LOCATION

Use this section to answer the following questions:

… When a tent in excess of 400 sq. ft. is attached directly to a building, do all four pieces of Sec. 3103.8.2, Excp. #2 have to be met?

… May a tent 400 sq. ft. or less be erected one foot from a lot line?

… What rules apply when a tent 400 sq. ft. or less is attached directly to a building?
The following is a general discussion of this section and helps to explain the beginning “shall” statement and the exceptions:

1) The starting point for this is to realize that Sec. 3103.8.2, Location is not applicable to a “scope” tent, 400 sq. ft. or less, because of the way the Scope has been amended. Therefore, this section begins when a tent is in excess of 400 sq. ft. which means 401 sq. ft. This logic also applies to Excp. #1 which means this exception begins at 401 sq. ft. This exception is used a lot because it allows tents (aggregate floor area is used for this) not exceeding 15,000 sq. ft. to be placed

con’t. on the next slide
right next to other tents, lot lines, buildings parked vehicles and internal combustion engines. This gives the event planner a lot of flexibility.

The portion of Excp. #1 which states, “in which open or exposed flame equipment is not used”, is reinforcing the fact that open or exposed flame equipment may never be in a tent in excess of 400 sq. ft.

Excp. #2 is used when a tent is attached directly to a building. There are slides discussing this in this section.

Excp. #3 is currently in the process of being re-written. The Scope makes it unusable.
TEMPORARY MEMBRANE STRUCTURES, TENTS, AIR-SUPPORTED OR AIR-INFLATED STRUCTURES SHALL NOT BE LOCATED WITHIN TWENTY (20) FEET OF LOT LINES, BUILDINGS, OTHER TEMPORARY MEMBRANE STRUCTURES, OTHER TENTS, PARKED VEHICLES, OR INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES. FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING REQUIRED DISTANCES, SUPPORT ROPES AND GUY WIRES SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS PART OF THE TEMPORARY MEMBRANE STRUCTURE OR TENT.
EXCEPTION 1: WHEN THE AGGREGATE FLOOR AREA DOES NOT EXCEED 15,000 SQUARE FEET, SEPARATION DISTANCE BETWEEN TEMPORARY MEMBRANE STRUCTURES, AND TENTS, IN WHICH OPEN OR EXPOSED FLAME EQUIPMENT IS NOT USED, AND LOT LINES, BUILDINGS, OTHER TEMPORARY MEMBRANE STRUCTURES, OTHER TENTS, PARKED VEHICLES, OR INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES IS NOT REQUIRED.
EXCEPTION 2: TEMPORARY MEMBRANE STRUCTURES AND TENTS NEED NOT BE SEPARATED FROM BUILDINGS WHEN ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS ARE MET:

2.1 THE AGGREGATE FLOOR AREA OF THE TEMPORARY MEMBRANE STRUCTURE OR TENT SHALL NOT EXCEED 10,000 SQUARE FEET.
2.2 THE AGGREGATE FLOOR AREA OF THE BUILDING AND TEMPORARY MEMBRANE STRUCTURE OR TENT SHALL NOT EXCEED THE ALLOWABLE FLOOR AREA INCLUDING INCREASES IN THE INDIANA BUILDING CODE.
EXCEPTION 2: TEMPORARY MEMBRANE STRUCTURES AND TENTS NEED NOT BE SEPARATED FROM BUILDINGS WHEN ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS ARE MET:

2.1 THE AGGREGATE FLOOR …  
2.2 THE AGGREGATE FLOOR …
2.3 ALL REQUIRED EXITING PROVISIONS FOR THE BUILDING AND THE TEMPORARY MEMBRANE STRUCTURE OR TENT, INCLUDING TRAVEL DISTANCE.
2.4 FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS ARE PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 503.
Amendment; LSA Doc. # 13 - 341 ( F )
675 IAC 22 - 2.5 ( eff. 12 - 01 - 14 )

- THIS SCENARIO IS A “SCOPE” TENT; 400 SQ. FT. OR LESS WITH THE TENT ATTACHED TO THE BUILDING
- WITH MERCHANDISE DISPLAY INSIDE THE TENT
- DUE TO THE SIZE OF THIS TENT AND THE ACTIVITY INSIDE THE TENT
- THE SCOPE IS THE ONLY APPLICABLE CODE SECTION IN CH. 31
THE 3 CODE SECTIONS AMENDED IN THE SCOPE ARE 3104.7, 3104.15.5 AND 3104.15.6

THESE 3 CODE SECTIONS PERTAIN TO OPEN OR EXPOSED FLAME AND / OR COOKING

THE ACTIVITY INSIDE THIS TENT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH OPEN FLAME AND / OR COOKING, THEREFORE,

DUE TO THE WAY THE SCOPE HAS BEEN WRITTEN, THIS TENT DOES NOT HAVE TO MEET ANYTHING IN CH. 31

Amendment; LSA Doc. # 13 - 341 ( F )  675 IAC 22 - 2.5 ( eff. 12 - 01 - 14 )
Amendment; LSA Doc. # 13 - 341 ( F )
675 IAC 22 - 2.5 ( eff. 12 - 01 - 14 )

- DUE TO THE SCOPE, THIS TENT DOES **NOT** HAVE TO MEET SEC. 3103.8.2, Excp. #2, LOCATION

- THE REMOVAL OF THE SIDEWALLS OR DROPS DOES **NOT** CHANGE HOW THIS SCENARIO IS HANDLED
SUMMARY: the following code sections govern this scenario

- Sec. 3101.1 – Scope

THIS IS THE ONLY CODE SECTION THAT APPLIES IN CH. 31.
The purpose of this slide is to summarize the separation distance between the tent and the building. Additionally, remember, because of the activity under the tent and the size, this tent has no required separation distance from any other tent.

**SUMMARY: MERCHANDISE DISPLAY**

**THE MERCHANDISE DISPLAY IS PERMITTED UNDER THE TENT.**

**THERE IS NO SEPARATION DISTANCE REQUIRED BETWEEN THIS TENT AND THE BUILDING**

Sec. 3103.8.2, Excp. #2
Amendment; LSA Doc. # 13 - 341 ( F )
675 IAC 22 - 2.5 ( eff. 12 - 01 - 14 )

■ THIS SCENARIO IS A “SCOPE” TENT; 400 SQ. FT. OR LESS WITH THE TENT ATTACHED TO THE BUILDING

■ WITH BOTH TYPES OF COOKING INSIDE THE TENT ( THE TYPE OF COOKING DOESN’T MATTER )

■ SEC. 3103.8.2, LOCATION, IS NOT ONE OF THE 3 CODE SECTIONS AMENDED IN THE SCOPE

■ THEREFORE, SEC. 3103.8.2, Excp. #2, LOCATION, IS NOT APPLICABLE TO THIS SCENARIO
Amendment; LSA Doc. # 13 - 341 ( F )
675 IAC 22 - 2.5 ( eff. 12 - 01 - 14 )

- HOWEVER, THERE IS COOKING INSIDE THE TENT ( THE TYPE OF COOKING DOESN’T MATTER )

- THE 3 CODE SECTIONS AMENDED IN THE SCOPE ARE 3104.7, 3104.15.5 AND 3104.15.6

- THESE 3 CODE SECTIONS PERTAIN TO OPEN OR EXPOSED FLAME AND / OR COOKING

- PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE 10 FT. REQUIRED SEPARATION DISTANCE FOUND IN SEC. 3104.15.5
Amendment; LSA Doc. # 13 - 341 ( F )
675 IAC 22 - 2.5 ( eff. 12 - 01 - 14 )

THE 10 FT. REQUIRED SEPARATION DISTANCE IS NECESSARY WHERE COOKING IS PERFORMED

BUT, THE 10 FEET IS BETWEEN THE COOKING TENT AND ALL OTHER TENTS

THERE IS NO MENTION OF SEPARATING THE COOKING TENT FROM BUILDINGS

THEREFORE, THERE IS NO REQUIRED SEPARATION DISTANCE BETWEEN THE TENT AND THE BUILDING
SUMMARY: the following code sections govern this scenario

- **Sec. 3101.1 – Scope**
- **Sec. 3102.1 – Definitions**
  - Cooking.
  - Open or exposed flame equipment.
- **Sec. 3104.7 – Open or exposed flame**
  - Applicable to this type of cooking.
- **Sec. 3104.15.5 – Cooking tents**
  - Not applicable because there are no requirements for separation from buildings. (NOTE: this tent has to be separated from other tents by a minimum of 10 ft.)
- **Sec. 3104.15.6 – Outdoor cooking**
  - Not applicable because this is not outdoor cooking.
The purpose of this slide is to summarize the separation distance between the tent and the building. Additionally, remember, because of the activity under the tent and the size, this tent has to be separated from other tents by a minimum distance of 10 feet.

**THE AREA OF THIS TENT IS 400 SQUARE FEET OR LESS**

**SUMMARY: COOKING TENTS**

**THERE IS NO SEPARATION DISTANCE REQUIRED BETWEEN THIS TENT AND THE BUILDING**

Sec. 3104.15.5
“Regular” Tents
There are a few important points to understand before Excp. #2 of this section makes sense:

1) Both Excp. #1 and Excp. #2 address the separation distance of a tent from a building. (Excp. #1 actually speaks to more items than just a building but the building is what is important here.) At first glance, both exceptions appear to be saying the same thing, but Excp. #2 is much more specific. Excp. #2 is stating the requirements when a tent is attached to a building. Excp. #1 does state a separation distance, but it is more general in nature. So, the first point to understand is Excp. #2 is used when a tent is attached to a building.
2) When a tent is attached to a building that means there isn’t any gap between the tent and the building; the tent becomes part of the building. (The method of attachment is not addressed in the code. The structural stability of the tent must still be achieved.)

3) The activity under the tent doesn’t matter. This exception doesn’t mention a word about what is going on under the tent.

4) It doesn’t matter if the tent has sidewalls or drops.
Amendment;  LSA Doc.  # 13 - 341 ( F )  
675 IAC 22 - 2.5 ( eff. 12 - 01 - 14 )

■ 5) This exception is not addressing the separation of tents from lot lines, other temporary tents, parked vehicles or internal combustion engines.

■ 6) This exception uses aggregate floor area. This means more than one tent may be attached to the same building.

■ 7) In order for this exception to be used, all four criteria, 2.1 thru 2.4 must be met.

THESE 7 POINTS FORM THE BASIS FOR AN UNDERSTANDING OF THIS EXCEPTION.
Amendment; LSA Doc. # 13 - 341 ( F )
675 IAC 22 - 2.5 ( eff. 12 - 01 - 14 )

The important points for this exception have now been established. We can shift our attention to criteria 2.1 thru 2.4:

■ Sec. 2.1: this limits the size of the tent (s) which may be attached to a building. The aggregate floor area of the tent (s) shall not exceed 10,000 square feet.
( NOTE: this is 5,000 square feet less than the permitted square footage shown in Excp. #1. )
Sec. 2.2: It has already been stated in point #2 from the previous slides that the tent(s) are becoming part of the building. This is evident by the text of 2.2. The actual floor area of the building is added to the aggregate floor area of the tent(s) and this summation of floor area may not exceed the allowable floor area, including increases, found in the Indiana Building Code. This makes sense because the overall floor area of the building has increased because the tent(s) are attached to the building.
Amendment; LSA Doc. # 13 - 341 ( F )
675 IAC 22 - 2.5 ( eff. 12 - 01 - 14 )

- Sec. 2.3: all of the required exiting provisions, including travel distance, for the building and the tent(s) attached to the building have to be met.

- Sec. 2.4: the requirements for fire apparatus access roads from Section 503 have to be met.
This concludes the information pertaining to a “regular” tent attached directly to a building. Remember to use exception #2 from Sec. 3103.8.2 rather than exception #1 and all four pieces of exception #2 have to be met. If all of the above is true, it is ok to attach a tent in excess of 400 sq. ft. directly to a building.
SUMMARY: the following code sections govern this scenario

- **Sec. 3101.1 – Scope**

- **Sec. 3103.8.2, Excp. 2 – Location**
  
  Applicable to this scenario.
Chapter 31, 2014 Ed.
Indiana Fire Code

Tents And Other Membrane Structures

Presented by the State Fire Marshal’s Office
Division of Fire and Building Safety