



## INFORMATION SHEET

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**No. EG-02** : (Previously numbered E-02)  
**DATE** : August 2, 2013  
**CATEGORY** : Egress  
**SUBJECT** : **Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings to Yard for Existing or New Building of R-3 Occupancies**

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**REFERENCE** : 2013 San Francisco Building Code  
Section 1029, Emergency Escape and Rescue  
AB-005, Local Equivalency Case-by-Case Application Procedures  
AB-028 Pre-application and Pre-addendum Plan Review Procedures

**INTENT** : To clarify local equivalency requirements if the subject openings that open to a yard that does not open to a public way for R-3 occupancies

**DISCUSSION** : SFBC Section 1029 requires subject openings to open directly into a public way or to a yard that opens to a public way. In the event that subject openings open to a yard that does not open to a public way for R-3 occupancies, the following local equivalencies can be used:

1. The intent of the code is that windows required by SFBC Section 1029 be available so that rescue can be effected from the exterior or, alternatively, by which one may escape from that window to the exterior of the building without having to travel through the building itself. If these emergency windows open onto a yard that has no access to a public way, they may not meet the requirements of the code. However, as an equivalency to this requirement, an emergency escape or rescue window may open into a yard with 25' minimum depth.

2. Other conditions will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the Supervisor or Manager. Pre-application meeting and/or approval of AB-005 is required.

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Michie Wong Date  
 Fire Marshal & Assistant Deputy Chief  
 San Francisco Fire Department

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Tom C. Hui, S.E., C.B.O. Date  
 Acting Director  
 Department of Building Inspection

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