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## #5A – HELPING SCHOOLS WITH THE NY SED WIRED GLASS ADVISORY ON EXISTING WIRED GLASS

If you would like some background on the recent code change regarding wired glass in schools and athletic facilities, view the CBS news video on wired glass. Go to [www.cbsnews.com/sections/i\\_video/main500251.shtml](http://www.cbsnews.com/sections/i_video/main500251.shtml). Key “wired glass” in the video search field, then play the video “hazards of safety glass”. Dan Rather reports that 90 percent of the 2500 glass related injuries in US schools annually involve wired glass. The video shows a student athlete crashing into a piece of wired glass located directly behind a back board while playing basketball in a K-12 school gymnasium.

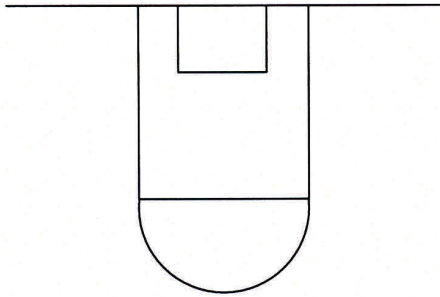
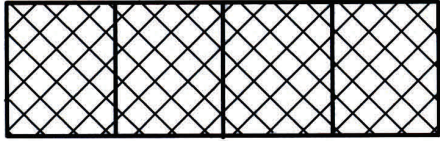
In March of 2006, the NY State Education Dept. published this advisory to schools to alert them to the up-coming code restrictions on the use of wired glass in locations subject to human impact in schools in new construction and replacements. The Department also included a recommendation to evaluate EXISTING wire glass locations for “potential impact and injury” - [http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/facplan/Newsletter/Newsletter\\_73.html](http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/facplan/Newsletter/Newsletter_73.html).

Here is a method that may be of help to a school district as it evaluates its wired glass installations, consisting of five categories of wired glass installations, starting with the most severe risk of potential impact and injury.

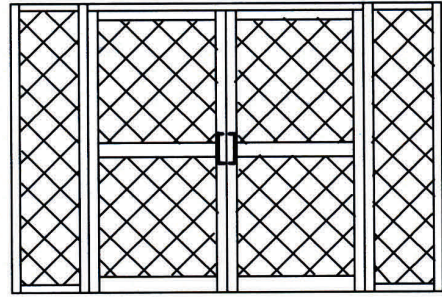
- 1/ Wired glass in the basketball court or gymnasium or athletic facility.
- 2/ Wired glass in NON-FIRE RATED doors and framing in hazardous locations (doors, sidelites, etc.), like aluminum doors, for example, where the wired glass may have been selected for some other reason than a fire rating. This wired glass can be replaced with relatively inexpensive and more suitable tempered safety glass for impact safety or laminated glass for security.
- 3/ Wired glass that extends behind or directly above the panic device or push bar or next to the push plate or door knob in fire rated doors, where the glass impact is likely in the normal use of the door, especially if the door has a closer and is subject to high traffic.
- 4/ Wired glass in sidelites or section 2406.3 section 7 panel locations – (over 9 sf, less than 18” from the floor, top edge more than 36” from the floor, walking surface within 36”).
- 5/ Wired glass in fire rated doors, where the wired glass is well above the panic device and door knob or push plate, as a 12x12” square, or a 4x24” rectangle or a 1/2 door size in the top half of the door.

With a survey of wired glass installations, classified by potential for impact and injury, the school officials can make their decision on remediation, perhaps of all wired glass, or only wired glass in code defined locations subject to human impact, or to some other lesser degree of remediation based on potential for impact or other factors.

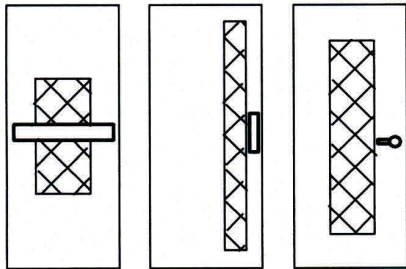
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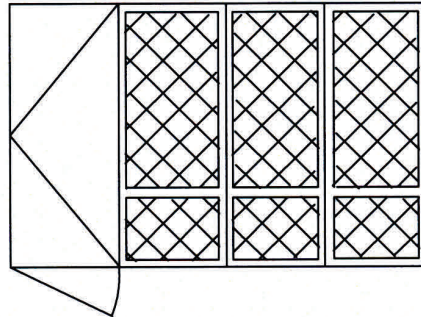
II



III



IV



V

