

## Minutes for Code Forum Meeting April 14, 2009

1. Security and deadbolts. What is considered one locking or unlocking action. Does someone have info from Doug Thornberg?
  - *Discussion concluded most understand the requirements of IBC 1008.1.8.4 **Bolt Locks**.*
  - *Door latching/locking hardware should be on the plans and should always be checked at plan review.*
2. Grease duct testing – procedure, light bulb wattage. What is acceptable on the joints? What is looked at to conduct a proper inspection? Make-up air temperature? I think this is a Brent U question.
  - *Light bulb test is to be performed using a minimum 100 watt light bulb, emitting light all direction, passing through the entire length of duct. Testing to verify all joints are liquid tight. IMC 506.3.3.1*
  - *All welds should be inspected with all joints and seams constructed so grease cannot collect or pool inside the duct. Gasketed, bolted connections are allowed only at the duct connection to the hood and to the fan, with all other joints welded or brazed. IMC 506.3.7, 506.3.2.2, 506.3.2.3*
3. Energy code requirements for insulation/thermal isolation of floor slab. Brent Ursenbach
  - *Floor slabs must include thermal isolation of the floor slab from the exposed foundation.*
  - *Two Handouts provided:*  
[www.energycodes.gov/support/slab\\_faq.stm](http://www.energycodes.gov/support/slab_faq.stm)  
[www.energycodesform.com/design.htm](http://www.energycodesform.com/design.htm) (see general details)
4. As a follow up, how is everyone doing with requiring duct design and heat loss calculation submittals?
  - *Several Jurisdictions along the Wasatch Front are enforcing now, with a number of starting the first of July.*
  - *Please contact Brent Ursenbach at [bursenbach@yahoo.com](mailto:bursenbach@yahoo.com) or [bursenbach@slco.org](mailto:bursenbach@slco.org) and let him know the status of your jurisdiction. He will provide a count next time.*
5. Flammable wall finishes are allowed in type I and type II buildings as per IBC section #803.4. Does applying the flammable surface directly to the studs without fir strips meet the requirements of section #803.4.1 for Direct Attachment? Chapter 6, Section 603 appears to confuse the issue?
  - *Each application must be individually evaluated. See IBC 603, 803 and 717 as directed in 803.4.1. Also IMC 602 for plenums*

- *General statement made to note the flame spread index and smoke development index requirements for the application.*
6. Type B Units are not required when a one story house has a finished basement. See attachment from the Commentary.
    - *That is correct: 1107.7.2 Multistory units.* A multistory dwelling or sleeping unit which is not provided with elevator service is not required to be a Type B unit.
  7. How many Type A units are required if more than one class of apartment is provided in the site and what is considered an existing structure?
    - *Discussion on how Type A units provide are often the smaller or least expensive unit type when there are multiple unit types in the project. The Courts may push this to where each type unit must be provided.*
    - *General opinion is that if a project is built in phases, with each phase being completed before the next phase is started- the previous phase is considered existing when the new phase is submitted.*
  8. When one property being built under the IRC impacts another what are municipalities using to check those infringements and damages?
    - *Some have adopted the 1997 Uniform Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings and use it to declare a site dangerous or a public nuisance.*
    - *If not addressed by Code or Ordinance, it may require civil action by the damaged party.*
  9. Is all area within an amusement park to be classified as A-5 simply because it's used for lounging and eating when not using the slides or rides? See Commentary attachment. The commentary says in the explanation to IBC section 2901.1 that if using the unisex bathroom fixtures to meet the minimum requirements of Table 2902.1 those fixtures may be applied to only one gender's minimum requirements.
    - *Question appeared to revolve around how to count occupants at a water park. Concluded it probably is simplest to accept the Heath Dept. occupant load*
  10. IRC R312 calls out the requirement for guards on porches, balconies, ramps, or raised floor surfaces located more than 30 inches above the floor or grade below. Traditionally we have measured grade for this application as being the lowest surface within 3 feet of the floor or walking surface above and have thought this to be pretty uniform throughout the valley. (In measuring this drop we have included window wells, stair wells and the like, measuring to the lowest part of the well or other surfaces within three feet.)
    - *Most are using the 3'.*
  11. Have other municipalities been using a general standard for small rooms or closets to determine if the door to that room is intended to be an egress door or just a cabinet door or otherwise? If not do you require that the room and the door

meet all requirements of turn space, maneuvering clearances, latching/locking and approach as required in the code?.

- *Closets are not considered to be habitable. Look at definitions for habitable. This is a judgment call you'll have to make if you have a 20' X 20' storage room. What is stored in the room?*

*Please send corrections, additional comments or items for discussion next month to Brent Ursenbach. (see e-mail addresses above)*