This list is a compilation of 2015 Cycle code changes related to the above CTC Area of Study.

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1009.8 Two-way communication. *

Where elevators are provided as part of an accessible means of egress, a two-way communication system complying with Sections 1009.8.1 and 1009.8.2 shall be provided at the landing serving each elevator or bank of elevators on each accessible floor that is one or more stories above or below the level of exit discharge.

Exceptions:

1. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landing serving each elevator or bank of elevators where the two-way communication system is provided within areas of refuge in accordance with Section 1009.6.5.
2. Two-way communication systems are not required on floors provided with ramps conforming to the provisions of Section 1012.
3. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landings serving only service elevators that are not designated as part of the accessible means of egress or serve as part of the required accessible route into a facility.
4. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landings serving only freight elevators.
5. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landing serving a private residence elevator.

Reason: Current code requires two-way communication for elevator landings in all buildings two stories or greater, regardless of the design for accessible means of egress. This proposal attempts to tie the requirement for two-way communication to only serve when elevators are provided as a part of the accessible egress.

Section 1009.2.1 only requires elevators to be part of the accessible means of egress when the building has a required accessible floor that is four or more stories above or below the level of exit discharge. In buildings that are less than these limits, the accessible means of egress may be provided by other means, such as stairs, ramps, and other components permitted by Section 1009.2, such that any elevators in such a building are not required to be constructed in accordance with Section 1009.4. Due to the standby requirements in Section 1009.4, designers may choose to not provide accessible egress via the elevator, when permitted to by Section 1009.2.1, instead designing the accessible egress via other components. There is concern that placing the two-way communication in every elevator will lead occupants away from the actual means of egress.

This change is intended to associate the elevator two-way communication system from 1009.8 to elevators that are constructed in accordance with Section 1009.4 to be a part of the accessible route, where such accessible elevators are either required by Section 1009.2.1, and optioned by the designer in accordance with Section 1009.2.

Cost Impact: Will not increase the cost of construction

This proposal will not increase the cost of construction as the proposal may lead to less installations of two-way communication systems.
1009.8 (IFC[BE] 1009.8)

Proponent: Edward Kulik, Chair, representing Building Code Action Committee (bcac@iccsafe.org)

2015 International Building Code

Revise as follows:

1009.8 Two-way communication. A two-way communication system complying with Sections 1009.8.1 and 1009.8.2 shall be provided at each landing serving each elevator or bank of elevators on each required by Section 1009.2.1 to serve as part of the accessible means of egress.

Exceptions:

1. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landing serving each elevator or bank of elevators where the two-way communication system is provided within areas of refuge in accordance with Section 1009.6.5.
2. Two-way communication systems are not required on floors provided with ramps conforming to the provisions of Section 1012.
3. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landings serving only service elevators that are not designated as part of the accessible means of egress or serve as part of the required accessible route into a facility.
4. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landings serving only freight elevators.
5. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landing serving a private residence elevator.

Reason: This public proposal is submitted by the ICC Building Code Action Committee (BCAC). The BCAC was established by the ICC Board of Directors to pursue opportunities to improve and enhance an assigned International Code or portion thereof. This includes both the technical aspects of the codes as well as the code content in terms of scope and application of referenced standards. Since its inception in July, 2011, the BCAC has held 13 open meetings and numerous workgroup calls which included members of the BCAC as well as any interested party to discuss and debate the proposed changes and the public comments. Related documentation and reports are posted on the BCAC website at: http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/BCAC/Pages/default.aspx.

Code proposal does not change the existing requirements in the Code. Some users of the Code have interpreted that the literal text of Section 1009.8 also applies to any floor that is accessible to the handicap because the elevator(s) has been provided for convenience of the occupants of the building, even though it was not required by Section 1009.2.1.

If the elevators are required to be an accessible means of egress under Section 1009.2.1, then the additional elevator requirements under Section 1009.4 are also required (i.e. special emergency operation and signaling per ASME A17.1, standby power, and accessed from an area of refuge). Because of these extra life safety design features for the handicap for such elevators being a required accessible means of egress under the Code, the requirement for two-way communication is also required for their elevator landings on the floor.

However, there are buildings with elevators that are accessible to the handicap because they have elevators, but such elevators are not required accessible means of egress under Section 1009.2.1. As such, the elevator landings are not required to comply with the additional requirements under Section 1009.4. Providing two-way communications at such elevator landing that are not required to meet the requirements for a required accessible means of egress makes no sense and would provide a false sense of security.

In summary, this code proposal is only intended as a clarification of the existing requirement for placement of two-way communication at elevators landings that are required by the Code to be a required accessible means of egress.

Cost Impact: Will not increase the cost of construction
Clarification of the existing code requirement. Therefore, could be a cost saving.
1009.8; (IFC[BE] 1009.8)

Proponent: Masoud Sabounchi, Representing Colorado Chapter of ICC, representing masoud sabounchi (masoud@acecode.com)

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1009.8 Two-way communication. A two-way communication system complying with Sections 1009.8.1 and 1009.8.2 shall be provided at the landing serving each elevator or bank of elevators on each accessible floor that is one or more stories above or below the level of exit discharge.

Exceptions:
1. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landing serving each elevator or bank of elevators where the two-way communication system is provided within areas of refuge in accordance with Section 1009.6.5.
2. Two-way communication systems are not required on floors provided with ramps conforming to the provisions of Section 1012.
3. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landings serving only service elevators that are not designated as part of the accessible means of egress or serve as part of the required accessible route into a facility.
4. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landings serving only freight elevators.
5. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landing serving a private residence elevator.
6. Two-way communication systems are not required in Group I-2 Condition 2 occupancies.

Reason: Group I-2 Condition 2 includes facilities that provide nursing and medical care on a 24 hour basis. These facilities have life-safety and fire protection system as well as staffing that allow defend in place emergency procedures. Providing 2-way communication at elevator landings in a hospital building and having physically challenged individuals go to an elevator lobby/landing and wait for evacuation by emergency responders creates conflict with the emergency evacuation plan of the facility where occupants are relocated from one smoke compartment to another.

Cost Impact: Will not increase the cost of construction
This proposal will not increase cost of construction
E 45-15
1009.8; (IFC[BE] 1009.8)

Proponent: John Williams, CBO, CBO, Chair Adhoc Healthcare Committee, representing Adhoc Health Care Committee (AHC@iccsafe.org); Carl Baldassarra, P.E., FSFPE, Chair, Code Technology Committee, representing Code Technology Committee (CTC@iccsafe.org)

2015 International Building Code
Revise as follows:

1009.8 Two-way communication. A two-way communication system complying with Sections 1009.8.1 and 1009.8.2 shall be provided at the landing serving each elevator or bank of elevators on each accessible floor that is one or more stories above or below the level of exit discharge.

Exceptions:
1. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landing serving each elevator or bank of elevators where the two-way communication system is provided within areas of refuge in accordance with Section 1009.6.5.
2. Two-way communication systems are not required on floors provided with ramps conforming to the provisions of Section 1012.
3. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landings serving only service elevators that are not designated as part of the accessible means of egress or serve as part of the required accessible route into a facility.
4. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landings serving only freight elevators.
5. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landing serving a private residence elevator.
6. Two-way communication systems are not required in Group I-2 facilities.

Reason: It is important to note that this is not the two way communication system typically utilized by the fire department. That system is defined in the IFC and will remain as required. A two way communication system is part of accessible means of egress and required to allow for persons with disabilities to contact emergency responders. In Group I-2 facilities the strategy for emergencies is defend in place, with trained staff. Most of the patients will be considered persons with disabilities, and their safety will be addressed through the fire and safety evacuation plans with staff assistance. Therefore, the need for the two way communication system is addressed by an alternative means and would not be used in these types of facilities. Since this was not added to the code in 2009, deleting this issue would not be conflict with what is referenced in the 2010 ADA Standard for Accessible Design. This system could also be confused as being used for medical emergencies or as a general information phone.

Cost Impact: Will not increase the cost of construction
The deletion of two way communication system will be a saving in initial construction and maintenance/monitoring of the system.
E 46-15

1009.8; (IFC[BE] 1009.8)

Proponent: Robert Davidson, Davidson Code Concepts, LLC, representing Davidson Code Concepts, LLC (rjd@davidsoncodeconcepts.com)

2015 International Building Code

Revise as follows:

1009.8 Two-way communication. A two-way communication system complying with Sections 1009.8.1 and 1009.8.2 shall be provided at the landing serving each elevator or bank of elevators on each accessible floor that is one or more stories above or below the level of exit discharge.

Exceptions:

1. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landing serving each elevator or bank of elevators where the two-way communication system is provided within areas of refuge in accordance with Section 1009.6.5.
2. Two-way communication systems are not required on floors provided with ramps conforming to the provisions of Section 1012.
3. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landings serving only service elevators that are not designated as part of the accessible means of egress or serve as part of the required accessible route into a facility.
4. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landings serving only freight elevators.
5. Two-way communication systems are not required at the landing serving a private residence elevator.
6. Two-way communication systems are not required in Group I-3 facilities.

Reason: It is important to note that this is not the two way communication system typically utilized by the fire department. That system is defined in the IFC and will remain as required. A two way communication system is part of accessible means of egress and required to allow for persons with disabilities to contact emergency responders. In Group I-3 facilities the strategy for emergencies is defend in place, with trained staff. Therefore, the need for the two way communication system is addressed by an alternative means and would not be used in these types of facilities. There is also a high chance of vandalism in these facilities. Since this was not added to the code in 2009, deleting this issue would not be conflict with what is referenced in the 2010 ADA Standard for Accessible Design.

Cost Impact: Will not increase the cost of construction
The deletion of two way communication system will be a saving in initial construction and maintenance/monitoring of the system.
202 (New),

Proponent: Theresa Weston, DuPont Building Innovations, representing DuPont Building Innovations (theresa.a.weston@usa.dupont.com)

THIS PROPOSAL WILL BE HEARD BY THE FIRE SAFETY COMMITTEE. PLEASE SEE THE TENTATIVE HEARING ORDER FOR THE FS COMMITTEE.

2015 International Building Code
Add new definition as follows:

SECTION 202 DEFINITIONS

COMBUSTIBLE  Any material not defined as noncombustible.

NONCOMBUSTIBLE  Elementary or composite materials that are not capable of undergoing combustion under specified conditions.

Reason: This proposal adds two needed definitions to the code. There is significant confusion in the industry on how to define combustible and noncombustible materials. The proposed language was developed by considering the testing requirements in Section 703.5 and the definition in ASTM E176 Terminology of Fire Standards.

Cost Impact: Will not increase the cost of construction
The proposal adds clarity through definitions only, and does not change code requirements.