

Supercedes: N/A Directive # 2023-D-006

Subject: Storage of Commodities in Service Rooms and Means of Egress, in breach of the National Fire Code

From: Chief Operating Officer

Contact: Sandra Duncan, Chief Fire Prevention Officer

Date of Issue: 2023-04-21 **Effective Date**: 2023-04-21

Purpose: The purpose of this Directive is to warn airport tenants and operators that the malpractice of storing commodities in service rooms and means of egress, is a breach of the National Fire Code and is prohibited. Firm enforcement action will be taken.

Expected Action: Airport tenants and operators should remove any commodities from service rooms or means of egress that are in breach of the National Fire Code and should brief their staff accordingly to prevent such malpractice in the future.

Background and Impact: There have been a growing number of reports regarding commodities stored in service rooms and egress corridors throughout the airport, sometimes obstructing emergency exit doors. This practice is a violation of the National Fire Code of Canada.

A means of egress is a continuous path of travel provided for occupants to escape from any point in a building to an open public thoroughfare. Means of egress include exits and access to exits.

Storing items in a means of egress could impede emergency evacuation and, in the most extreme case, prevent access to an exit door during an emergency. For this reason, it

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presents an immediate threat to life. All items stored in a means of egress (including stairwells and hallways) must be removed immediately.

It has also been brought to our attention that commodities, unrelated to the room's function, are being stored in service rooms (including, but not limited to mechanical rooms and electrical rooms). This is also a violation of the National Fire Code of Canada, and the practice must cease immediately.

Toronto Pearson Fire & Emergency Services will conduct inspections and take enforcement action, which may include on-the-spot Fire Code violations leading to fines, and the removal of offending commodities.

For any additional information, please contact:

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