

Building Code Hint of the Week: Relief Values

The 2009 supplement change to Chapter 28 of the **Residential Code** makes no requirements for the **discharge of relief values. 2806.6.1.1** The **discharge piping** serving a **pressure relief valve, temperature relief valve** or **combination** thereof shall: 1. Not be directly connected to the drainage system; 2. Discharge through an air gap located in the same room as the water heater; 3. Not be smaller than the diameter of the outlet of the valve served and shall discharge full size to the air gap; 4. Serve a single relief device and shall not connect to piping serving any other relief device or equipment; 5. Discharge to the floor, to the water heater pan, to an indirect waste receptor or to the outdoors. Where discharging to the outdoors in areas subject to freezing, discharge piping shall be first piped to an indirect waste receptor through an air gap located in a conditioned area; 6. Discharge in a manner that does not cause personal injury or structural damage; 7. Discharge to a termination point that is readily observable by the building occupants; 8. Not be trapped; 9. Be installed so as to flow by gravity; 10. Not terminate more than 6 inches (152 mm) above the floor or waste receptor; 11. Not have a threaded connection at the end of such piping; 12. Not have valves or tee fittings; 13. Be constructed of those materials listed in Section P2904.5 or materials tested, rated and approved for such use in accordance with ASME A112.4.1. According to **Jack Glenn, Florida Home Builders Association** Technical Services Director, this change was made to assure protection from either hot water or steam where a relief value is required.