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(Replaces IB P-99-05 dated August 1999)
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TRAPPING OF LAVATORIES, SINKS AND LAUNDRY TRAYS

SUBJECT: Length of Fixture Outlet Pipes and Trap Location

This bulletin has been developed by Safety Services and the Plumbing Technical Council to clarify the provisions for trapping of lavatories, sinks and laundry trays.

The **Plumbing Industry** is reminded that fixture traps must be **readily accessible** for servicing and inspection, without requiring the removal of any obstacles or the use of a portable ladder. They must also be located to avoid odour complaints. The installation of a trap under the floor to serve a lavatory, a sink or a laundry tray **does not** meet the intent or requirements of the National Plumbing Code of Canada (NPC) 2005.

Sentence 2.1.3.2. 1), requires that every fixture, appliance, interceptor, cleanout, valve, device or piece of equipment shall be located so that it is readily accessible for use, cleaning and maintenance.

Sentence 2.2.3.1. 3), requires every trap that serves a lavatory, a sink or a laundry tray to be
(a) provided with a *cleanout* plug located at the lowest point of the *trap*, or
(b) designed so that part of the *trap* can be completely removed for cleaning purposes.

Sentence 2.4.8.2. 1), as **amended for Alberta**, states that the *developed length* of the *fixture outlet pipes* shall not exceed **900 mm (36 inches)**.

The intent of the code is for traps to be located in the same room as near the fixture as practicable and to be readily accessible for the owners to maintain their drainage systems without the removal of ceiling or other obstacles. In addition, the developed length of a fixture outlet piping should be as short as practicable in order to minimize the inside fouling surface so that food or other organic matter will not create any odour problems.

The purpose of this notice is to ensure that **Designers** and **Installers** are aware of the provisions for trapping plumbing fixtures and that when deviation from the requirements may be necessary, permission shall be obtained from the authority having jurisdiction before work proceeds. Such permission will apply only to the specific site and installation for which it is given.