

International Code Council Government Relations Update – October 2015

Follow @ICC_GR on Twitter for breaking GR news throughout the month!

Staff To Evaluate In-Person Electronic Voting Issue

ICC's new cdpACCESS cloud-based system for code development performed well during the 2015 Group A Public Comments Hearings in Long Beach, Calif. But along with cdpACCESS is ICC's old, onsite voting device technology which presented unexpected problems during the hearings despite extensive testing. To rectify the issue, as soon as the problem was discovered, onsite testing was conducted with voting Members in attendance. Based on results and in an abundance of caution, it was decided to use the tried and true method of hand counts for voting.

Since this impacts the cdpACCESS Online Governmental Consensus Vote (OGCV), the Code Council with input from ICC staff is looking at options on how to conduct the OGCV to ensure the outcome is accurate and to protect the integrity and fairness of the code development process, in accordance with ICC rules of procedures, and in an accurate reflection of the consensus of Voting Members.

A staff recommendation will be presented to the ICC Board for consideration. The Board will act in accordance with Section 10.2 of [Council Policy 28 Code Development \(CP28\)](#).

Additional information will be posted on the ICC website, on cdpACCESS and in other ICC communications channels, as soon as final procedures are set.

When available, the ballot can be viewed at cdpACCESS.com. Log into your "My ICC" account, which takes you to the cdpACCESS timeline. Then click on "Vote" at the top of the page to view the ballot.

Watch Live: Public Hearings of the ICC-ES Evaluation Committee on New Acceptance Criteria for Innovative Products and Materials

The webcast of the ICC-ES Evaluation Committee meeting offers building industry professionals unique insight into the development process of Acceptance Criteria – the criteria that ensures innovative building products comply with codes and standards. Watch the webcast of the ICC-ES Evaluation Committee meeting as it streams live on October 14, 2015 from Birmingham, Alabama. For more information and complimentary registration, click here: <http://go.iccsafe.org/e/25182/webcast-/336pyb/837675485>

ICC Feature Topic Webinar: 2015 IBC Accessibility – Recreation Facilities and Special Considerations

The *2015 International Building Code® (IBC®)* includes significant changes to the specific technical requirements for pools, playgrounds, amusement rides, recreational boating and more. Be able to successfully apply the provisions of Section 1110 of the 2015 IBC and the ICC A117.1 Accessibility Standard for recreational facilities when you register now for this Feature Topic webinar from the International Code Council. It only lasts 90 minutes, and covers the 2015 IBC scoping requirements for

recreational facilities and the specific technical criteria presented in the new recreation chapter in ICC A117.1-2009 Accessible and Useable Buildings and Facilities standards. There will also be an overview of accessibility requirements for related supporting services. Register here:

<http://go.iccsafe.org/e/25182/iderations-webinar-102115-html/333y6g/836714089>

Check Out the New IAS “Best Practices” for Building Departments eBook

The International Accreditation Service, Inc. (IAS), and the ICC Major Jurisdictions Committee (MJC) have joined forces to assemble this collection of Best Practices obtained from the inner workings of the MJC-member departments and from the building and fire prevention departments accredited by IAS. Best Practices are also typically systems or procedures that can be adopted by multiple organizations in order to improve each of their respective performances in a given area – so check it out and see what’s worked for other building and fire departments around the country (and the world!). Click here:

http://www.iasonline.org/Building_Department_Program/Best-Practices.pdf

US Department of Energy Releases Cost Savings Analysis on 2015 IECC

The US Department of Energy, working in tandem with the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, released their report on the cost and energy savings of the 2015 IECC compared to the 2012 IECC, with a key finding that overall, the 2015 edition of the IECC results in site energy savings of 11.5% at the aggregate national level compared to the 2012 IECC edition. Read more here:

https://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2015_IECC_Commercial_Analysis.pdf

FEMA Releases New Edition of Recommended Seismic Provisions for New Buildings

The *2015 National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP) Provisions* is a new knowledge-based code resource document intended to translate state-of-the-art research results into engineering design practice. The changes have incorporated extensive results and findings from recent research projects, problem-focused studies, and post-earthquake investigation reports conducted by various professional organizations, research institutes, universities, material industries, and the four NEHRP agencies. They can be ordered free by calling 1-800-480-2520, or as a free download at: <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/107646>

IMT and ICC Present the 2015 Standard Bearers Awards

This year's recipients, presented with their awards at the ICC Annual Conference in Long Beach, CA, were: the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Illinois Energy & Recycling Office (State Jurisdiction Winner), Washington, D.C. (Local Jurisdiction Winner), and Steven E. Rinehart, Harker Heights, Texas (Energy Code Leader).

The efforts made by this year’s winners include training more than 6,000 construction industry professionals on energy code compliance and conducting a baseline assessment against the 2009 and

2012 International Energy Conservation Codes (Illinois); creating a Green Building and Sustainability Division that provides leadership for the review and inspection of projects built under energy and green codes (Washington, D.C.); and offering a free, ICC-approved “Builders Survival Training Series” for home building association members that demonstrates how to build efficient homes and comply with modern codes. (Steven E. Rinehart, Energy Code Leader). Read the full press release here:

<http://www.imt.org/news/the-current/announcing-the-2015-standard-bearers-awards>

FEMA Building Science Branch Releases P-388 CD, “Safe Room Resources”

The materials on this CD intend to help communities mitigate damage or loss from tornadoes and other extreme-wind events, and provide public information resources for conveying the importance of safe room construction. This is part of FEMA’s ongoing mitigation effort to lessen the impact that disasters have on people and property.

The CD contains several informative posters, maps, and other resources that can be downloaded in various formats depending on how they will be used, including high-resolution print quality and low-resolution screen quality for web use. To browse the Safe Room Resources and download click here:

<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/23315>

Earn Your Certification on the 2015 I-Codes

Register now for the International Code Council's National Certification exams based on the 2015 I-Codes®. Computer-based and paper-and-pencil testing are available at more than 350 sites nationwide. Remember, ICC Certifications are an asset to your career – just look at what James Southerland, owner of A&D Inspections, had to say: “I received the ICC Commercial Energy Inspector Certification last fall and it has more than paid for itself already. My name is out there and I'm getting contacted with work.” Demonstrate your commitment to public safety in the built environment by pursuing certification in the 2015 I-Codes®. Register now at this site:

<http://go.iccsafe.org/e/25182/tional-exam-info-registration-/2lxm3s/748549503>

Also, Exam administrations on the 2009 I-Codes will only be held once more this year, on December 12. Register now for this final upcoming exam administration – the deadline is **October 31**, but don’t delay and save your seat!