ICC, a membership association dedicated to building safety and fire prevention, develops the codes used to construct residential and commercial buildings, including homes and schools.

AIA is the leading professional membership association for licensed architects, emerging professionals, and allied partners since 1857.

ASTM International is one of the largest voluntary standards development organizations in the world—a trusted source for technical standards for materials, products, systems, and services.

**COOPERATING SPONSORS**

"Congratulations on taking such an important step to ensure the creation of such a code system. We are pleased to support this effort in any way possible."

Richard Fedrizzi
President
US Green Building Council

"The Green Building Initiative commends the ICC on its intentions to move forward with the creation of a green code to address commercial buildings."

Ward Hubbell
President
Green Building Initiative

"Stay informed with our progress! Visit www.iccsafe.org/IGCC for all the latest information and multimedia resources on IGCC."

**CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS OFFICE**
500 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Sixth Floor
Washington, DC 20001
202.370.1800 | 202.783.2348 Fax

**LOS ANGELES BUSINESS/REGIONAL OFFICE**
5360 Workman Mill Road
Whittier, CA 90601
562.699.0543 | 562.695.4694 Fax

**CHICAGO REGIONAL OFFICE**
4051 W. Flosmoor Road
Country Club Hills, IL 60478
708.799.2305 | 708.799.0310 Fax

**BIRMINGHAM REGIONAL OFFICE**
900 Montclair Road, Suite A
Birmingham, AL 35213
205.599.9800 | 205.599.9850 Fax

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IgCC: A NEW APPROACH FOR SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION

The International Code Council (ICC), American Institute of Architects (AIA) and ASTM International (ASTM) are pleased to introduce the development of the world’s first international green construction code—the IgCC.

WHY DO WE NEED THE IGCC?

ICC, AIA and ASTM are creating the IgCC because we are committed to reducing energy usage and the carbon footprint of new and existing commercial buildings. Buildings consume approximately 40 percent of energy used and produce about the same amount of the nation’s carbon emissions.

The development of a code occurs when there is a clear need indicated from regulators and others in the construction and enforcement communities. In the case of the IgCC, there has been an increasing call for a “green” code that is clear and enforceable. We have heard this not only from our members in local and state government, but from stakeholders across the industry. Indeed, many US jurisdictions are actively seeking a solution that only an enforceable code can provide. A draft code will be available in March 2010 and the first edition of the IgCC will be available in Spring 2012.

IGCC will provide the necessary mechanisms and criteria so that jurisdictions can both provide a framework for sustainable design and development, as well as specific criteria that will measure compliance and drive green building into everyday practice. The end result will be safer and more energy efficient buildings. The IgCC provides an opportunity for code officials to demonstrate their necessary role in promoting a safe and sustainable built environment.

IGCC WILL BE:

- **Comprehensive**: The IgCC will apply to the construction of traditional and high performance buildings, structures, and systems, including alterations and additions.

- **Integrated**: The IgCC will be designed to coordinate and integrate with the health and safety features of existing I-Codes and will also be fully compatible and support existing rating systems such as LEED. Particular emphasis will be placed on integrating IgCC as a green construction code that will augment and complement ICC’s existing family of I-Codes. In particular, the IgCC will provide a step beyond existing administrative provisions in the I-Codes and respond to the desire of jurisdictions for a useful and enforceable regulatory framework for building designers, contractors, owners and inspectors.

- **Consensus Based**: ICC’s open, inclusive code development process ensures that key stakeholder voices will be heard throughout the process. Input will be sought from all disciplines that are all necessary to the success of IgCC, ranging from code officials, architects and standards experts to contractors, building owners, tradespersons and other experts.

- **Adaptable**: The IgCC will be a “model” code, requiring adoption by a governing jurisdiction before it becomes law. In this way, the model language can, if necessary, be adapted to address local conditions.

- **Enforceable**: The IgCC creates a regulatory framework for new and existing commercial and high performance buildings. Rating systems are not written in the form of enforceable codes, acting as optional approaches, such as awarding points based on the inclusion of certain design elements and other features. The assumption is that the combination and concentration of favored elements will result in a positive environmental impact. The IgCC will build on that foundation to ensure that measurable building performance and an adherence to building safety will be featured in the model code language.

IGCC DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

- **Sustainable Building Technology Committee meetings to develop draft code language**
- **First draft of IgCC complete**
- **Public Comment period commences**
- **Hearings to review comments**
- **Revised draft submitted for code development and final action hearings**

“We are now at a place in the evolution of the sustainability movement that requires the specificity, the reliability, and enforceability that only a code can bring. Through the work of our members and friends, this action will create a code that addresses both safety and sustainability.”

Rick Weiland
CEO
International Code Council