Code Connection

Update on 2006 ICC Code Changes

New building code regulations could be heading your way as early as this year!

by WTCA Staff

The International Code Council (ICC) is in full swing with another year of code work, most notably, the release of its newest edition. Here is a look at what component manufacturers and the industry at large should expect in the next year.

The ICC will release the 2006 editions of the I-Codes this year. These may even be adopted by some local jurisdictions in 2006 or early 2007. To give you an idea of the widespread adoption of these codes within the United States, the ICC web site (www.iccsafe.org) listed the following statistics regarding state code adoptions:

- 45 states plus Washington, DC use the International Building Code
- 45 states plus Washington, DC use the International Residential Code
- 39 states plus Washington, DC use the International Fire Code

The shear number of code change submittals proposed by various parties for the new 2006 edition is overwhelming; over 2,000 code changes were submitted and reviewed by the various ICC code committees! The following are a few of the significant changes to the International Residential Code (**IRC**) and the International Building Code (**IBC**) that will impact the structural building components industry. A number of these changes were proposed by a working group consisting of members of the Truss Plate Institute (TPI) and the Wood Truss Council of America (WTCA).

Accepted Code Change S14-03/04: The code change submitted by TPI and WTCA on the interpretation and implementation of live and dead loads on the bottom chord of roof trusses will be implemented in both **IRC** Table R301.5 and IBC Table 1607.1. (See the August 2004 issue of ***SBC Magazine***.)

Impact on Manufacturers: This change clarifies when the non-storage load of 10 psf is applied and that it need not be assumed to be acting concurrently with any other live loads. Also, it clarifies when and how the storage load of 20 psf is applied. It details that storage loads do not need to be applied to scissors truss bottom chords with slopes greater than 2 on 12 and also where adjacent trusses do not have the same web configuration. Finally, the adjacent trusses must be capable of containing a rectangle 42 inches (1067 mm) high by two feet (610 mm) wide, or greater, located within the plane of the truss.

Accepted Code Change S165-04/05: The code change submitted by WTCA modifying **IBC** Section 2303.4 regarding metal plate connected wood trusses will be implemented.

Impact on Manufacturers: This change clarifies that a truss placement diagram is not typically an engineered document and does not require sealing. It also clarifies the importance of permanent bracing. (See the January/February issue of ***SBC Magazine.***)

Change: A code change submitted by WTCA provides equity with the light gauge steel prescriptive provisions and is accepted in section R802.10.2.1 of the **IRC**.

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at a glance

- 45 states plus Washington, DC use the International Residential Code.
- A few changes to the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Residential Code (IRC) will impact manufacturers.
- The first eighteen month code change cycle for the 2009 edition begins with the March 24, 2006 submission deadline.

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Impact on Manufacturers: This change allows trusses to be designed using 0.7 times the ground snow (pg) as the roof design snow load within the following applicability limits:

> R802.10.2.1 Applicability limits. The provisions of this section shall control the design of Truss roof framing when snow controls for buildings not greater than 60 feet (18 288 mm) in length perpendicular to the joist, rafter or truss span, not greater than 36 feet (10 973 mm) in width parallel to the joist span or truss, not greater than two stories in height with each story not greater than 10 feet (3048 mm) high, and roof slopes not smaller than 3:12 (25-percent slope) or greater than 12:12 (100-percent slope). Truss roof framing constructed in accordance with the provisions of this section shall be limited to sites subjected to a maximum design wind speed of 110 miles per hour (209 km/h) Exposure A, B or C and a maximum ground snow load of 70 psf (3.35 kN/m2). Roof snow load is to be computed as: 0.7pg.

Change: Both the **IRC** and **IBC** 2006 will continue to reference ANSI/TPI 1-2002.

Impact on Manufacturers: There will be no changes to the third party inspection or quality control requirements as currently required by the **IRC** and **IBC** 2003.

Change: Both the **IRC** and **IBC** 2006 will reference ASCE/SEI 7-05, Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures.

Impact on Manufacturers: For the structural component industry, the primary impact will be on roof and floor truss design for commercial and other structures that fall within outside the scope of the **IRC** which covers one- and two-family dwellings.

a. A number of significant changes will impact roof truss design:
   i. Snow drifting across gable/hip ridges (unbalanced snow load consideration) has been revised and in most cases its impact is reduced. Even though not explicitly required by the **IRC**, unbalanced snow loading is typically considered for trusses, where snow loading controls design, regardless of whether the structure is within the scope of the **IBC** or **IRC**.
   ii. Roof live and concentrated loads are now included in Table 4-1 and include the consideration of a separate load case for a 300-lb concentrated load on "All roof surfaces subject to maintenance workers." This is applicable to structures within the scope of the **IBC**, since the **IRC** roof loading requirements were not revised.
   iii. For roof members exposed to a work floor, the concentrated load consideration of 200 lbs. has been raised to 300 lbs. It will still be considered at each panel point separately. This consideration is only applicable to structures within the scope of the **IBC**.
b. One will impact floor truss design. The current partition load of 20 psf is reduced to 15 psf as appropriate for structures within the scope of the **IBC**.
c. Changes made to the determination of the exposure category for wind or snow could impact structures regardless of whether the structure is within the scope of the **IRC** or **IBC**. (This determination is a Building Designer or code official concern.)
d. Significant changes have been made to the seismic requirements. Since seismic design impacts the structure (rather than either roof or floor trusses directly), these changes will have the greatest impact on building design. The impact will be on any structure regardless of whether the structure is within the scope of the **IBC** or **IRC**, if engineered design is required.

The primary news regarding the International Fire Code (IFC) is that a truss labeling provision proposed during the 2004/2005 code change cycle was summarily defeated.

As new editions of the ICC are released every three years, the first eighteen month code change cycle for the 2009 edition begins with the March 24, 2006 submission deadline for code change proposals and a scheduled code development hearing date of September 20-30, 2006. SBC

For more information about how to get involved in the code process, contact WTCA staff at 608/274-4849 or codes@woodtruss.com.

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