



GUIDE TO DECONSOLIDATION OF CLASS 5 QUARANTINE APPROVED PREMISES (QAP) APPROVALS.

The purpose of this guide is to clarify whether individual rooms or laboratories can be consolidated under the new criteria as a single QAP (with one QAP number) or must be ‘deconsolidated’ into separate QAPs. The information details the principles for determining class 5 QAP approval arrangements.

THE PRINCIPLES

- Where access between separate rooms/labs requires movement out of the QC barrier the approval must be deconsolidated into separate QAPs.
- Where access between separate rooms/labs requires movement into an area of lower QC level, the approval must be deconsolidated into separate QAPs.
- The QC barrier must be unbroken, and external, to all rooms covered by the approval
- A single QAP can be approved across classes of the same QC level (eg a 5.2 room and a 7.2 room internally accessible within a QC 2 containment barrier or sharing a QC barrier) providing there is no requirement to leave the QC barrier to move between the rooms.
- A single QAP cannot be approved across QC levels (eg rooms/labs approved at 5.2 & 5.3 or 5.2 and 7.3)

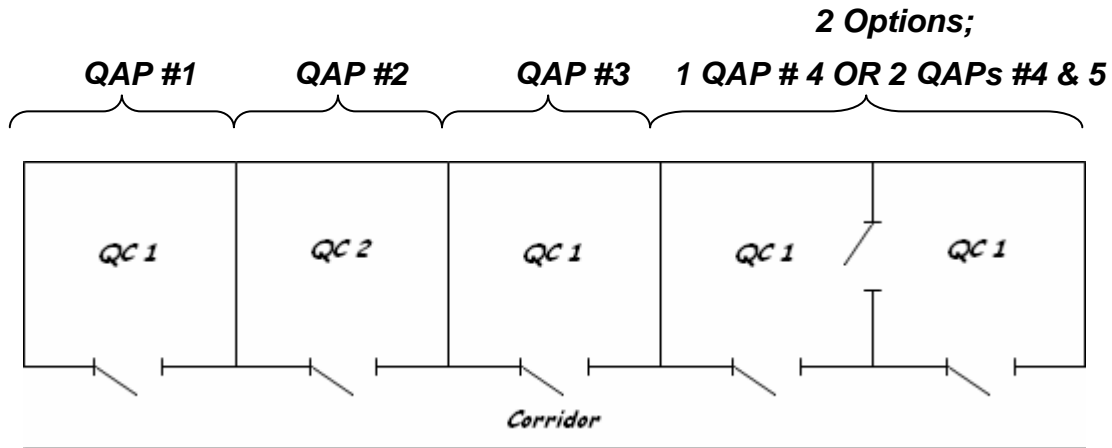
In order to be able to apply these principles as they are intended, it must be understood what constitutes the “containment barrier”. The containment barrier is defined as:

“the physical structures/barriers, such as the walls, doors, floors, ceilings which comprise a fully enclosable space. The room and its support facilities provides secondary physical containment in the event of the failure of the primary barrier (eg. Biological safety cabinet)”.

A quarantine containment barrier provides protection of the environment external to the laboratory through a combination of facility design and quarantine practices.

EXAMPLES

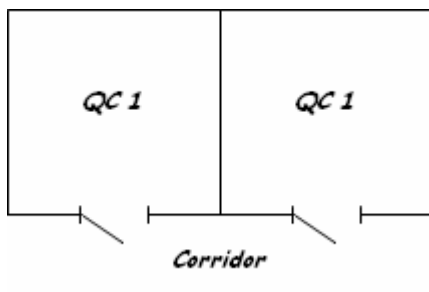
Example 1



Example 1 represents a common situation encountered in a single wing of a university or similar institution. QAPs #1 – 3 must be deconsolidated as movement between the facilities cannot be achieved without exiting the containment barrier.

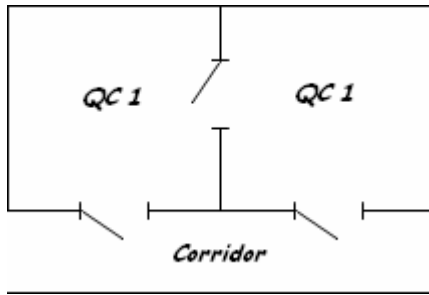
The two QC 1 laboratories on the right of the wing may be approved as either a single QAP or as separate facilities. The door between the two laboratories allows movement between the rooms without exiting the level 1 containment barrier.

Example 2



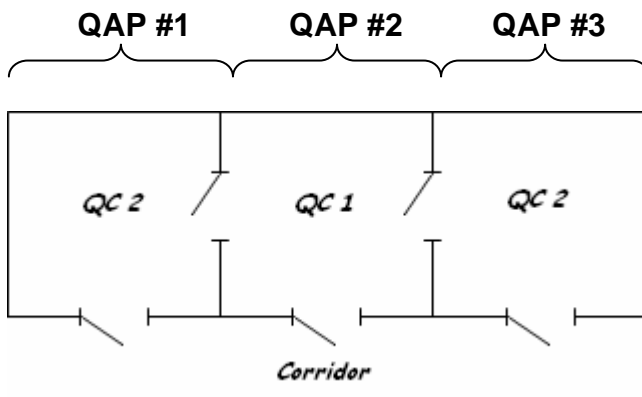
In example 2, these two facilities must be approved as separate QAPs as movement between the two rooms is only possible after exiting the containment barrier.

Example 3



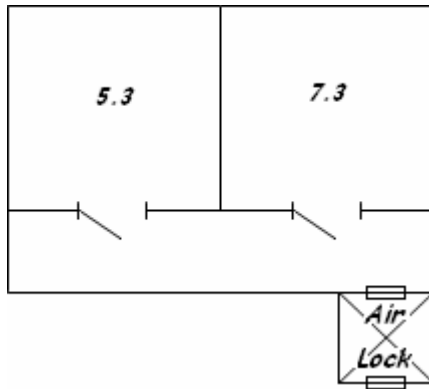
In example 3, as in example 1, the two rooms can be separated into individual QAPs or approved as a single facility. The door between the two laboratories allows movement between the rooms without exiting the level 1 containment barrier.

Example 4



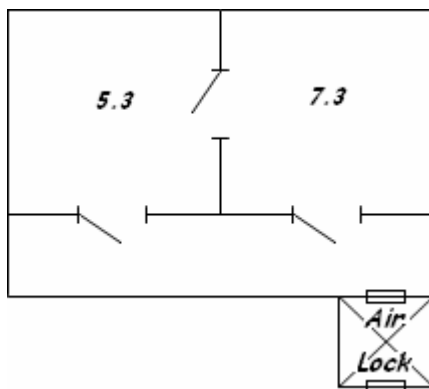
In example 4, although the rooms can be opened up and internal access can be achieved between rooms, these facilities must be deconsolidated into three separate QAPs as shown. Approval cannot be granted across different QC levels and movement between the two QC 2 rooms cannot be achieved without exiting the level 2 containment barrier. As such, separate QAP approval for each room must be granted. The internal access must be sealed at all times to a level maintaining the level 2 containment standard for QAPs #1 & 3.

Example 5



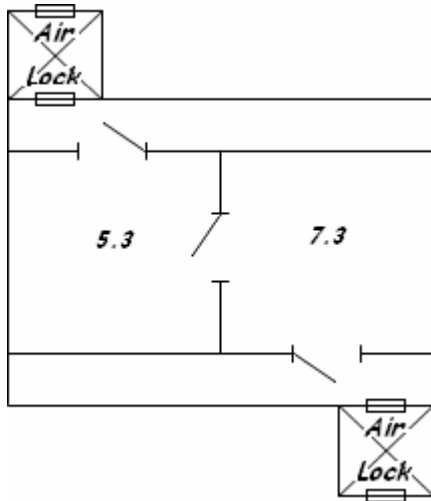
In example 5, access to the above rooms can only be achieved through one entry. As entry is via an airlock the level of containment required for level 3 facilities is satisfied and remains unbroken around both rooms, approval can be granted as a single QAP. The containment barrier does not have to be exited to move between the two rooms.

Example 6



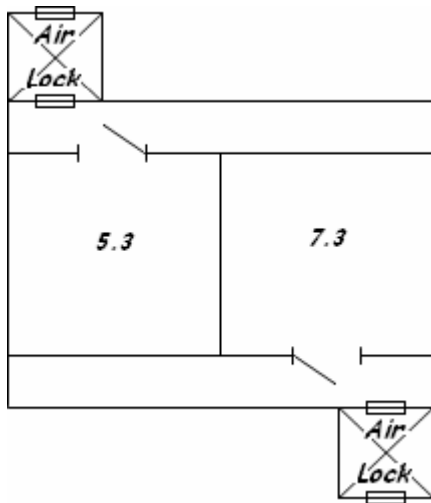
In example 6, as in example 5, access to the laboratories can only be achieved via entry through the air lock. Movement between the rooms is permitted as the two facilities are of an equivalent containment level and access between the two is possible without exiting the containment barrier. As such, the facility may be approved as a single QAP or as two separate QAPs. Should movement wish to be undertaken between the two labs, the containment at the internal door between the labs must be equivalent to that on the door into the class 7 room.

Example 7



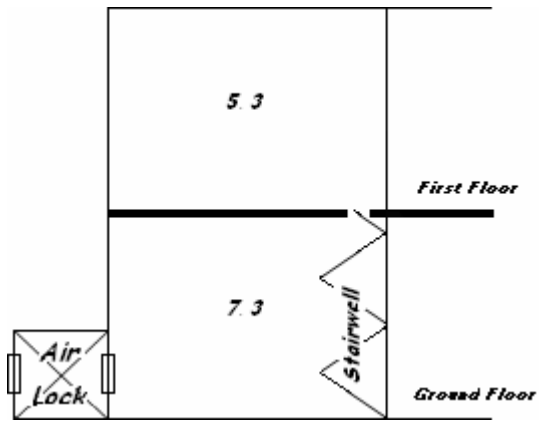
In example 7, these two rooms can be approved separately as two QAP's or as a single QAP. As movement between the rooms can be achieved internally and the rooms are of the same QC level joint approval can be applied. If single approval is granted the internal door must be equivalent to that on the door into the class 7 room. Should separate approval be applied the internal door must be equivalent in containment to that of the doors at the entry to each room.

Example 8



In example 8, movement between the two rooms can only be achieved by exiting the containment barrier. These two facilities must be approved as separate QAPs.

Example 9



In example 9, a single approval may be granted to cover the two QC3 laboratories as the stairwell is internal to the QC areas and persons involved in quarantine operations have exclusive access.