

Building Codes Division



Building Codes Division's
Northwest Regional Office
serves contractors
and local building
departments in
Clatsop, Columbia,
Clackamas, Multnomah,
Washington, Tillamook,
and Hood River counties.

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News Line

A quarterly newsletter for commercial builders



Spring 2007

BCD schedules May 23 building code forum

A free training program and forum on commercial structural code issues takes place Wednesday, May 23, 4-7 p.m., at the Multnomah Building, Board Room 100, 501 SE Hawthorne, Portland.

Qualified participants may earn three hours of HSW credit, three hours of code-related or master-builder continuing education credit from BCD, or three hours of home-inspector continuing education credit from CCB.

Contractors and building department personnel may submit questions to the code forum by sending an e-mail to Joanie.M.Stevens-Schwenger@state.or.us.

Agenda

- 2007 OSSC- significant changes
- Recent statewide interpretations
- ADA review
- Discussion- topics for future forums
- Q&A ■

Governor signs e-permitting bill

Oregon first in the nation to offer statewide online permitting

On May 2 Governor Ted Kulongoski signed into law House Bill 2405, which will save the building and construction design industries time by allowing them to conduct building department business online, 24/7, with any city or county in the state.

The bill creates the nation's first statewide e-permitting program. Once complete, it will allow access to Oregon's 132 local building departments and offer online construction plan review, permitting, and inspection services through one state-sponsored Web site.

"This groundbreaking program will save contractors' time and help complete projects more quickly — a win for businesses and for

consumers," said the Governor. "This program is a prime example of business and government working together to find creative, innovative ways to improve service and Oregon's economic competitiveness."

The statewide online program, which is projected to be phased in over a 10-year period, will build on the existing e-permitting pilot project at www.BuildingPermits.Oregon.gov. Currently this site, hosted by the Building Codes Division, allows contractors to apply and pay for simple permits from multiple cities and counties. Funding for the program will come from a 4 percent surcharge on all permits that begins in January 2008. ■

State now offers building codes online

You have a new online resource to help you with your projects.

The Building Codes Division now offers the state's residential, structural, and mechanical building codes online at bcd.Oregon.gov.

"The codes set minimum construction standards for building safety and provide a consistent and predictable building environment," said Mark Long, Building Codes Division administrator.

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News Line

BCD's Web site offers a free notification service to keep you up-to-date on issues you choose. Sign up on the division's Web site, bcd.oregon.gov.

"We are pleased that we can now offer Oregonians access to the codes that's as easy as turning on the computer."

The codes available online are:

- The Oregon Structural Specialty Code (2004 and 2007), which covers structural elements such as framing, roof assemblies, and building entry and exit in commercial and public buildings.
- The Oregon Mechanical Specialty Code (2004 and 2007), which regulates the construction of mechanical installations, such as heating and cooling systems, and venting and ductwork in both residential and commercial buildings.
- The Oregon Residential Code (2005), which covers construction standards in one- and two-family dwellings ranging from stair geometry to window requirements in bedrooms to the height of railings on the deck. ■

State revises interpretation on suspended ceilings

A revised interpretation on suspended ceilings provides additional clarification and addresses the gaps between ASCE-7 requirements and the lag time ICC-ES has created in establishing the acceptance criteria. You can find the revised interpretation on the division's Web site at bcd.oregon.gov; click on "Interpretations," then "Structural."

Since approved load testing values have not been established for using "powder-driven shot-in anchors" in normal-weight concrete over a metal pan deck, an on-site pull-test of such assemblies is required until approved load testing values are established.

In addition the following sections have been revised:

Section IV (d) - Page 3; Specifies that the minimum wire size shall be US Steel Wire Gage #12 (0.1055 inch).

Section V (g) - Page 4; Powder-driven shot-in anchor issue.

Section V (h) - Page 4; Establishes a grace period for certain anchors to comply with the new ICC-ES Acceptance Criteria. Because this issue is applicable to all of the anchors noted in any application, BCD will also issue a separate notice to interested parties, manufacturers, and building officials. ■

440-2736 (5/07/COM)

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