

Understanding the ICC Model Building Code Development Process

Foam plastic insulation is a state-of-the-art building material that plays a critical role in making buildings highly energy efficient while also satisfying fire safety standards. The fire safety standards in today's building codes govern the use of foam insulation and are based on decades of experience, careful analysis, extensive testing and an inclusive public code development process managed by the International Code Council (ICC). The ICC publishes and maintains a family of model codes that provide minimum safeguards for people at home, at school and in the workplace.

The Code Development Process



- The ICC model code development process is based on the principles of openness, transparency, due process and consensus.
- The ICC process draws on an array of experts, including architects, builders, building code officials, contractors, building owners and government officials, as well as experts from industry, academia and product testing organizations.
- The ICC updates its model codes every three years.
- The ICC codes benefit public safety and support the need for regional building code consistency.
- Fifty states, the District of Columbia, multiple federal agencies and an increasing number of countries around the world use the ICC codes.

What Happens in Each Step of the Code Development Process?



The ICC Codes include:

- International Building Code
- International Energy Conservation Code
- International Existing Building Code
- International Fire Code
- International Fuel Gas Code
- International Green Construction Code
- International Mechanical Code
- ICC Performance Code
- International Plumbing Code
- International Private Sewage Disposal Code
- International Property Maintenance Code
- International Residential Code
- International Swimming Pool and Spa Code
- International Wildland Urban Interface Code
- International Zoning Code

References

ICC. Council Policy CP #28-05 CODE DEVELOPMENT. <http://www.iccsafe.org/AboutICC/Documents/CP28-05.pdf>. Approved: 9/24/05. Revised: 9/28/13.
ICC Code Development Procedures. <http://www.iccsafe.org/CS/CODES/Pages/procedures.aspx>.

More detailed information on the ICC code development process is available on the ICC website at <http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/codes/Documents/misc/CodeDevelopmentProcess.pdf>.

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