

**Ad Hoc Committee – Tall Wood Buildings  
Standards/Definitions Work Group  
Draft Code Change Proposal  
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**Developed:** 7/18/2017

**Revised:** xx/xx/17

**File name:** Section 202 – Noncombustible Protection (For Mass Timber)

The following is a draft code change proposal that has been developed by the Standards/Definitions Work Group (WG) of the Ad Hoc Committee on Tall Wood Buildings (TWB). This draft proposal has been reviewed by the TWB Committee and is posted for information and comments. Please direct comments to the Chair of the WG: Jonathan Humble at [jhumble@steel.org](mailto:jhumble@steel.org). **This is a draft only and is subject to change prior to submittal to cdpACCESS by the January 8, 2018 deadline.**

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**IBC Chapter 2 - Definitions**

**NONCOMBUSTIBLE PROTECTION (FOR MASS TIMBER):** Noncombustible material, in accordance with Section 703.5, designed to increase the fire-resistance rating and delay the combustion of mass timber.

*Reason: This new term has been created to respond to the need to have language which addresses the fire protection of mass timber. In this case, the mass timber is permitted to have its own fire-resistance rating (e.g. Mass Timber only) or have a fire resistance rating based on the fire resistance through a combination of the mass timber fire-resistance plus protection by non-combustible materials as defined in Section 703.5 (e.g. Additional materials that delay the combustion of mass timber, such as gypsum board). While it is not common to list a code section number within a definition it was felt necessary in this case to ensure that the user was able to understand the intent. The protection by a non-combustible material will act to “delay” the combustion of the Mass Timber. This term is designed to support related mass timber code change proposals that will be using this term which are being proposed for IBC Chapters 6 and 7.*

*The Code Council Board of Directors approved the establishment of an ad hoc committee for tall wood buildings in December/2015. The purpose of the ad hoc committee is to explore the science of tall wood buildings and to investigate the feasibility and take action on developing code changes for tall wood buildings. The committee is comprised of a balance of stakeholders with additional opportunities for interested parties to participate in the four Work Groups established by the TWB, namely: Code; Fire; Standards/Definitions; and Structural. For more information, be sure to visit the [TWB website](#).*

*Cost impact: No impact.*

***Informational Note: As a final submission to the ICC, this proposal is intended to be combined with another code change proposal whose subject is related to this definition.(e.g. Chapter 6 Types of Construction or Chapter 7 Fire and Smoke Protection Features.)***