Subject: Appropriate Use of Carpet

Applicability: Guidance

1. Background: MG Lust, Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, recently observed carpeting used on a primary stairway at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri. This carpeting was dirty and in poor repair. This situation indicates a need to restate a policy issue.

2. Policy: Carpeting is an inappropriate treatment for stairs, and will not be used on stairs without Department of the Army level approval. Carpeting should also be avoided in high-traffic, dirty areas. Where carpeting is appropriate, Unified Federal Guide Specification 09680A, Carpet, contains a selection table for carpeting based on traffic, soiling, and staining conditions.

3. Resources: Carpeting is available in many styles, grades, and fibers. When carpeting is being considered, specifications should be developed in consultation with professional interior designers. USACE has professional interior design staff in most military construction districts to assist you. See http://tsc.wes.army.mil/ID_Resources_DoD/Index.htm for USACE Interior Design Points of Contact.

4. Point of contact for this bulletin is Frank A. Norcross, AIA, IIDA, CECW-EI, 202-761-7113.

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