Mixed occupancy

Engineering



The paper "Mixed Occupancy" is a delightful example of an assignment on engineering and construction. Throughout the world, the governments of developed countries circulate regulations for the building constructors. They are bound to obey the regulations. When a building is going to be designed according to the code, the basic plan is to determine the protection of the adjacent building. Mixed occupancy means a common building divided into more than one portions, each portion may be used for different functions such as living place, market, office etc. All the portions are called as separate and distinct occupancies. Mixed occupancy buildings come under the strict control of the formulae issued by the building department. According to these formulae, if out of two occupancies, one covers a greater area and is much higher, the area and height of the other occupancy must be lesser. These formulae actually help to check the load of fire. Separated occupancies resist firing, this resistance is measured in hours. The betterconcreted separation wall will take more hours to reach the adjacent building. When there is two or more occupancy classification within the same building usually the occupancy separations are present. There are three cases of mixed occupancy; 1- Individual occupancy may have a firewall (area separation wall) so each will be considered as a separate building. Each separate building is independent of the other because each has to obey the code for its own height and area. These occupancies actually are not mixed ones in a real sense. 2- There is no occupancy separation wall. The building contains two or more occupancies. 3- Occupancy separation is present and the building comes under the category of a truly mixed building. (Scott & James G., 2008) At the time the building is constructed, the owner of the building is advised to follow the notification of the fire department. The

notification approves the design of building keeping in view the facilities of firefighters to do their operation efficiently in the case, the building catches the fire. According to the code, the fire extinguishing apparatus should be installed at a suitable point of the building, ventilation system and good water supply should be provided. When the fire is extinguished, the water should be removed properly. If a building, unfortunately, catches the fire, the smoke, gas, and heat should immediately be removed. That is why the code emphasizes greatly on ventilation.