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July 26, 2010

TO: PARTIES INTERESTED IN EVALUATION REPORTS AND NEWER EDITIONS OF DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS

SUBJECT: Policy Concerning the Acceptance of Newer Editions of Design Specifications, Subject MISC1-0610-R1 (GGN/MB)

Dear Madam or Sir:

The subject miscellaneous item was approved by the ICC-ES Evaluation Committee on June 16, 2010, effective July 1, 2010.

In approving this miscellaneous item, the ICC-ES Evaluation Committee has adopted a policy that was recommended by ICC-ES staff that allows for the acceptance of newer editions of design specifications, before they are formally adopted into the I-Codes. Additionally, the ICC-ES Evaluation Committee extended the policy to include newer editions of material standards and test standards.

The use of newer editions of design specifications, material standards and test standards by applicants and report holders will be acceptable as they are referenced in applicable ICC-ES acceptance criteria. General points on how the process will work are as follows:

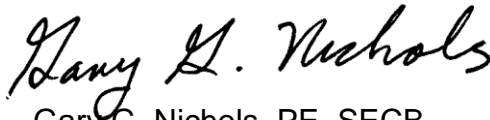
1. The recognition of any newer edition of a design specification, material standard or test standard in ICC-ES acceptance criteria must be done through our public hearing process so that the public and the Evaluation Committee can discuss any concerns.
2. Differences between the newer edition of the design specification, material standard or test standard and the edition recognized in the code are to be provided by the applicant or report holder (or by ICC-ES staff in cases where the change in the criteria is initiated by staff). The analysis should identify the technical changes in the newer editions, and the reasons for the changes, and provide a comparison between the editions. The analysis should also verify the compatibility of documents referenced in the acceptance criteria to determine that they will work together.
3. Recognition of any new design specifications, material standards and test standards by ICC-ES, by incorporation into an acceptance criteria, is limited to products addressed by that criteria and to the portions of the design specification, material standard or test standard applicable to that criteria. In other words, recognition of a

new design specification, material standard or test standard in one criteria does not imply general recognition of that document by ICC-ES. Any recognition of the newer edition outside of a specific acceptance criteria in which it is recognized must first be approved by the Evaluation Committee.

4. The code-referenced edition of the design specification, material standard or test standard will remain referenced in the acceptance criteria, as well as any newer edition the Evaluation Committee might deem acceptable, so that the applicant or report holder has a choice between editions. However, once the option exists, staff intends that:
 - a. The complete design of any product must be based on only one of the editions. For example, in the case of a design specification, all limit states of a given product design must be based on only one edition of a design specification.
 - b. All products within an evaluation report must conform to one edition of the applicable design specification, material standard or test standard. The edition of the design specification, material standard and test standard will be identified in the evaluation report.

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (800) 423-6587, extension 5684, or Michael Beaton, Senior Vice President, at extension 3289. You may also reach us by e-mail at es@icc-es.org.

Yours very truly,



Gary G. Nichols, PE, SECB
Vice-President

GGN/raf

Enclosures

cc: Evaluation Committee