

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 9, 2021

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The International Code Council and Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources Partner to Create Tailored Building Energy Code for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

International Code Council and ASHRAE Collaborate to Provide Commonwealth with Targeted Base and Stretch Codes

Washington, D.C. – The International Code Council and ASHRAE have combined efforts to assist the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) in the publication of a base and stretch code entitled *2020 Massachusetts Energy Code*. The streamlined energy code is fully integrated – containing specific requirements designed to meet the needs of the commonwealth.

“Code officials and local government representatives together recognize the need for modern, updated building codes in the quest to achieve greater efficiency, resiliency and sustainability,” said Dominic Sims, CBO, CEO, International Code Council. “It is critical that leading organizations within the industry continue to create strategic partnerships such as this to provide communities like Massachusetts with a set of building codes that are not only designed with them in mind but will also help them achieve their common goal of energy efficiency.”

Improving the energy efficiency of buildings is a key component in Massachusetts achieving its climate and energy goals, and the adoption of new and improved building codes is an integral part of their strategy. The ninth edition of the Massachusetts Building Energy Code is based on the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2019.

“Each community has unique needs, which is why building safety leaders must come together in order to provide local jurisdictions and states with the modern building codes based on industry consensus standards that are created specifically for them,” said 2021-22 ASHRAE President Mick Schwedler, P.E., Fellow ASHRAE, LEED AP.

As part of the Green Communities Act of 2008, Massachusetts’ Base Energy Code must be updated every three years to be at least as stringent as the most recent edition of the IECC. Additionally, the Stretch Energy Code must be updated periodically to provide communities with the choice of adopting more rigorous energy provisions. These new codes are designed for the commonwealth and will fulfill both requirements.

“By working with the Code Council and ASHRAE, we’re able to provide all users of the energy code in Massachusetts with a single Massachusetts energy code book which provides greater convenience and clarity on our building energy codes for both base code and stretch code communities. We are working with the Office of Public Safety and Inspections to disseminate copies of this resource to all local code

officials and inspectors as well as collaborating with the energy code training provided by the Mass Save program,” said Commissioner Patrick Woodcock, Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources.

The [Digital Codes Premium Energy Collection](#) is a subscription service that provides access to a comprehensive digital library containing over 100 energy related titles consisting of energy codes, standards, code commentary/guides and other energy related educational and support materials. It is a must for those involved in enforcement or compliance with energy codes and standards.

The new *2020 Massachusetts Energy Code* can be viewed: [here](#).

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About the International Code Council

The [International Code Council](#) is the leading global source of model codes and standards and building safety solutions. Code Council codes, standards and solutions are used to ensure safe, affordable and sustainable communities and buildings worldwide.

About ASHRAE

Founded in 1894, ASHRAE is a global professional society committed to serve humanity by advancing the arts and sciences of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, refrigeration, and their allied fields. As an industry leader in [research](#), [standards writing](#), [publishing](#), [certification](#) and [continuing education](#), ASHRAE and its members are dedicated to promoting a healthy and sustainable built environment for all, through strategic partnerships with organizations in the HVAC&R community and across related industries.

The Society is showcasing integrated building solutions and sustainability in action through the opening of the [ASHRAE Global Headquarters](#) building in metro-Atlanta, Georgia. The state-of-the-art, high-performing net-zero-energy efficient global headquarters building is a destination venue for industry representatives, visiting from around the world, who are looking to experience cutting-edge engineering and architectural interventions.

About Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources

The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources develops and implements policies and programs aimed at ensuring the adequacy, security, diversity, and cost-effectiveness of the Commonwealth's energy supply to create a clean, affordable and resilient energy future for all residents, businesses, communities, and institutions. For more information, [visit here](#).