



# **TECHNICAL BULLETIN**

## **PERMIT AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**

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### ***Barn Hay Loft Door***

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Hay lofts in a barn are similar in character to a loading dock in a warehouse. The Code does not require guardrails on the loading side of a loading dock.

#### **TECHNICAL DETAILS**

Exterior access doors to a hay loft or similarly used space in a barn need not be protected with a guardrail providing:

- I. A door is provided and will normally be secured in a closed position. The door securing device should be other than normal exit door hardware.
- II. This loading door must not be a required exit from the loft area. One or more complying exits from the storage area is required.
- III. It is additionally recommended that as an added safety feature the loft door swing into the loft area.

#### **REFERENCES**

1998 California Building Code, Section 509  
1998 California Building Code, Section 1003.1  
1998 California Building Code, Section 1003.1.7  
1998 California Building Code, Section 1003.3.7  
Sonoma County Residential Construction Handbook Section 8