

## The 2021 International Fuel Gas Code® *Why It Should Be In Your Future*

### FACTS

- The International Code Council (ICC) updates its construction and public safety codes every three years through a governmental consensus process.
- The International Fuel Gas Code® (IFGC®) is in use or adopted in 42 states, the District of Columbia, NYC, Guam, and Puerto Rico. Approximately 275 million people, or 82% of the U.S. population, live in areas that have adopted the IFGC.
- The IFGC is fully correlated with the other 14 International Codes® (I-Codes®). The IFGC has over 75 code sections that reference sections of code in other members of the International Code Family and in total there are over 140 IFGC cross-references among the suite of 15 I-Codes.



### CORRELATION

- The IFGC has 33 correlated sections with the International Building code® (IBC®); 9 in the International Plumbing Code® (IPC®); 24 in the International Mechanical Code® (IMC®); 5 in the International Energy Conservation Code® (IECC®) and 57 in the International Fire Code® (IFC®); all of which avoids conflict and over lapping requirements. Correlated cross-references impact life safety issues related to:
  - fire protection and life safety systems
  - detailed ventilation and exhaust requirements based on occupancy and use
  - fire and smoke protection features
  - allowable quantities of hazardous materials
  - means of egress
- Codes that correlate provide better public safety, better fire prevention, reduce design problems and reduce construction cost.
- A non-correlated code wastes not only staff resources but it will cause major conflicts and serious safety concerns upon completion of a project that can lead to substantial cost burdens.

- Code Correlation Committees analyze the entire family of codes. No other model codes go through any such strict study nor is there a committee that analyzes and compares the safety provisions of other codes in accordance to the International Codes.
- Severing the IFGC, or any other code from the body of I-Codes, could cause potential conflicts and technical safety provision lapses that would lead to losses in money, property and most importantly, public safety.
- The IFGC provides coverage on the installation of gaseous hydrogen systems, while also correlating with Chapters 53 and 58 of the International Fire Code.
- The IFGC provides guidance for compressed natural gas motor vehicle fuel dispensing facilities while correlating with the IFC. Code correlation is not just about proper numeration of sections. Consideration must be given to the inter-relationship between technical safety provisions.
- The IFGC correlates with the IECC and mandates compliance of its heating, ventilating and air-conditioning systems in all structures being designed for efficient utilization of energy in accordance with a nationally recognized energy code.
- The structural Safety requirements found in the IBC are included in the IFGC; this is a huge advantage to the code user.

## BENEFITS

- The IFGC does not allow fuel gas piping to penetrate the foundation walls when the piping is installed below grade. This prevents escaping fuel gas from an underground leak from traveling along the exterior surface of piping, through a foundation wall, and collecting within a structure; there have been incidents within the United States where fires or explosions have occurred as the result of a fuel gas leak that originated underground and made its way into the building.
- The IFGC allows the installation of gas fired clothes dryers in a residential bathroom or toilet room having a permanent opening of not less than 100 square inches that communicates with a space outside of the sleeping room, bathroom, toilet room, or storage closet. This provides an extra level of safety for these applications.
- The IFGC allows Schedule 10 steel pipe to be used for fuel gas service when joints are made using press-connect fittings, flanges, brazing or welding (threaded joints are not permitted). This results in a significant potential material cost savings.

### For more information, contact:

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