

Provided by the United States Fire Administration (USFA) on 1-27-2009:

“The following is an appendix to today's Coffee Break Training:”

“Means of Egress: Recognizable Doors”

- “There seems to be some confusion regarding the grammar in a sentence in today's Coffee Break Training:”

“A sentence within the body of the text states: ‘There is no question that the doors could be confused with the adjacent wall finishes,’ while the photo caption reads ‘The pattern on these doors provides a clear contrast to the adjacent wall.’”

“People are asking if that is a conflict, and suggesting the sentence should read ‘There is no question that the doors would NOT be confused with the adjacent wall finishes.’ That phrasing, though, is a double negative that is grammatically incorrect.”

“Rather than ‘There is no question that the doors could be confused with the adjacent wall finishes,’ perhaps it would be better understood if it read ‘There is no question that the doors would be confused with the adjacent wall finishes.’”