Occupant Load Determination – Salons

Common occupant load factors
Here are the common occupant load factors used for salons (hair, nails, etc.) from Table 1004.5 of the 2020 Minnesota State Fire Code (MSFC):

- Salons (new – on or after March 31, 2020) – 150 sq. ft. per person.
- Salons (existing – before March 31, 2020) – 100 sq. ft. per person.

Applying occupant load factors to buildings
To determine the occupant load of a space, divide the size of the space by the occupant load factor of Table 1004.5 (150 sq. ft. per person for new and 100 sq. ft. per person for existing).

Calculations
- Salon (measure entire area used)
  - 60 ft. by 25 ft. = 1,500 sq. ft.
  - 1,500 sq. ft. divided by 100 sq. ft. per person (existing) = 15 persons.
  - 1,500 sq. ft. divided by 150 sq. ft. per person (new) = 10 persons.

Note: If the occupant load calculations are to ensure compliance with the governor’s executive order related to COVID-19 (25 percent occupancy), divide the total occupant load determined above by four (total would be three for existing and two for new). This is for patrons and customers; staff are not included in these limits.

More information: Email the State Fire Marshal Division Fire Code Team at fire.code@state.mn.us. Visit sfm.dps.mn.gov for the latest updates to this information.

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