

## International Code Council Government Relations Update – June 2017

Follow [@ICC\\_GR on Twitter](#) for breaking GR news throughout the month!

### **Thank you for helping make ICC's 2017 Building Safety Month an unprecedented success!**

Building Safety Month is when ICC's Chapters and dedicated Members shine. The 2017 BSM was no exception with more than 400 proclamations from Governors, legislatures, local jurisdictions and ICC Chapters throughout the United States. Be watching for the next edition of Building Safety Journal for a wrap-up of Building Safety Month events.

We in ICC Government Relations are proud of the innovative ideas that went to work taking the message of Building Safety Month into public schools, public parks and baseball diamonds, city halls, state capitols and national stages to raise the profile on code officials and the fundamental protections of life and structural integrity that you provide every day. International Code Council is a member-driven organization and nothing proves it more than Building Safety Month. Thank you for doing your part!

### **ICC's first Innovation in Code Administration Award presented to St. Paul, Minn.**

Recognizing its 10-year effort to reduce residential injuries, deaths and fires through a rental inspection program and property grading schedule, the International Code Council (ICC) awarded its 2017 [ICC Innovation in Code Administration Award](#) to the City of Saint Paul, Minn., Department of Safety and Inspections. The inaugural award was fittingly presented during the Code Council's annual Building Safety Month Reception on May 10 at the Council's Governmental Affairs Office in Washington, D.C. [Read more about it here.](#)

### **ICC-ES and APA establish cooperative agreement to offer combined product listing program**

ICC-ES and APA – The Engineered Wood Association have established a cooperative agreement, offering a new combined product listing program to manufacturers of Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) products. The new program offers manufacturers the ability to obtain a listing report for CLT products that will display compliance with the ANSI/APA PRG 320 Standard for Performance-Rated Cross-Laminated Timber. Once the CLT product is listed, a manufacturer can add the ICC-ES mark to their product packaging and identification and have the product listed as certified by ICC-ES and APA. The ANSI/APA PRG 320 standard is referenced by the 2015 International Building Code and the 2015 International Residential Code.

### **June 15 webinar "Solar Updates in the 2017 NEC" offers 1 hour CEU by ICC**

With more than 1.3 million photovoltaic (PV) systems installed nationwide, no wonder there is a huge need for training programs like the webinar scheduled online at 2 p.m. Eastern on June 15 featuring national expert Jim Rogers. PV system safety and reliability is increasingly guided by robust codes and standards, including solar provisions in the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) National Electrical Code (NEC). Although solar is by no means new to the NEC, the 2017 version has updates and additions to support the growing solar economy. Learn about new articles in the NEC, such as large scale photovoltaic electric supply stations and energy storage systems, as well as updates to existing provisions like rapid shutdown, and grounding of PV systems. You can submit your specific questions in advance or during the webinar. [Click here for registration information.](#)

### **Deadline is Aug. 11: Governmental Member Voting Representatives must be validated each year**

Join the nearly 1,500 Governmental Member Voting Representatives that have already been validated. We encourage you to visit the International Code Council's *new and improved* Electronic Voter Validation Site. Primary Representatives of current Governmental Members can [click here](#) to login and validate your Governmental Member Voting Representatives. This year, Voting Representatives must be

validated **by August 11** in order to vote during the upcoming 2017 Annual Business Meeting in Columbus, Ohio. Need more information? Please contact ICC Member Services at [members@iccsafe.org](mailto:members@iccsafe.org) or call the Member Services staff at 888-ICC-SAFE (888-422-7233) x33804.

### **Register now for certification exams in the commercial fire sprinkler and fire alarm fields**

Developed specifically for fire or building inspectors, plans examiners, and code officials, successful completion of a commercial fire sprinkler or commercial fire alarm exam will ensure you are recognized for your commitment to safety and professionalism. [Click here for registration information](#). ICC's Certification services are your one-stop shop, providing exams for:

- Commercial Fire Sprinkler Plans Examiner – CP
- Commercial Fire Sprinkler Inspector – CF
- Commercial Fire Alarm Plans Examiner II – CR
- Commercial Fire Alarm Plans Examiner I – CN
- Commercial Fire Alarm Inspector – CA
- Residential Fire Sprinkler Inspector/Plans Examiner – RF

### **City's decision on recognizing ICC-ES reports on seismic compliance marks a major advancement**

In a progressive move, the City of Los Angeles Department of Building Safety (LADBS) now recognizes ICC Evaluation Service Reports (ESRs) as proof of compliance to the seismic requirements of the California and City of Los Angeles building codes. Prior to the change in approach, LADBS accepted ICC-ES reports in all categories other than seismic. Under the new program, manufacturers can now obtain a supplementary product report acknowledging compliance with the noted seismic requirements. The new program is not mandatory. Clients can continue to obtain product approval from LABDS. The goal is for this initiative to be fully implemented by January 1, 2018. ICC-ES has already issued one supplemental report under the new program.

### **Skinny budgets, horse trades & swinging hammers: House of Codes launches new online videos**

The Netflix hit series **House of Cards** with the nefarious anti-hero couple Frank and Claire Underwood is now streaming its new season. But if you're a code official, you may want to also check out the newest clips from **House of Codes**. In the newest clips, Chris Ochoa goes behind the scenes in Congress and talks turkey on winners and losers, pending compromises, skinny budgets, horse trades and showdowns. Who's swinging hammers? Who's on the hospital end of those hammers? [It's all here](#).

**SPOILER ALERT:** Still no word on the Kevin Spacey cameo.

### **FEMA P-320 included in ICC-ES's storm shelter evaluation program**

ICC-ES has expanded its [storm shelter evaluation program](#) to include the review of shelters against FEMA P-320, Taking Shelter from the Storm. For communities to receive FEMA block grant funding for storm shelters the agency requires review against both ICC-500 and specific FEMA documents. FEMA block grants fund a significant percentage of total U.S. storm shelter installations.

### **ICC's Swimming Pool & Spa Code plays key role in health, safety concerns in congressional meeting**

The [Association of Pool & Spa Professionals](#) (APSP) participated in a [hearing before the U.S. Senate Committee](#) on Commerce, Science & Transportation Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, Insurance and Data Security. The hearing was held in remembrance of the 10th anniversary of the [Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act](#) (VGB Act), and to call the public's attention to the importance of taking proactive safety measures in aquatic facilities. The VGB Act prevents both entrapment and eviscerations by swimming pool and spa drains and traditional forms of drowning in public swimming pools and spas. In the hearing, APSP President and Chief Executive Officer Richard Gottwald discussed key aspects of the VGB Act and how APSP's relationship with the [International Code](#)

[Council](#) (ICC) has improved residential and public pool safety through the [International Swimming Pool and Spa Code](#) (ISPSC). [Click here for more](#).

#### **Deadline Aug. 31: Pre-orders accepted to get early bird pricing on 2018 I-Codes**

The 2018 International Codes are expected to be mailed out in September and many, many states and communities are anxious to get their first sets and start the process of updating. Updated codes are your communities' best protections to remain resilient to human-caused and natural threats. Developed through ICC's highly-respected consensus code development process that draws upon the expertise of hundreds of plumbing, building, and safety experts, the 2018s are supported by a wide range of ICC technical references, top-rate training through ICC University, and unmatched credentialing service. [Click here for your early bird prices!](#)

#### **S.K. Ghosh Associates Inc. addition further strengthens the ICC's structural engineering abilities**

The International Code Council (ICC) welcomes S. K. Ghosh Associates Inc. (SKGA), a seismic and building code consulting firm located in Palatine, Ill., as part of its Family of Companies, effective June 1, 2017. S. K. Ghosh Associates is a preeminent technical resource on structural codes and standards for Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), design professionals, academics, and materials industries. It provides technical support through its publications, seminars, peer reviews, research projects, computer programs, code interpretations and comparisons, website, and other means. The addition of SKGA to the ICC's Family of Companies will strengthen ICC's technical abilities in structural engineering and expand ICC's technical consulting service for its members and clients. "This move with S. K. Ghosh will be a tremendous benefit to Code Council members and stakeholders," said International Code Council Chief Executive Officer Dominic Sims, CBO. "It will expand our in-house technical resources both domestically and around the globe." [Read more about this here](#).

#### **\$2,500 top prize offered in annual paper competition for 2017 Worlds Standards Day**

The Society for Standards (SES) Professionals and the U.S. Celebration of World Standards Day Planning Committee [co-sponsor an annual paper competition](#) for individuals in the U.S. standards community. The top prize is \$2,500 and winners will be announced at the [U.S. Celebration of World Standards Day](#), which will be held this year on Oct. 19 at the Mandarin Oriental in Washington, D.C. Authors may choose to address the 2017 World Standards Day theme, "Smart Health: Using Intelligent Systems to Improve the Quality and Delivery of Health Care in a More Integrated, Focused Approach" or another topic of their choosing. Submissions must be received with an official entry form by midnight Aug. 11 by the SES Executive Director, email to [admin@ses-standards.org](mailto:admin@ses-standards.org).

#### **Early bird registrations available now to attend the 2017 ICC Annual Conference in Columbus, Ohio**

The International Code Council's (ICC's) 2017 Annual Conference and Expo is Sept. 10 – 13 in Columbus, Ohio, and [Early-Bird registrations can add value to your experience](#). This year's conference will feature a combination of industry-leading educational sessions, networking events, historic building tours, the Building Safety & Design Expo and inspiring keynote speakers such as the only two-time winner of the prestigious Heisman Trophy, Archie Griffin. He will be speaking at the Members' Luncheon on Tuesday, Sept. 12. No other building safety code conference offers more exclusive International Code resources, tools and education opportunities than ICC's Annual Conference. Here is just a preview of what you will Learn, Discover and Experience at this year's event:

- **Learn about best practices and solutions** to your most critical building code challenges. The conference will offer many unique educational sessions led by ICC's national expert instructors. You'll earn CEUs and LUs and walk away with smart strategies, actionable tactics, improved skills and real connections with people who are shaping the future of building safety.

- **Discover what's new at the Building Safety & Design Expo.** Held in conjunction with the ICC Annual Conference, the Expo will feature top vendors showcasing the best and latest products, technologies and applications. Plus, you can attend free educational sessions that will take place on the expo floor.
- **Experience Nonstop Networking** – From scheduled receptions and social events to the expo hall, there's no better place to meet with, collaborate with, and learn from fellow building safety and design professionals.

Simply stated, this year's conference will be a great opportunity to engage with building industry experts, share ideas, expand your code knowledge and take home information you can use on the job the next day. Spread the word among chapter members and industry colleagues by forwarding them the conference registration link [www.iccsafe.org/conference](http://www.iccsafe.org/conference).

#### **'Flood Provisions of the International Residential Code' course offered free online**

FEMA Building Science in partnership with the International Code Council is proud to launch the new online course **"Flood Provisions of the International Residential Code"** in celebration of Building Safety Month. For a limited time, this course will be available free of charge. Flood provisions of the International Residential Code (IRC) is a two-part course presenting basic information needed to understand the flood provisions of the IRC. Its goal is to educate floodplain management and building officials, design professionals, and builders about: how the building code provisions satisfy the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements for buildings, coordinating building codes and local floodplain management ordinances, and the distinctions between the International Codes and the NFIP floodplain management requirements. The course can be accessed at the links below:

- Part 1: <http://media.iccsafe.org/catalog/Flood-Provisions-IRC-Pt1/presentation.html>
- Part 2: <http://media.iccsafe.org/catalog/Flood-Provisions-IRC-Pt2/presentation.html>
- Access FEMA's free building code resources for all hazards at <https://www.fema.gov/building-code-resources>

#### **Travel scholarships available for 2017 National Energy Codes Conference July 17-20 in Pittsburgh**

Travel scholarships are available for the [2017 National Energy Codes Conference in Pittsburgh](#), sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy. Support is provided on a limited basis for state and municipal employees who wish to attend the event. This year's event will cover a variety of critical topics, including code development, implementation, policy, tools and resources, with a focus on achieving compliance. In order to be considered, be sure to apply today!

#### **Take your career to the next level with the following ICC training institutes**

It's never too early to plan the next step in your career, and it's not too early to make your plans for an upcoming ICC Institute. Recent Institutes have sold out more than a month in advance. Plan now to advance your knowledge and your career. These focused-topic, multi-day events are an opportunity to earn CEUs, learn from expert instructors and build your professional network. [Click here to browse all upcoming institutes and events.](#)