

**NC Department of Insurance  
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division  
1202 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1202  
919-661-5880**

**Open Building Sprinklers in Lumber Yards and Woodworking Facilities**

**Code:** 2002 Fire Prevention Code  
**Section:** 1904.3

**Date:** December 2005

**Question:**

If a woodworking operation or storage facility subject to the provisions of Chapter 19 does not have exterior walls, is it required to be equipped with a sprinkler system required by Section 1904.3?

**Answer:**

Yes, Section 1904.3 requires a sprinkler system for the facility without consideration for the exterior walls. Section 1002 contains the definition for Floor Area, Gross, which uses the footprint of the roof if there are no exterior walls.