

Evaluation Committee Meetings Produce Positive Results

The ICC-ES Evaluation Committee meetings from October 10–12 in Birmingham, Alabama, produced positive results for several acceptance criteria items on the agenda. With discussions covering a wide range of topics, from new criteria for spray-applied foam plastic insulation, to the ongoing discussion about metal roof coverings, the Evaluation Committee, ICC-ES staff and interested parties worked diligently to resolve criteria issues.

Thirty-two separate items were considered by the ICC-ES Evaluation Committee at the three-day meeting, of which seven new acceptance criteria and 18 revised criteria were approved. Particular items of interest include:

AC322—Prefabricated, Cold-formed, Steel Lateral-force-resisting Vertical Assemblies. This ground-breaking criteria provides guidelines for testing and assignment of design loads and deflections, and provides a means to categorize the products as substitution components for use in a seismic-force-resisting, code-specified system for the purpose of assigning equivalent seismic design coefficients and factors. The criteria applies to prefabricated, cold-formed steel, load-bearing wall assemblies used in conjunction with light-frame wood construction to resist lateral and (when included in the testing and analysis) vertical and transverse loads. The criteria took approximately two years to complete and is the result of a significant effort on the part of product manufacturers, ICC-ES staff and other interested parties.

AC353—Stay-in-place, Foam Plastic Insulating concrete Form (ICF) Systems for Solid Concrete Walls. This new criteria applies to flat and waffle-grid, solid-wall ICF systems used in both combustible and noncombustible construction, and characterizes the requirements for the foam plastic forms and for the plastic and metal ties that are used to attach wall coverings. ICC-ES staff worked closely with the Insulating Concrete Form Association to develop this document. Work on a proposed acceptance criteria for post-and-beam-type ICF is ongoing.

AC51—Precast Stone Veneer. Although the revisions approved by the Evaluation Committee were only for clarification of the current criteria, there has been a significant increase in the number of evaluation reports for this product, and industry has offered to work with staff to bring further improvements to the criteria.

AC101—Grease Duct Enclosure Systems. The Evaluation Committee concurred with staff's proposal to establish January 1, 2009, as the date by which grease duct enclosure systems recognized in legacy evaluation reports must comply with AC101, ASTM E 2336 or UL 2221.

AC257—Corrosion-resistant Fasteners and Evaluation of Corrosion Effects of Wood Treatment Chemicals. Revisions to the acceptance criteria were approved to provide a means to evaluate the corrosion effects of wood treatment chemicals. An ad-hoc industry group, with ICC-ES staff participation, met at various venues over the last two years to give staff the input needed to prepare the document that was presented to the Evaluation Committee.