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Important information from the Oregon Building Codes Division to local building departments.

News Updates – August 13, 2008

Permits Protect is getting a lift

The Permits Protect consumer awareness program provided by BCD is getting energized. PacWest has been contracted to put a new coat of paint on the program. BCD is still counting on their partners in industry and local government to make their public aware of the advantages of acquiring building permits and hiring licensed contractors. The updates to the Permits Protect program should make this easy. If you haven't had a chance to look at the changes to the **Permits Protect Web site** <http://www.Permitsprotect.info> lately, take a look and keep looking because it's only going to get better.

Electrical and Elevator Board recommends energizing electrical installations rule

At its meeting on July 24, the Electrical and Elevator Board reviewed and recommended for adoption a rule implementing HB 2475 (2007), which was codified as ORS 479.570(4). **The proposed rule** http://www.cbs.state.or.us/bcd/notices/info_public_mtgs/091608_HB2475_ph.pdf creates a standard process by which general supervising electricians can request electric utilities energize a completed electrical installation before the installation has been inspected by a local building official.

The authority allowing a supervisor to make a request has existed for some time, but the lack of standard process led to inconsistency and confusion. This rule remedies this by establishing a process that assures all parties; jurisdictions, utilities and contractors have the necessary information.

2008 Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code (OPSC) Errata

In the period between BCD submission of language for the OPSC to the publishers and the actual print version of the code, errors inevitably seep in. The errata provides corrections to the published code. The **new errata** http://www.cbs.state.or.us/bcd/programs/plumbing/2008_opsc/2008_errata_opsc.pdf is available for the 2008 OPSC, first edition. Contents of the errata include administrative rule corrections, pages that were inadvertently skipped by the publisher, and an updated IAPMO reference. Additionally, references to "gray water systems" were changed to "water reclamation systems" for clarity. The errata was approved on July 30, 2008. Please contact the Chief Plumbing Inspector, Terry Swisher at 503-373-4788 or at terry.l.swisher@state.or.us if you have any questions.

International Existing Building Code Introduced to Building Codes Structures Board

The Building Codes Division introduced the 2006 International Existing Building Code (IEBC) to the Building Codes Structures Board at its August 6, 2008 board meeting. The division hopes to have the IEBC with Oregon amendments in effect as a statewide alternate method to Chapter 34 of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC) effective October 1, 2008. The **draft alternate method and the Oregon amendments** http://www.cbs.state.or.us/external/bcd/boards/bcsb/board_pack/08/20080806/BCSB_080608_addition_to_IVa.pdf are available on the BCD Web site. The IEBC is a comprehensive code promulgated by the International Code Council that expands upon the provisions in OSSC Chapter 34 and regulates alterations, repairs, additions and changes of occupancy to existing buildings. The IEBC is intended to provide flexibility while ensuring public health and safety. The Building Codes Structures Board will be ruling on the scientific and technical facts of the IEBC alternate method at its upcoming meeting scheduled for September 4, 2008. If you have any questions or comments please contact Richard Rogers, Structural Program Chief at (503) 378-4472, or Richard.Rogers@state.or.us.

Regional Program Services

More regional forums coming soon

The Regional Program Services team is planning a regional forum near you. These forums are designed to provide information and promote collaborative problem solving for contractors, local building department staff, design professionals, and anyone else in the community interested in participating.

These regional forums are aimed to:

- Educate participants regarding code changes; facilitate contractor training
- Address region-specific code application issues
- Enhance BCD staff sensitivity to local issues
- Emphasize the value of a state-local partnership in code application
- Update participants on BCD's perspective on important issues

The first regional forum, recently conducted in southern Oregon focused on changes in the 2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code, renewable energy tax incentives, and "green" building design.

The regional services team plans the next forum in Central Oregon. The date will be announced in your next Local Building Department newsletter. Other regional forums are planned in the Northwest, Eastern and Mid-Valley/Coast regions.

Have ideas? **Contact your regional coordinator** http://www.cbs.state.or.us/bcd/employee_section.html#rps with suggestions for future topics.

E-permitting

Oregon eBuildingPermits is taking off

Drivers, start your engines! The Department of Consumer and Business Services, Building Codes Division has announced that it has signed a contract with Accela Inc. to customize software for the statewide e-permitting program, Oregon eBuildingPermits. The project team

will be converting **Quick Permits** <http://www.buildingpermits.oregon.gov> to the new system during the spring of 2009. Jurisdictions already using Quick Permits will see a new look to the Web site. The cities of Eugene and Springfield will serve as test jurisdictions for the new system in 2009 with other cities and counties coming on board in 2010. Building Codes Division officials hope to see the new system in place in all Oregon jurisdictions by 2020.

Contact Gary Basin at 503-373-7159 or gary.p.basin@state.or.us to find out how this system will meet your IT needs.

BCD Events September, October 2008

http://www.bcd.oregon.gov/bldg_newsletter/webinar_signup_form.html

September 23 & 24: Oregon Electrical Specialty Code - Code Change Course

Board meetings September, October 2008

http://www.bcd.oregon.gov/public_notices.html

September 4: Building Codes Structures Board

September 9: Board of Boiler Rules

September 10: Mechanical Board

September 11: Manufactured Structures & Parks Advisory Board

September 25: Electrical and Elevator Board

October 1: Residential Structures Code

October 17: Oregon State Plumbing Board

Committee meetings and hearings

<http://www.bcd.oregon.gov/boards.html#committees>

September 16 – Rulemaking Hearings:

9:30 a.m. - HB 2475 electrical energizing installations rule

10:00 a.m. - Moisture content in construction materials

10:30 a.m. - OSSC mid-cycle code amendments

1:30 p.m. - Civil penalty matrix changes

2:00 p.m. - Electrical program assumption

Adopted Rules

http://www.bcd.oregon.gov/public_notices.html

Temporary Rule - Exemption from engineering requirements

Effective 7/25/08

Temporary Rule - Moisture content of wood framing members

Effective 7/3/08

Reciprocal License Requirements

Effective 7/1/08

Continuing Education Requirements for Boiler & Pressure Vessel Licenses

Effective 7/1/08

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