 Continuous Footings at Garage Door Openings

Code:       2006 Residential Code   Date: October 1, 2007
Section:    R403.1

Question:
Are footings required to be continuous under garage door openings?

Answer:
No. Section R403.1 states that "all exterior walls shall be supported on continuous...footings." If there is no exterior wall, such as at a garage door opening, there is no requirement for a footing. Please note however that, if the opening is in a bearing wall, and the continuous footing is omitted, a properly designed spread footing must be provided at each side of the opening. This also applies to structures built in the 110, 120, and 130mph Wind Zones.