

• ICC Program Profiles and Highlights



ACCESS

For Members and the Building Community to Build a Safer World

All activities of our dedicated **Member Services** staff focus on a primary purpose: to provide exceptional support to ICC's most important resource—our Members. The department includes Member Services, Chapter Relations and the ICC Customer Call Center.

Member Services maintains accounts for existing ICC Members and actively recruits new Members. Voting eligibility for Governmental Member Voting Representatives as well as Member benefits are managed through Member Services. Member Services staff also provide support to ICC's Membership Councils. More than 1,100 ICC Members participate in at least one Membership Council. The Councils meet regularly and provide valuable feedback to the ICC Board and staff. Each Council also sponsors its own programs and activities.

The ICC Customer Call Center representatives are available 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday. Representatives handle an average of 5,600 calls per month, or 67,000 annually. Most calls (98%) are answered within 10 seconds.

Chapter Relations works with Chapters and Regions as they provide significant support for the code development process, I-Code adoptions and other important activities. Chapters receive valuable benefits and services designed to help strengthen all ICC Chapters. The number of ICC Chapters grew to 358 over the past year. Those newest ones are:

- Wisconsin Fire Inspectors Association—Area 1
- ICC Region I
- Western Arizona Fire Marshal's Association
- Greater Houston Fire Marshal's Council
- Building Inspectors Association of Northeast Wisconsin
- Texas Fire Marshal's Association
- Lawson State Community College (Ala.)

Feedback from Chapter officers and Members is always welcome. The email address is chapters@iccsafe.org.



▪ Members vote at the 2013 Joint Meeting of the Membership Councils, Atlantic City, NJ



▪ ICC's Joint Steering Committee of the Building Officials and Fire Service Membership Councils collaborated with ICC staff to develop leadership training for Building Officials and Fire Marshals



Karla Higgs

▪ **Karla Higgs**
Vice President

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Technical Services to Support Building Safety

Technical Services consists of two primary activities: Codes and Standards Development and Architectural and Engineering Services.

Codes and Standards Development is currently in the process of concluding the 2015 edition code change cycle, Group C. Administering the code change cycle in exact compliance with code development procedures in support of 15 individual codes is a challenge the Department is always well prepared to achieve. *Participation by our Members and other stakeholders in this process is vital to the advancement of building safety and public welfare.*

Of great significance this year toward expanding participation in code development, was the launch of cdpACCESS™ in cooperation with other ICC departments. The cdpACCESS system, designed to allow participation in the ICC Code Development Process without attending hearings in person, is revolutionizing the ability of participants to impact the process and the resulting code content. cdpACCESS includes three primary components:

- Online submittal of code changes and public comments
- Online collaboration among self-interested parties and stakeholders; and
- Online voting of Committee Action Hearing Assembly floor motions and Public Comment Hearing final code change votes.

cdpACCESS is being used for the entire 2014 Group C Code Development Cycle of the *International Green Construction Code*. It also will be live for the Group A code change proposal submittals on November 15, 2014.

The Codes and Standards Development team provides support to code development committees, and codes and standards committees, including the activities of the new Codes and Standards Council and four new Code Action Committees. *Members, partners and all volunteers participating on code committees help drive the Code Development Process.*

Our team also maintains ICC standards through the ANSI process as an extension of code requirements to further support ICC's mission. In addition to ICC's existing standards, the following standards projects are currently underway:

- ICC 802 Landscape Irrigation Sprinkler and Emitter Standard
- ICC 900 Solar Thermal Systems Standard
- ICC 901 Solar Thermal Collector Standard
- ICC 1000 Commissioning Standard

Members have access to free code opinions—contributing further to building safety.

The Code Council's technical support is one of the most sought after services we provide to our Members. Our knowledgeable technical staff provides expert advice, code opinions (verbal or written) and committee interpretations to more than 50,000 ICC Members as a benefit, at no additional cost beyond the Membership fee. We provide approximately 62,400 code opinions a year. We have processed at least 684 requests for committee interpretations since 2002. Pending interpretations are posted for Member review and comment.

ICC Technical Services delivers on-demand plan review services as a resource to aid Members and other jurisdictions in the timely examination of construction documents submitted with a building permit application.

Plan reviews are prepared by licensed and ICC-certified engineers and architects who understand the ICC *International Codes* and legacy model codes better than any other plan review service in the building industry.



- 2014 Committee Action Hearings, Memphis, TN



▪ **Tom Frost, AIA**
Senior Vice President

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Training and Education to Support Your Professional Growth

The **Training and Education Department** delivers high-quality, comprehensive code training from expert instructors. ICC educational programs are accredited by the International Association of Continuing Education and Training, provide Continuing Education Units, and support the career growth and advancement of ICC Members and all building industry professionals.

Efforts are underway to implement the education strategy approved by the ICC Board of Directors. This five-part strategy consists of delivering premium core training; creation of a preferred provider program and expanded network of high-quality training offerings; enhancements and improvements in the delivery of online training; a retooling of our education committee and Board for International Professional Standards (BIPS); and lastly, an emphasis on staffing for the future.

In the past year, we implemented a major review of both seminar workbooks and instructors to improve the quality of programs and the user experience. We offered approximately 500 seminars across the United States, to about 20,000 participants. We strengthened partnerships with ICC Chapter Institutes and education programs, and had strong participation in programs such as:

- Educode (Southern Nevada Chapter)
- Johnson County Contractor and Code Training
- Colorado Education Institute (Colorado Chapter)
- Utah Chapter Education
- Washington Association of Building Officials Education
- The Building Professional Institute (Building Officials Association of Texas and the Construction Research Center at the University of Texas at Arlington)

We are working on a new program, the ICC Preferred Provider Program, to establish new partnerships with ICC Chapters, building-related associations and organizations, educators, and manufacturers, to broaden educational opportunities in the construction field and code administration. The Preferred Provider Program has the potential to benefit all code and construction professionals who seek training, as well as ICC Chapters and others who develop and deliver training. This program will be available in the 4th quarter of 2014.

Premium Core Training is also offered by our department and makes available to jurisdictions the tools for the adoption of the 2015 I-Codes. These tools include Update and Significant Changes seminars for the 2015 International Building, Residential, Fire, Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas Codes.

ICC Campus Online, and other Internet offerings such as webinars, have been expanded building on partnerships with other organizations and associations. In addition to online eLearning courses on Updates to the 2015 I-Codes, an online course on IBC Significant Changes is being prepared in partnership with Cengage Learning. In partnership with Red Vector, we are developing high-quality online courses that will be available on the ICC Campus Online later in 2014. A number of webinars have been held this year with some attended by more than 400 participants.

In a response to Member needs for more flexibility and cost effectiveness, the Training and Education group adapted its program and is now offering three options—Standard, Flex, and Premium—to receive training, each with a different pricing structure better designed to meet the specific needs of customers.



▪ Colorado Education Institute



▪ **Doug Thornburg**

Vice President
Training and Education,
Certification and Testing

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Certification and Testing to Support Your Career Advancement

The **Certification and Testing (C&T) Department** provides the industry's most fair and reliable building safety examination programs used to assess the competency of building professionals at the local, state, national and global levels.

The outlook for C&T continues to be strong with more than 35,000 exams administered in 2013 and the anticipation of closing this year with continued steady growth. In response to the release of the new 2015 *International Codes*, C&T will begin administering testing on these codes for the traditional paper/pencil-based exams on January 1. Computer-based testing (CBT) will be available on July 1. To make it more convenient and accessible for ICC Members, 20 new CBT test sites were added this year bringing the total to nearly 400 sites.

The Code Council's reputation as a provider of defensible, fair and reliable examination programs used to help assess the competency of building professionals has grown beyond the U.S. borders with the first international CBT launching in British Columbia, Canada. The Code Council has received interest in setting up similar C&T programs based on its current model from global partners.

As we enter the last quarter of 2014, we are proud to report that more than 52,000 individuals maintain certification in one or more categories with ICC, totaling more than 160,000 current certifications.

C&T is pleased to report the following 2014 highlights:

- New wallet card coming at the end of this year that uses barcodes to retrieve data and will allow for convenient, up-to-date online access to Member and certificate holder credentials.
- First international computer-based testing platform for the transition of Canadian testing programs for the Building Officials Association of British Columbia and the Plumbing Officials Association of British Columbia.
- Nearly 700 code enforcement departments now have ICC certification for 100 percent of their technical staff thanks to the Get Everyone Certified campaign sponsored by Target Corporation.
- Formalization of reciprocity programs with state fire colleges to recognize their ProBoard-accredited certification, meaning a larger number of certified individuals will have access to ICC and its benefits.

- New or extended contracts for testing programs across the U.S. and Canada, to better serve and provide access for a larger number of individuals wishing to show competency in the building-safety field.
- Updated exams to cover the 2015 *International Codes* for administration beginning in January.
- C&T Exam Development Committees have focused on adding exam content related to the "soft skills" often required by code professionals to do their jobs.
- New examinations in the fire services field for individuals working with fire alarms and commercial fire sprinklers.

In 2015, we intend to refine and improve the skill set of the Certification and Testing team; explore innovative testing delivery methods; release a new suite of exams based on the 2015 I-Codes; and work with partners to develop new certification programs reflecting ICC's mission of bringing safety and sustainability to the built environment.



■ Master Code Professionals at 2013 ICC Annual Conference



■ Boone County Building Inspectors Office accepted the challenge to Get Everyone Certified

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Business and Product Development to Codes, Standards and More

The release of the 2015 *International Codes* in conjunction with key support products such as the Significant Changes publication series and training courses was the **Business and Product Development (BPD) Division's** most significant accomplishment this year. The electronic versions of the 2015 *International Codes* now come with enhanced redline/strikeout/underline features that enable code users to better identify changes between code editions and facilitate jurisdictions in their adoption efforts.

All of the 2015 codes, with the exception of the *International Green Construction Code* (IgCC), were released on June 1. The IgCC is in Group C. Its Public Comment Hearing will be held in October. Release of the 2015 IgCC is planned for April.

During the year, ICC also continued to expand the number of related reference standards that are available in electronic format in an effort to be a single point of contact for its members. Recognizing the importance of having laws readily accessible to the public, ICC has increased the number of building codes and standards available for free viewing.

The primary goal of BPD is to increase the availability and timeliness of ICC publications, information access, and support of ICC's enhanced educational offerings for our Members and others in the building construction community. By using the technical expertise of ICC staff, consultants, authors and partner associations, we offer new publications and services that strengthen the position of ICC as the premier provider of information for codes and standards professionals.

Several titles in the *Significant Changes Series*—the 2015 International Building, Residential, Fire, Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas codes—were released in July. Important topics of special inspections and inspector soft skills were addressed in two new publications, *Special Inspection Manual and Inspector Skills*. Work on the Code Essential series is near completion with titles on Building, Residential, Fire and Energy Code planned for release in 4th quarter of 2014. Work on another notable series, the 2015 Study Companions, is making progress toward a planned release in 1st quarter of 2015.

Along with the 2015 *International Codes*, many updated custom codes were also released this year. Some of the jurisdictions that came out with new codes include Arkansas, Los Angeles County, the City of Los Angeles, Michigan, New York City, Oregon, Virginia, Seattle and Washington, D.C. We also experienced the influence of the *International Codes* globally with the recent release of seven custom codes for Abu Dhabi and interest continues to spread to other countries.

Continuing to build on the strength of partnerships, BPD expanded ICC's publication offerings in specialty areas, often in conjunctions with partners such as APA-The Engineered Wood Association, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Institute for Market Transformation, Masonry Institute of America, McGraw-Hill, S. K. Ghosh and Associates. Partnerships are key to BPD's success allowing ICC to offer high-quality support resources in specialty areas of building design and construction to a large number of customers through a variety of distribution channels.

New titles with our partners include: *Tall and Super Tall Buildings: Planning and Design*; *Construction Management of Healthcare Projects*; *Design of Wood Structure ASD/LFRD*; *Preparing a Service Plan for Green Buildings*; *Reinforced Concrete Masonry Construction Handbook, 8th Edition*; *Masonry Inspector's Workbook*; *Application Guide for the 2012 IBC Concrete Provisions*; *Seismic Design Using Structural Dynamics Provisions*; *Reducing Flood Losses Through the International Codes, 4th Edition*; *IECC For Simple Commercial Buildings Compliance Guide* and *IECC Compliance Options for Wood-Frame Wall Assemblies*.

Employing the latest technology, we will strive to offer a variety of convenient and flexible formats for access to our resources including online delivery, Apps, ePubs, downloads, interactive media, CDs and DVDs.



Hamid Naderi

■ **Hamid Naderi**
Senior Vice President

ACCESS

Advocacy – Telling Your Story to Build a Safer World

The Government Relations (GR) Team serves Members and advances the mission of ICC by supporting the adoption and use of the *International Codes* and the code development process. For complete information on adoptions, please visit the Government Relations page on the ICC website, www.iccsafe.org/GR.

GR advocates on behalf of our Members' interests and promotes ICC resources. The GR team accomplishes this through targeted, direct advocacy and forging strategic alliances with entities that have objectives compatible with the Code Council's vision and mission. For example, GR submitted several statements in response to Federal Register notices on a range of areas where the use of ICC codes and standards support safety initiatives of governmental departments.

GR positioned ICC in a leadership role at the BuildStrong/ Congressional Fire Services Institute Briefing, including ICC CEO Dominic Sims' participation on a panel featuring six Congressional Members speaking in favor of using building codes to mitigate damage from disasters and to build more resilient structures.

Building Safety Month

This year marked the 34th annual Building Safety Month (BSM) campaign. The general theme was "Building Safety: Maximizing Resilience, Minimizing Risks" and each week had a specific focus: fire safety, weather/storm preparation, outdoor safety, and energy efficiency. BSM was recognized for the fourth year in a row with a Presidential Proclamation. There were also remarks by U.S. Representative Peter Welch (Vt.) in the Congressional Record, 40 gubernatorial proclamations, more than 100 local ordinances or proclamations, and 50 ICC Chapter resolutions. There were more than 30 BSM sponsors for this year's national campaign and increased participation in activities.



- ICC Members Gilbert Gonzales, Karl Mott, Lon Christensen and Gary Hoglund join Utah Governor Gary Herbert in a signing ceremony of Utah's Building Safety Month Proclamation.



- David Miller, FEMA's Associate Administrator for the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration (FIMA) presents to Stephen D. Jones, President of the ICC Board of Directors, and ICC CEO Dominic Sims, a signed Presidential Proclamation declaring May Building Safety Month.

The Coalition for Current Safety Codes

The Coalition for Current Safety Codes has 525 members representing code officials, jurisdictions, corporations, associations, private individuals and others. The Coalition—Co-chaired by the ICC and National Fire Protection Association, and working in collaboration with the National Electrical Manufacturers Association Task Force on Code Adoptions—has been working around the country supporting the regular update of construction and safety regulations to current model codes and standards.

Roundtables

ICC addressed several complex issues this year by hosting roundtables organized and managed by Government Relations. The roundtables addressed fires in buildings under construction, the code adoption cycles used by jurisdictions to update safety regulations and lack of indoor plumbing in the U.S.

ICC High School Technical Training Program

Over the past three years, ICC has supported and advocated vocational education for a skilled workforce to support the building trades and housing industry. The American Gas Association became a sponsor this year. A student TV program, “Construction Kids,” shows proper window installation in compliance with the *International Residential Code*. They do it to code, meaning they do it right. The TV show also discusses how the high school training program helps students find a career. Several articles providing updates and stories about the program have been published in ICC’s *Building Safety Journal Online*. Visit the webpage for more information: www.iccsafe.org/HSTTP.

Firefighters Guide to Using the IFC

ICC collaborated with the National Volunteer Fire Council on the development of a Guide funded with a Fire Prevention and Safety Grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The Guide provides a simple overview of the *International Fire Code* and the ICC Governmental Consensus Process for code development.



- Mayor Michael Bloomberg in one of his final actions in office signing the update to the NYC Construction Codes to the 2009 I-Codes which includes the IBC, IPC, IMC, and IFGC. Also in the picture are DOB Commissioner Robert LiMandri and Housing and Buildings Chairman Erik Martin Dilan.



Sara C. Yerkes

■ Sara Yerkes
Senior Vice President