

**ICC Code Technology Committee
Areas of Study and Investigation
(As of May/2006)**

In accordance with Section 3.1 of CP #5, the ICC Board assigns the areas of study for the Code Technology Committee (CTC) to investigate. Based on the assigned areas of study, the CTC will establish an agenda and further define the effort.

BALANCED FIRE PROTECTION. The study of balanced fire protection includes an assessment of the appropriate amount of active (ie fire sprinkler) versus passive (ie rated compartments) requirements to be required by the code. In this regard, many proposals have been considered in past cycles to revise the height and area provisions as well as the level of fire sprinkler trade-offs. The scope of this activity would be an investigation of the requirements in the code and the establishment of a clearly defined scope of work for the CTC to consider. Depending on the scope of work, the effort may result in a long term activity. *Assigned May/2004*

CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS. Code changes submitted on the subject of carbon monoxide detectors received considerable debate in the 2003/2004 Code Development Cycle. Some of the changes were approved by the IRC B/E committee, with assembly motions subsequently passing to disapprove the changes. As a result, the IRC B/E committee passed a motion for a committee to be established to study this issue. *Assigned May/2004; Completed September/2005*

CHILD WINDOW SAFETY. Study the incidence and mechanisms of falls from open windows by children.

CLIMBABLE GUARDS. Code changes submitted on the subject of climbable guards received considerable debate during recent cycles. In the 2003/2004 Code Development Cycle, the IRC B/E Code Committee passed a motion for a committee to be established to study this issue. This issue is also becoming an issue at local adoption levels as well. *Assigned May/2004; First Report March/2006*

DAY CARE/ADULT CARE/ASSISTED LIVING. Key issues have been debated in recent cycles, including: Identification of the appropriate occupancies (R-4, I-4, I-1, I-2); thresholds in terms of number of occupants versus supervision; coordination with state laws; the necessary types of fire protection; and small group homes for both ambulatory and nonambulatory care in a residential environment. This is a significant societal issue that warrants investigation. *Assigned May/2004; First Report March/2006*

EMERGENCY EVACUATION WITH ELEVATORS. A symposium on elevator usage during emergencies was held in Atlanta from March 2 through 4, 2004, sponsored by ASME and co-sponsored by ICC, NIST, NFPA and IAFF (International Association of Fire Fighters). Papers were presented by international experts on two topics: 1) fire fighter use of elevators during emergencies for staging and assisted evacuation; and 2) evacuation of the general population of a high rise building during an emergency

situation. As a result of this effort, recommendations were made for improvements on both topics. Concerns for the special evacuation needs in high rise buildings, especially in dealing with persons with disabilities, is quickly becoming an issue that the codes need to address. These recommendations would serve as a starting point to continue the investigation under the CTC. *Assigned May/2004*

IBC COORDINATION WITH THE NEW ADAAG. The new edition of ADAAG was released by the Access Board to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in February, 2004. OMB recently completed their review and the new ADAAG is scheduled to be released to the public in late July/2004. The Department of Justice (DOJ) will determine when these guidelines will become law. As this effort progresses, code changes will need to be proposed to the ICC documents to address coordination issues. Coordination with the ADAAG has been a priority with ICC since the inception of the IBC. This activity is similar to the efforts of BCMC in the early 1990's which coordinated the legacy codes with the first requirements of the ADA. *Assigned May/2004*

REVIEW OF NIST WTC RECOMMENDATIONS. On June 23, 2005, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) issued a draft report entitled "Final Report of the National Construction Safety Team on the Collapses of the World Trade Center Towers (Draft)". As noted in Chapter 9 of the report, "NIST strongly urges that immediate and serious consideration be given to these recommendations by the building and fire safety communities – especially designers, owners, developers, codes and standards development organizations, regulators, fire safety professionals, and emergency responders." NIST has charged the National Institute of Building Science (NIBS) with the integration of the recommendations into the building process.

The CTC will work with the ICC Ad Hoc Committee on Terrorism Resistant Buildings (TRB) and NIBS in the review of the recommendations for consideration as possible code changes to the applicable I-Code(s). This review includes the prioritization of the recommendations to consider, with the investigation including a review of the supporting information documented in the report to determine the applicability of the recommendations to the building environment as regulated by the I-Codes. *Assigned September/2005; First Report March/2006*