Code Technology Committee  
Child Window Safety  
2012 & 2013 Cycle Changes to review for  
2015 & 2016 Cycle consideration

This list is a compilation of 2012/2013 Cycle code changes related to the above CTC Area of Study for which the final action was not consistent with CTC direction. These are compiled as a first step in the 2015 & 2016 Cycle for possible future code change submittals. It should be noted that there may be other code changes approved in the 2012/2013 Cycle which render the subject matter consistent with CTC direction. This will require further analysis to make such an assessment.

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**EB9 – 13**  
**602.3, 702.4 (NEW), 702.5 (NEW)**

**Proponent:** Carl Baldassarra, P.E., Chair, ICC Code Technology Committee  
(cbal@rjagroup.com)

**Revise as follows:**

**602.3 Glazing in hazardous locations.** Replacement glazing shall be as required for new installations. Replacement glazing in hazardous locations shall comply with the safety glazing requirements of the *International Building Code* or *International Residential Code* as applicable.

**Exception:** Glass block walls, louvered windows, and jalousies repaired with like materials.

**Add new text as follows:**

**702.4 Window opening control devices.** In Group R-2 or R-3 buildings containing dwelling units, window opening control devices complying with ASTM F2090 shall be installed where an existing window is replaced and where all the following apply to the replacement window:

1. The window is operable;
2. The window replacement includes replacement of the sash and the frame;
3. The top of the sill of the window opening is at a height less than 36 inches (915 mm) above the finished floor;
4. The window will permit openings that will allow passage of a 4-inch diameter (102 mm) sphere when the window is in its largest opened position; and
5. The vertical distance from the top of the sill of the window opening to the finished grade or other surface below, on the exterior of the building, is greater than 72 inches (1829 mm).

The window opening control device, after operation to release the control device allowing the window to fully open, shall not reduce the minimum net clear opening area of the window unit to less than the area required by the International Building Code.

**Exceptions:**
1. Operable windows where the top of the sill of the window opening is located more than 75 feet (22.86 m) above the finished grade or other surface below, on the exterior of the room, space or building, and that are provided with window fall prevention devices that comply with ASTM F 2006.

2. Operable windows with openings that are provided with window fall prevention devices that comply with ASTM F2090.

702.5 Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings. Where windows are required to provide emergency escape and rescue openings in Group R-2 and R-3 occupancies, replacement windows shall be exempt from the requirements of Sections 1029.2, 1029.3 and 1029.5 of the International Building Code provided the replacement window meets the following conditions:

1. The replacement window is the manufacturer’s largest standard size window that will fit within the existing frame or existing rough opening. The replacement window shall be permitted to be of the same operating style as the existing window or a style that provides for an equal or greater window opening area than the existing window.

2. The replacement of the window is not part of a change of occupancy.

Reason: This proposed change is a result of the CTC’s investigation of the area of study entitled “Child Window Safety”. The scope of the activity is noted as:

To evaluate the necessity of developing code proposals for the inclusion of requirements dealing with the conditions, circumstances and devices for window safety which could reduce the number of falls by children to surfaces below.

The purpose of this proposal is to coordinate the repair and alteration provisions of the IEBC with the changes approved to the IBC/IEBC in the 2012 Group A cycle. Code changes G225-12 and G227-12 were approved as modified by public comment to revise Section 3407 of the IBC (IEBC Section 406 – see below). In addition, Code change G201-12 last cycle removed the existing building provisions from Chapter 34 of the IBC in favor of a reference to the IEBC. This action was subsequently affirmed by the ICC Board as this was a code change related to I-Code scoping.

The IEBC includes 3 compliance methods for existing buildings:

- Prescriptive compliance per Chapter 4
- Work area compliance per Chapters 5 – 13
- Performance compliance per Chapter 14

As noted above, the prescriptive compliance provisions of Chapter 4 have been updated based on the approved code changes noted. Since there are no specific performance provisions in Chapter 14 for windows, this leaves the work area method of Chapters 5 – 13 in need of correlation. The correlation is as follows:

- Chapter 6 Repairs. The approved provisions in Chapter 4 of the IEBC only apply where the entire window is removed. As such, the provisions are not applicable to routine repairs such as the repair of a pane of broken glass. The revised text of Section 602.3 stipulates that only the glazing is required to comply with new construction requirements.
- Chapter 7 Alteration Level 1. In accordance with Section 503, an Alteration Level 1 is one where there is a removal or replacement of existing elements. This of and by itself may not be a complete replacement of the window frame and glass. As such, the proposed new text in Section702.4 triggers the application of the provisions where “an existing window is replaced”.
- Chapter 8 Alteration Level 2. This code change does not include language specifically dealing with Alteration Level 2 as the provisions proposed in Chapter 7 cover Level 2 alterations by virtue of the text of Section 801.2 which requires Level 2 alterations to comply with the requirements of Chapter 7 for Level 1.
- Chapter 9 Alteration Level 3. Similar to Chapter 8 noted above, this code change does not include language specifically dealing with Alteration Level 3 as the provisions proposed in Chapter 7 cover Level 3 alterations by virtue of the text of Section 901.2 which requires Level 3 alterations to comply with the requirements of Chapters 7 and 8.

For reference, the approved IEBC text is as follows:

IEBC SECTION 406
GLASS REPLACEMENT AND REPLACEMENT WINDOWS

406.1 Replacement glass. The installation or replacement of glass shall be as required for new installations.

406.2 Replacement Window Opening Control Devices. In Group R-2 or R-3 buildings containing dwelling units, window opening control devices complying with ASTM F2090 shall be installed where an existing window is replaced and where all the following apply to the replacement window:

1. The window is operable;
2. The window replacement includes replacement of the sash and the frame;
3. The top of the sill of the window opening is at a height less than 36 inches (915 mm) above the finished floor;
4. The window will permit openings that will allow passage of a 4-inch diameter (102 mm) sphere when the window is in its largest opened position; and
5. The vertical distance from the top of the sill of the window opening to the finished grade or other surface below, on the exterior of the building, is greater than 72 inches (1829 mm).

The window opening control device, after operation to release the control device allowing the window to fully open, shall not reduce the minimum net clear opening area of the window unit to less than the area required by Section 1029.2.

Exceptions:

1. Operable windows where the top of the sill of the window opening is located more than 75 feet (22.86 m) above the finished grade or other surface below, on the exterior of the room, space or building, and that are provided with window fall prevention devices that comply with ASTM F 2006.
2. Operable windows with openings that are provided with window fall prevention devices that comply with ASTM F2090.

406.3 Replacement Window Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings. Where windows are required to provide emergency escape and rescue openings in Group R-2 and R-3 occupancies, replacement windows shall be exempt from the requirements of Sections 1029.2, 1029.3 and 1029.5 provided the replacement window meets the following conditions:

1. The replacement window is the manufacturer’s largest standard size window that will fit within the existing frame or existing rough opening. The replacement window shall be permitted to be of the same operating style as the existing window or a style that provides for an equal or greater window opening area than the existing window.
2. The replacement of the window is not part of a change of occupancy.

This proposal is submitted by the ICC Code Technology Committee. The ICC Board established the ICC Code Technology Committee (CTC) as the venue to discuss contemporary code issues in a committee setting which provides the necessary time and flexibility to allow for full participation and input by any interested party. The code issues are assigned to the CTC by the ICC Board as “areas of study”. Information on the CTC, including: meeting agendas; minutes; reports; resource documents; presentations; and all other materials developed in conjunction with the CTC effort can be downloaded from the following website: http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/CTC/Pages/default.aspx. Since its inception in April/2005, the CTC has held twenty-five meetings - all open to the public. In 2012, three of the 25 face-to-face meetings were held. In addition to the CTC meetings, the CTC established Study Groups (SG) of interested parties for each of the areas of study. These SG’s are responsible for reviewing the available information and making recommendations to the CTC. All totaled, the SG’s held over 70 conference calls in 2012.

Cost Impact: This code change proposal will not increase the cost of construction.

EB9-13

Committee Action: Disapproved

Committee Reason: The proposal was disapproved as it was felt the modification to Section 602.3 was not necessary. There was also some concern that the rest of the proposal was already addressed in the IBC and was not necessary in the IEBC.

Assembly Action: None