as follows: "all materials used in the construction of any plumbing system, fixtures, or equipment shall be as required by this Reference Standards". Section P 102.4 (a) of Reference Standard RS-16, which relates to water supply systems, specifically excludes Type M copper tubing from use therein.

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Accordingly, Type M copper tubing shall not be authorized to be used in any premises for water supply systems.


IRWIN FRUCHIMAN, P. E.
COMMISSIONER

IF:IEM:ap

cc:

Deputy Commissioner Minkin

Deputy Commissioner Parascandola

Assistant Commissioner Dennis

Executive Staff Stuart Klein, Inspector General

Master Plumber License Board

File

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