



**METROPOLITAN**  
Community College

# The Commercial Energy Code: Session 1

*History of Building and Energy Codes*

Instructor: Matt Belcher

Tuesday, January 10, 6-8p.m.

# Housekeeping

- ▶ Attendees are muted upon entry
- ▶ Questions? Enter them in the chat box
- ▶ Webinar is being recorded – slides and recording will be sent to attendees
- ▶ CEUs available for AIA and ICC
- ▶ Email [canderson@mwalliance.org](mailto:canderson@mwalliance.org) with questions
- ▶ Course information available at:  
<https://www.mwalliance.org/metropolitan-community-college-energy-code-course>

# Today's Agenda

- ▶ Introductions
- ▶ Course Overview
- ▶ Building and Energy Code History
- ▶ Importance of the Energy Code and the Intersection with Other Building Codes
- ▶ Q&A



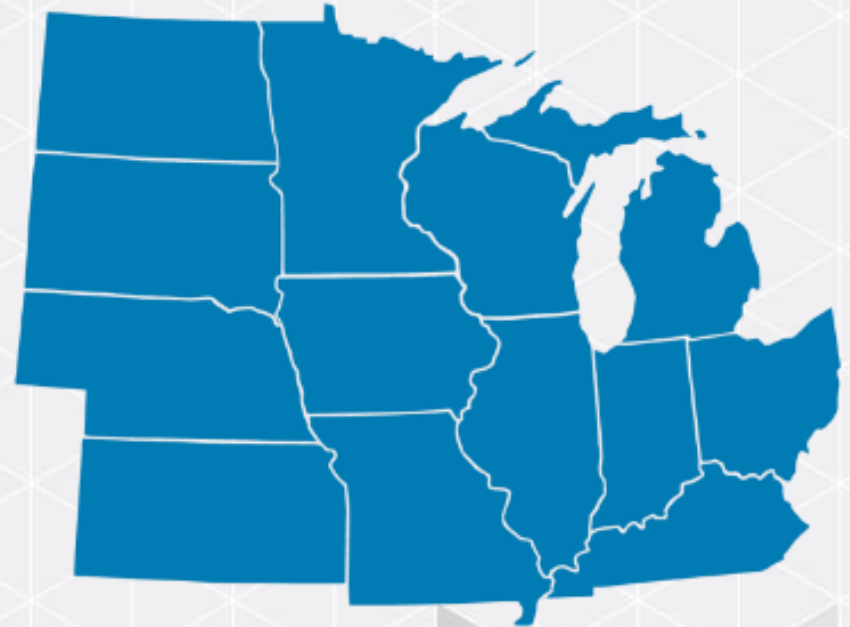
# INTRODUCTIONS



# About MEEA

*The Trusted Source on Energy Efficiency*

- ▶ Nonprofit membership organization with 160+ members
- ▶ Serves 13 Midwest states
- ▶ Resource and champion for energy efficiency
- ▶ Our mission: advancing energy efficiency in the Midwest for sustainable economic development and environmental stewardship



**MEEA**  
MIDWEST ENERGY EFFICIENCY ALLIANCE

# Nebraska Energy Codes Training Program

- ▶ Goal: prepare the Nebraska workforce for upcoming changes in construction best practices
- ▶ Residential and Commercial Energy Code
- ▶ Focused on providing training to builders, code officials, design professionals, public officials and students
- ▶ For more information, visit:  
<https://www.mwalliance.org/nebraska-energy-codes-training-program>



# Our Instructor



**Matt Belcher**

[matt@verda-solutions.com](mailto:matt@verda-solutions.com)



# Poll Question #1

- ▶ What is your profession?
  - Student
  - Academic
  - Residential Builder
  - Commercial Builder
  - Energy Rater/Consultant
  - Code Official
  - State/Local Government
  - Non-profit
  - Utility
  - Other (type in chat)





# Poll Question #2

- ▶ How much experience do you have in the construction industry?
  - 0-5 years
  - 6-10 years
  - 11-15 years
  - 16-20 years
  - 21+ years



# Poll Question #3

- ▶ How familiar are you with the commercial provisions in the 2018/21 IECC?
  - Extremely Familiar
  - Somewhat Familiar
  - Somewhat Unfamiliar
  - Not familiar at all



# **COURSE OVERVIEW**



# Course Overview

- ▶ Focus: Commercial Energy Code
- ▶ 8-week course, 1 class per week
- ▶ Tuesdays, 6p.m. - 8p.m.
- ▶ Final Exam: February 28



# Course Schedule

**January 10<sup>th</sup>** – Introduction and History of Energy Codes

**January 17<sup>th</sup>** – Commercial Energy Code Basics

**January 24<sup>th</sup>** – Building Science

**January 31<sup>st</sup>** – Mechanical Systems (*guest lecturer*)

**February 7<sup>th</sup>** – IECC vs. ASHRAE

**February 14<sup>th</sup>** – Electrical: Lighting and Power Systems  
(*guest lecturer*)

**February 21<sup>st</sup>** – Comcheck Overview and Advanced Technologies

**February 28<sup>th</sup>** – Commissioning, Business Benefits, Marketing, Review and **Final Exam**





# **HISTORY OF THE BUILDING CODE**



# Code of Hammurabi – The First Known Building Code

- ▶ The Code of Hammurabi is a well-preserved Babylonian code of law from ancient Mesopotamia, circa 1754 BCE. The sixth Babylonian king, Hammurabi, enacted the code.
- ▶ The basic idea is an eye for an eye. Meaning if you build a building and it collapses and kills someone. The penalty is Death....



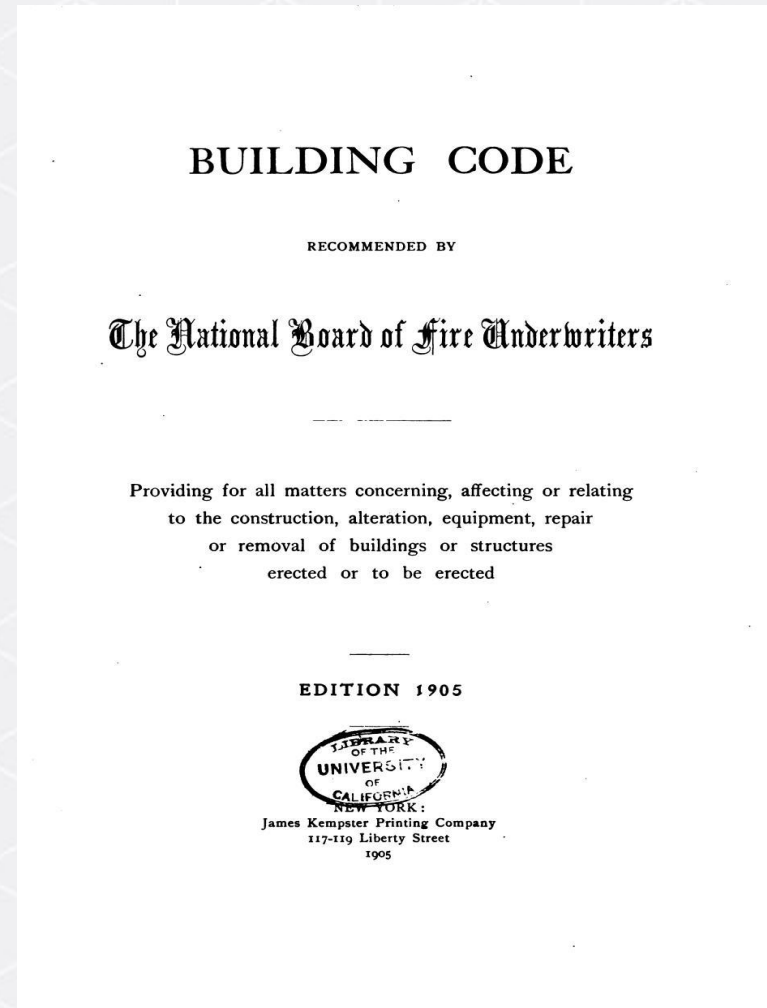
# Building Code History

- ▶ The first building codes in the United States were established in **1625** and addressed fire safety
- ▶ Code specified materials for roof coverings
- ▶ In 1630, Boston outlawed chimneys made of wood and thatch roof coverings (thatch has other drawbacks but is a fairly good insulator)



# Building Code History

- ▶ 1905 – the National Board of Fire Underwriters, a U.S. Insurance Group. Created the National Building Code
- ▶ Goal: minimize risks to property and building occupants





# Building Code History

- ▶ Reaction to disasters, both man made and natural, drive building codes
- ▶ After the great fires in London (1666) and Chicago (1871), building codes started addressing risks associated with close proximity





# Building Code History



## Improving Tornado and Hurricane Resistance of Wood-Frame Buildings

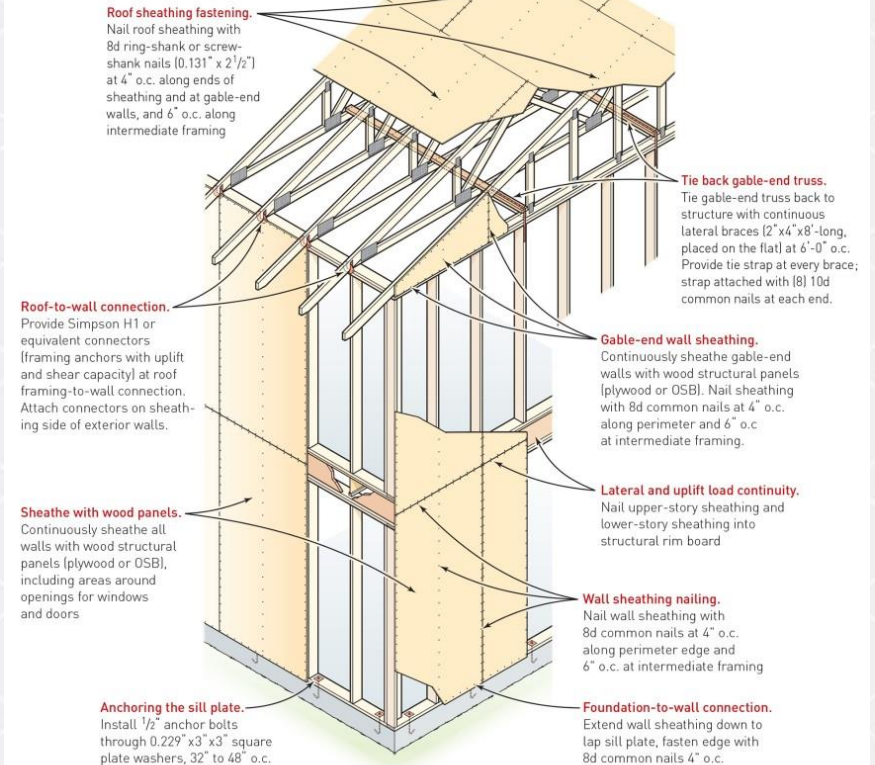


Illustration adapted by JLC from APA "Building for High Wind Resistance in Light-Frame Wood Construction Manual" (M310, 2015).

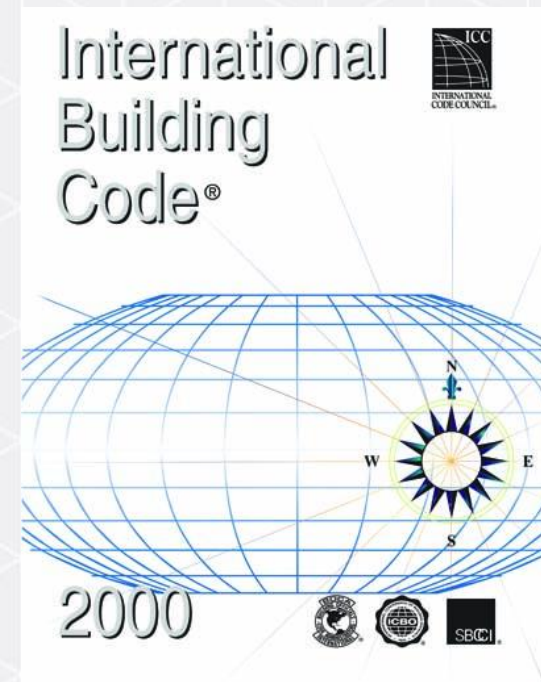
# Building Code History



“Legacy Codes”

# Building Code History

- ▶ The first edition of the International Building Code (IBC) was published in 2000 by the International Code Council (ICC)
- ▶ Combines the three model building codes published by BOCA, ICBO and SBCCI



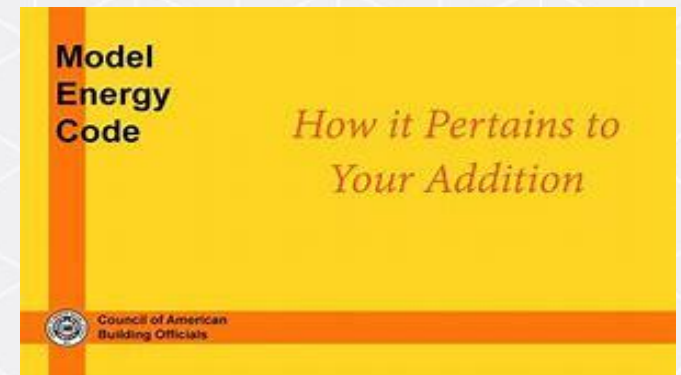


# **THE ENERGY CODE AND BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY**



# The Energy Code

- ▶ Model Energy Code (MEC) developed in 1983 under a U.S. Dept of Energy Contract
- ▶ Editions of the MEC released from 1983-1995
- ▶ Title changed to International Energy Conservation Code in 1998



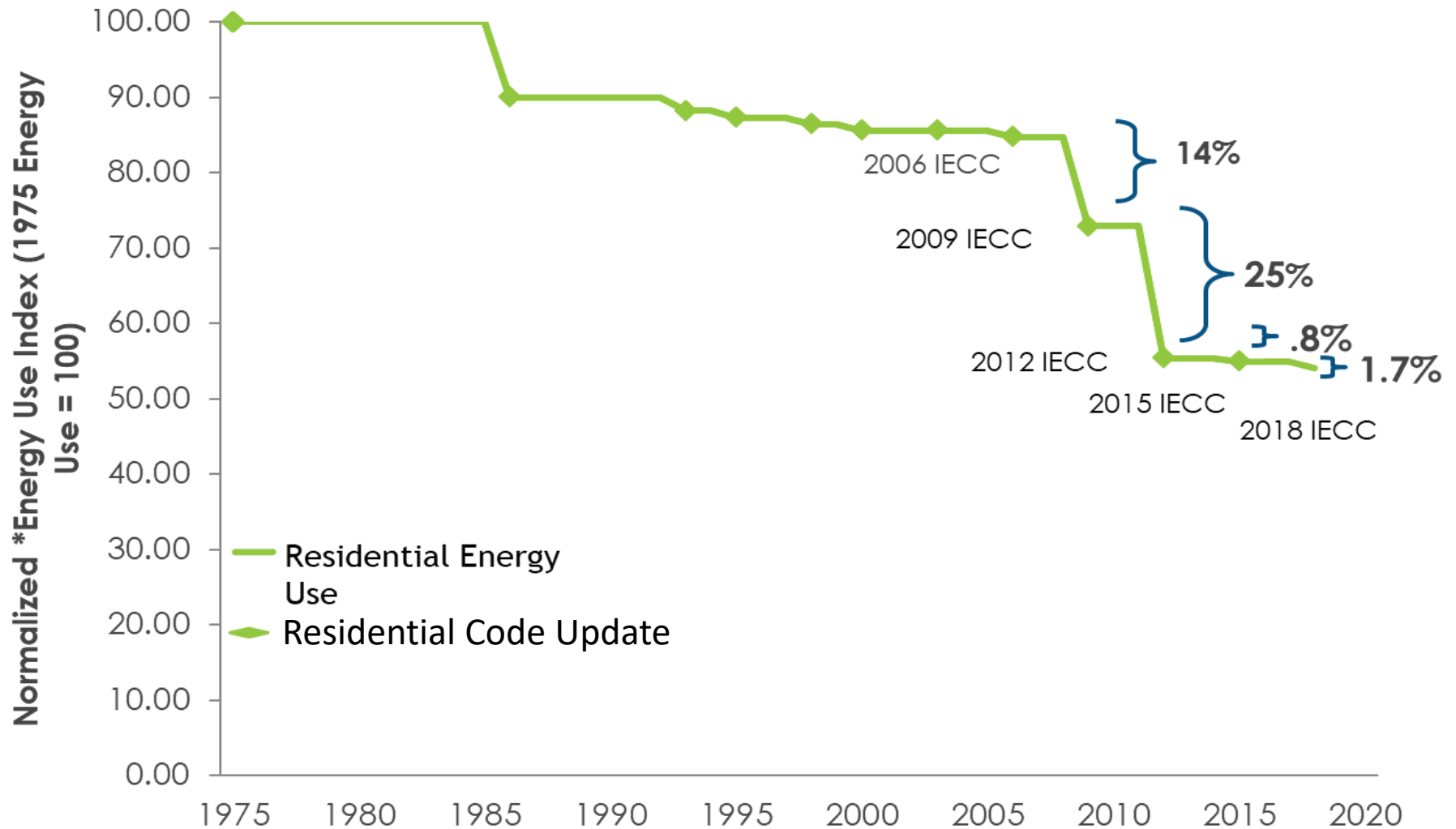


# International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)

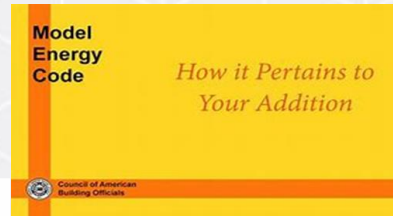
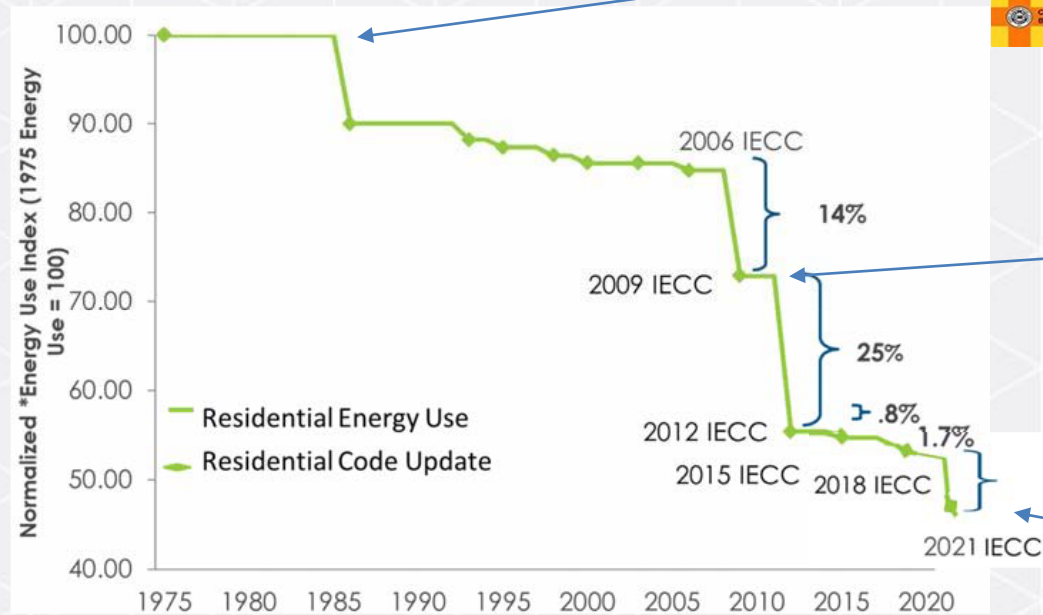
- ▶ Developed by the International Code Council
  - Robust stakeholder process
  - Proposed changes accepted from all parties
- ▶ New editions published every 3 years



# Model Energy Code Improvement

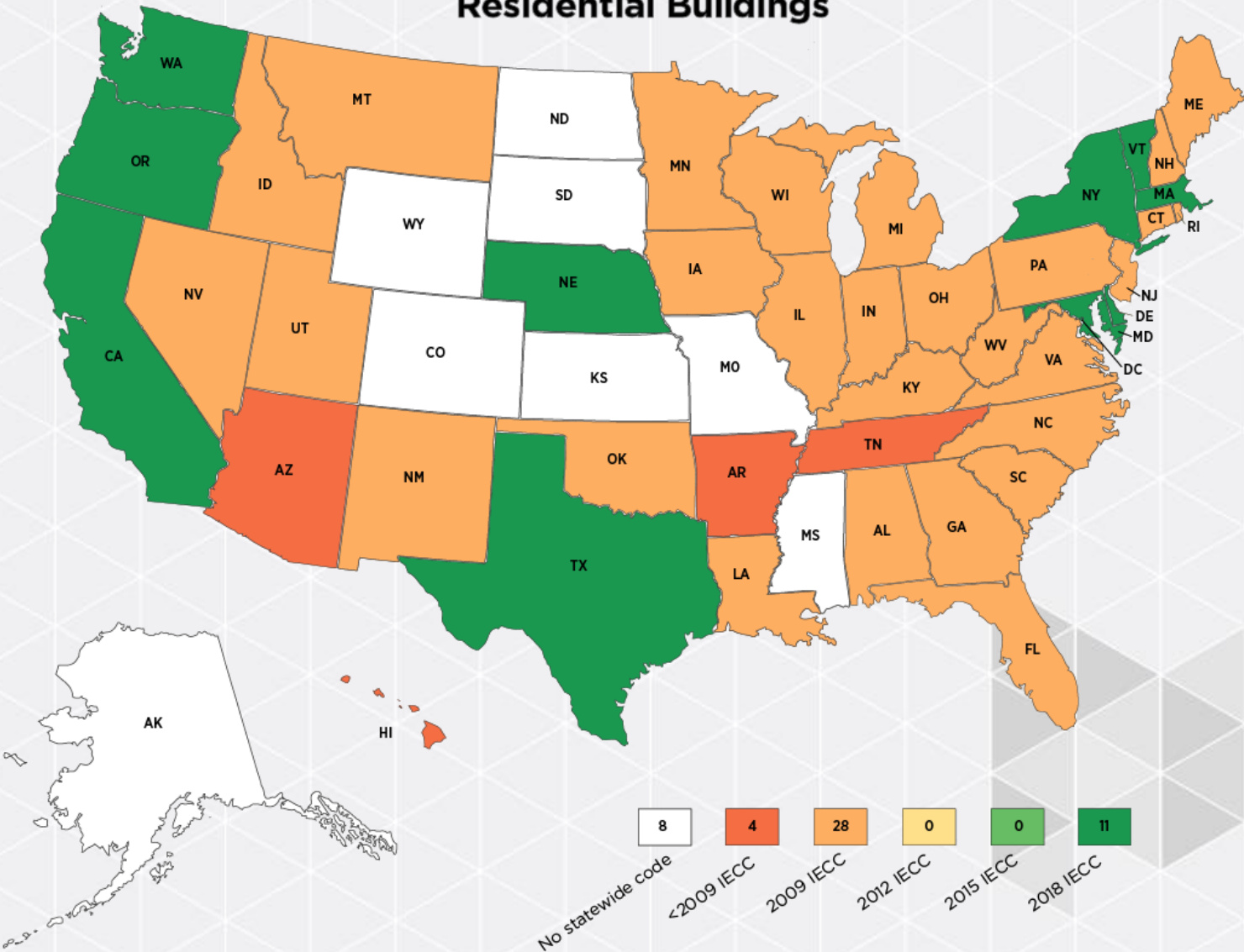


# Energy Code Background

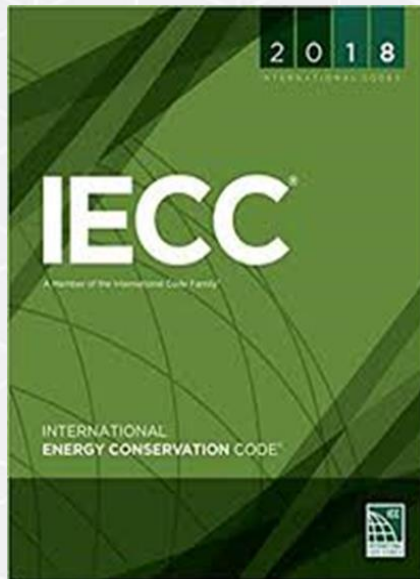


# Model Energy Code Improvement

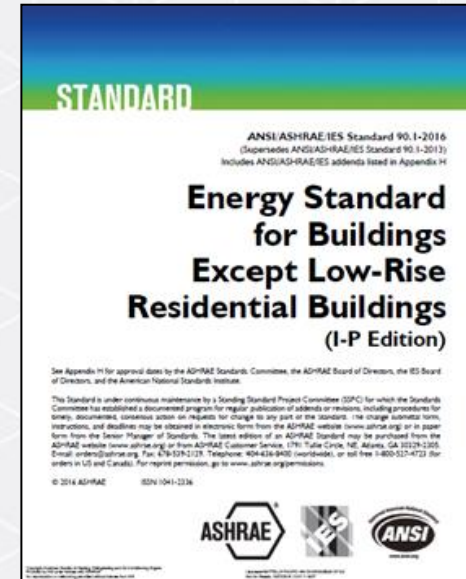
## Residential Buildings



# New in 2018: *Two Commercial Compliance Options*



## ASHRAE 90.1-2016 Alternative Method to IECC





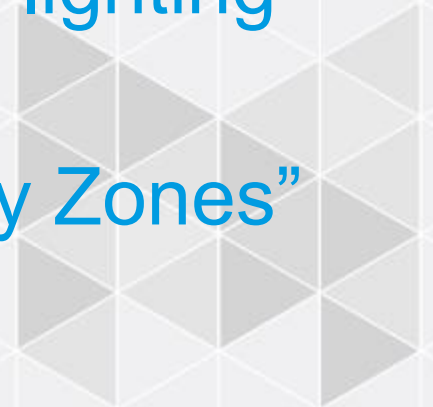
# Key Energy Code Components

- ▶ Insulation R-value (ceiling, wall, foundation)
- ▶ Insulation installation quality
- ▶ Continuous air barrier/sealing and testing
- ▶ Efficient windows
- ▶ Mechanical ventilation
- ▶ HVAC system sizing location detailing
- ▶ Envelope testing
- ▶ Efficient lighting & verification testing

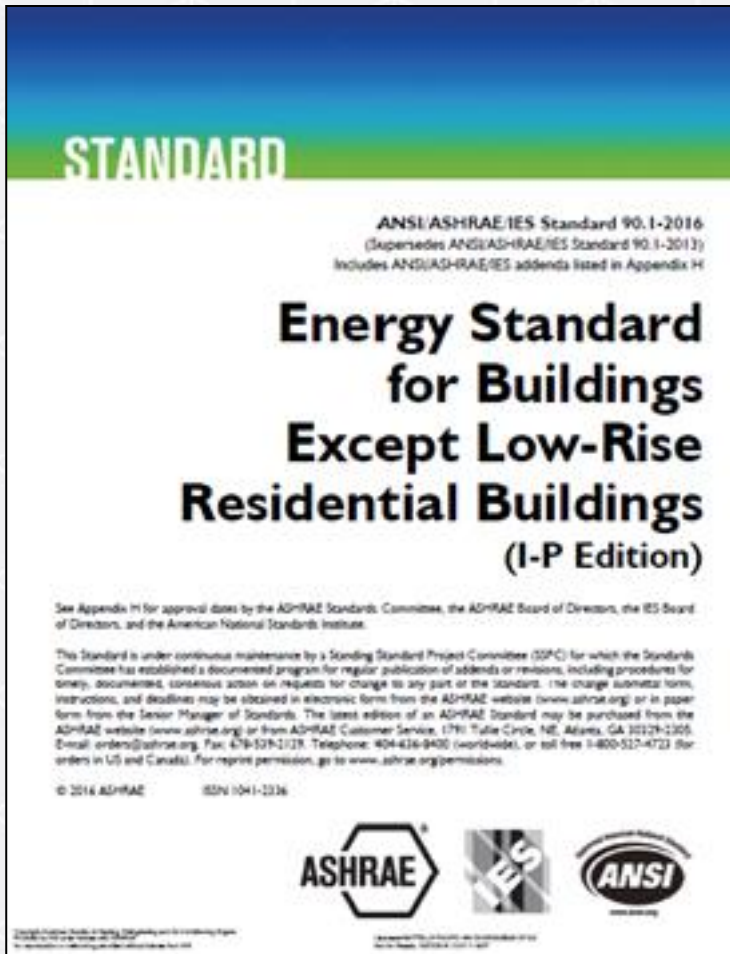


# 2018 IECC

- ▶ Advances Energy Code approximately 28% over 2009 IECC
- ▶ Residential and Commercial provisions
- ▶ Testing and verification required
- ▶ Equipment details and location identified.
- ▶ Design/performance verification of lighting controls
- ▶ Adds an appendix for “Solar Ready Zones”



# Structure of Standard 90.1-2016



1. Purpose
2. Scope
3. Definitions, Abbreviations & Acronyms
4. Administration and Enforcement
5. Building Envelope
6. Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning
7. Service Water Heating
8. Power
9. Lighting
10. Other Equipment
11. Energy Cost Budget Method
12. Normative References

Normative Appendices A-H

► Appendix G – is a new compliance path!

# Above Code (Stretch) Programs

- ▶ LEED

- ▶ Green Globes

- ▶ ASHRAE





# Sample Energy Labels and Above Code Certification

## LEED CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to achieve LEED certification, projects must earn points in these categories:



**Innovation**  
Introduction of novel features and procedures



**Indoor Environmental Quality**  
Use of natural light and efficient air conditioning



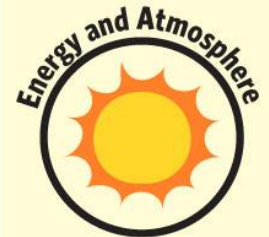
**Materials and Resources**  
Responsible construction waste management and sustainable sourcing of materials



**Location and Transportation**  
Land protection and access to public transportation and green vehicles



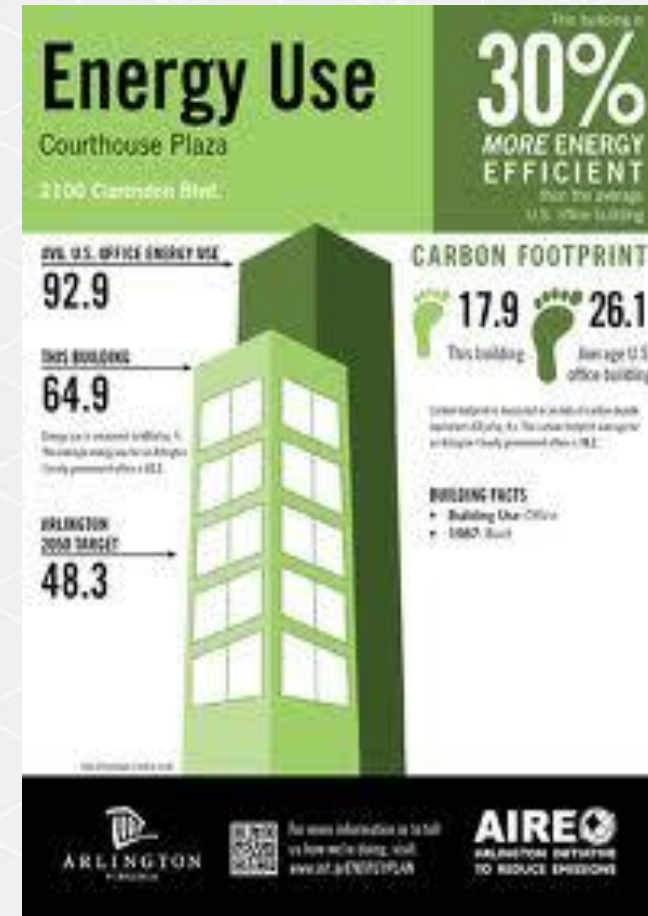
**Sustainable Sites**  
Sufficient green open space and light pollution reduction



**Energy and Atmosphere**  
Optimizing sustainable energy production and metering



**Water Efficiency**  
Indoor and outdoor water reduction



Source: [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org)

# Energy Star Program

- ▶ Launched in 1992 for appliances
- ▶ In 1995, EPA launched Energy Star for Homes
  - 30% more efficient than the Model Energy Code
- ▶ In 1996, Energy Star became formal partnership between EPA and DOE



# Holistic Approach to Building

Site Planning  
and Design

Resource  
Efficiency

Energy  
Efficiency

Water  
Efficiency

Indoor  
Environmental  
Quality

Homeowner  
Education

Global Impact



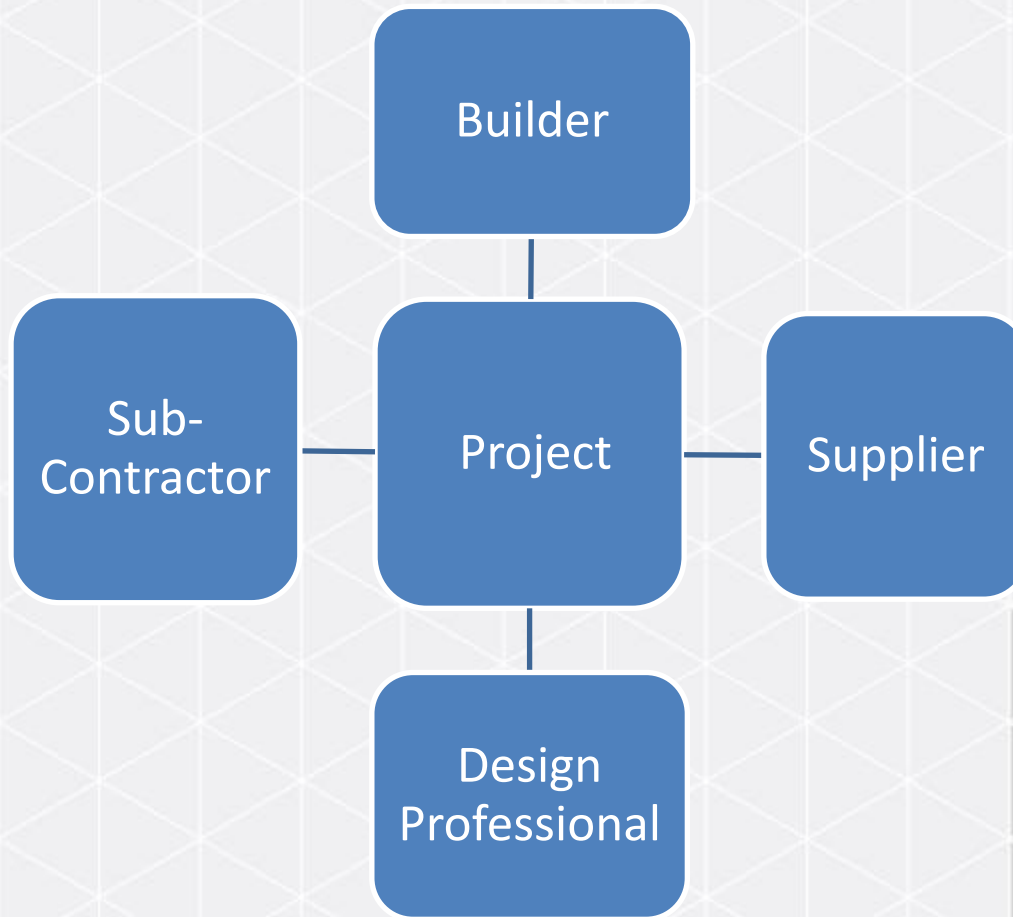
# Establishing a Knowledgeable Team

- ▶ Begins with /Builder/Design Professional
- ▶ Customer/Client
- ▶ Building Trades
- ▶ Suppliers/Sub-contractors
- ▶ Certifications
  - LEED-AP
  - ICC



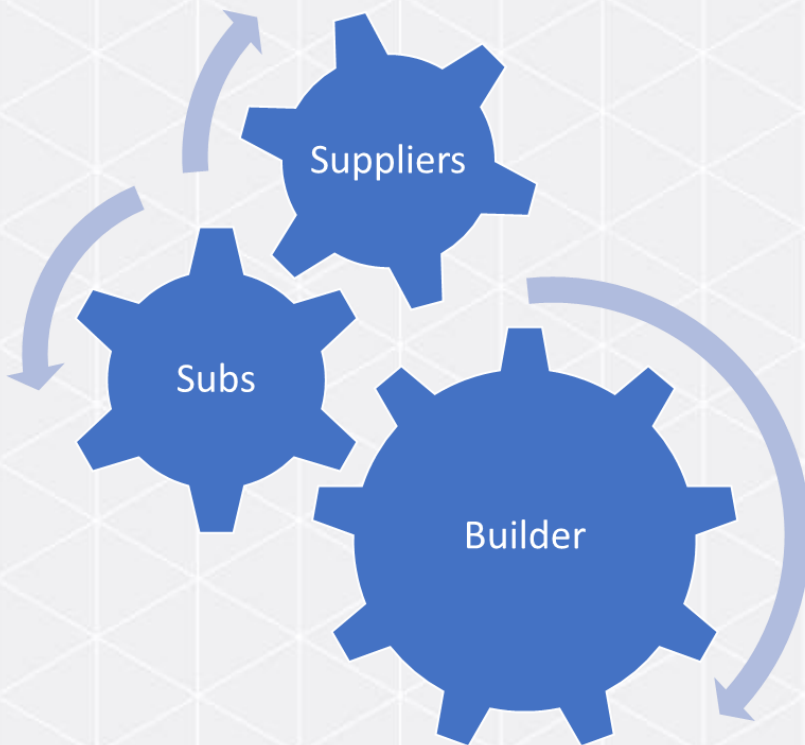


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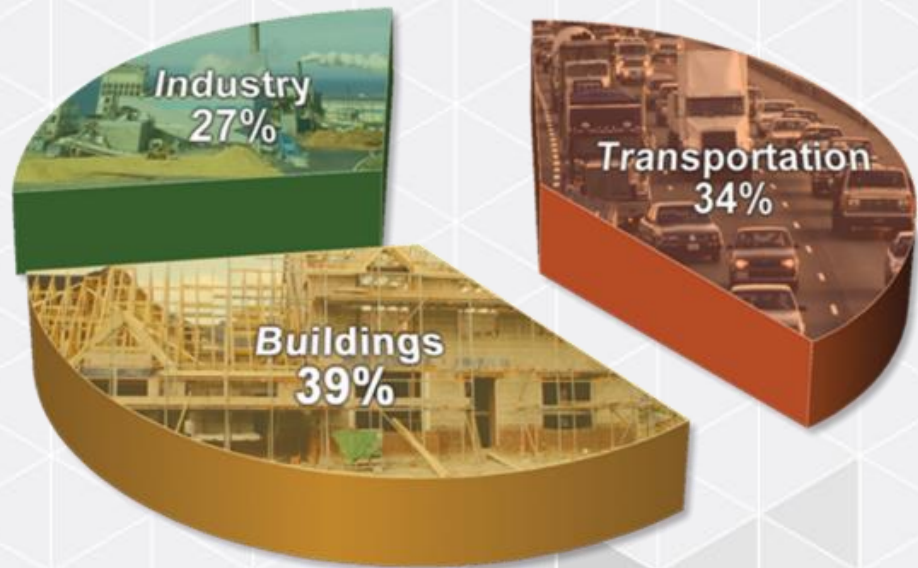
- It takes about 90 people directly and indirectly to construct an average building



# **IMPORTANCE OF THE ENERGY CODE AND INTERSECTION WITH OTHER CODES**

# Why are Energy Codes Important?

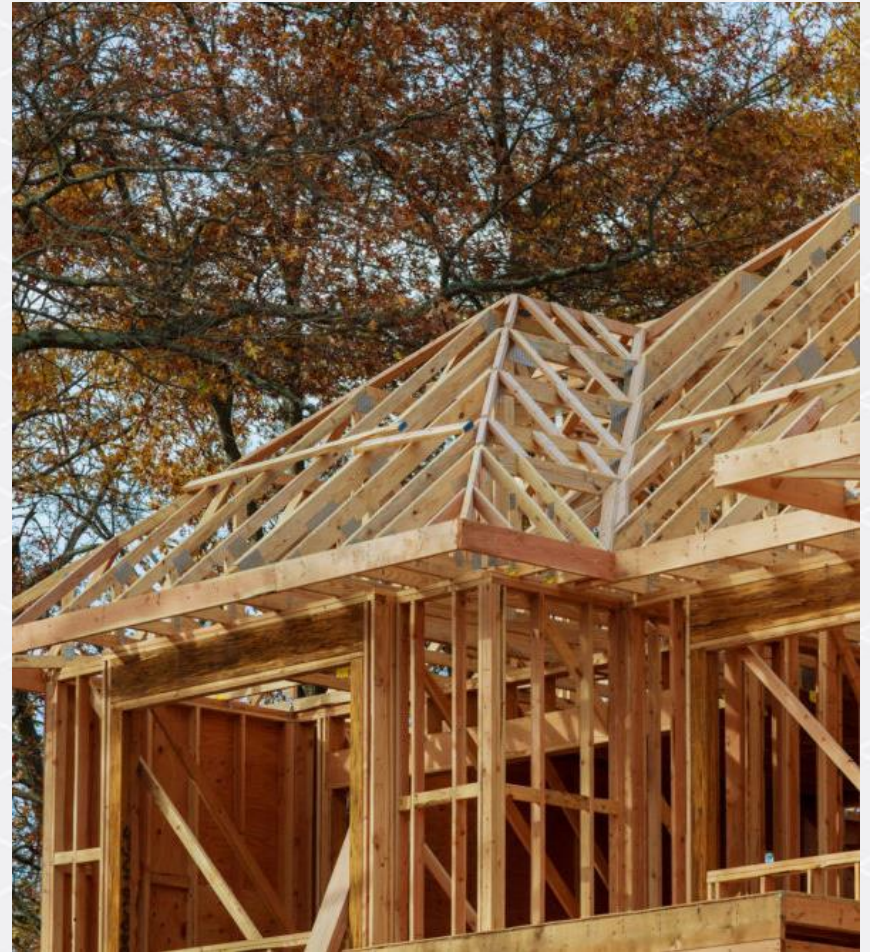
- ▶ Reduce energy use of buildings
- ▶ Impacts energy use for the life of a building
  - Most cost-effective to implement during initial design and construction
- ▶ Benefits building owners and operators by guaranteeing a minimum of efficiency
- ▶ Health and resilience benefits to building owners and occupants





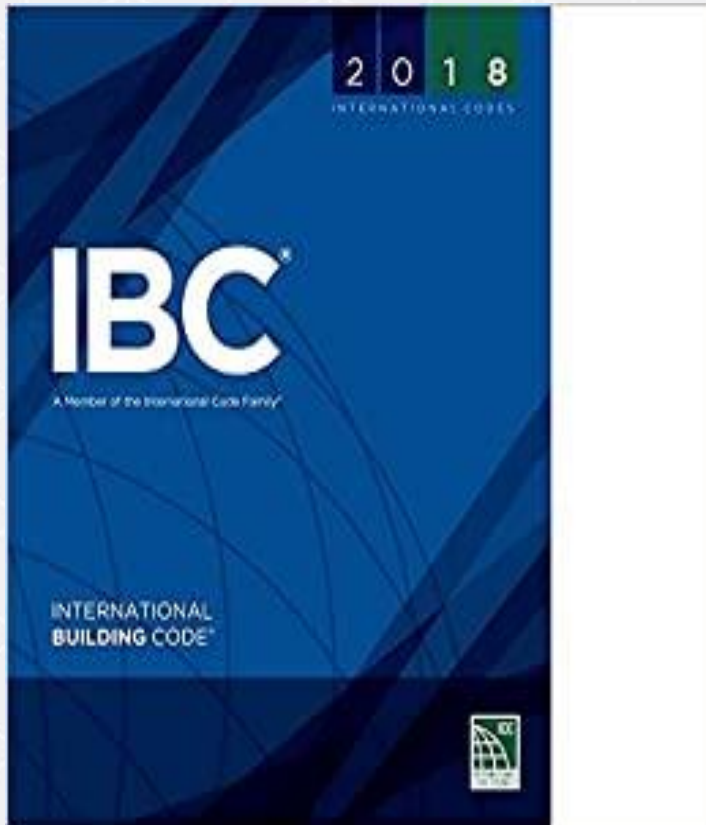
# The Energy Code is Everywhere

- ▶ Unlike most other codes, the energy code directly impacts the work of many disparate building trades and systems, including:
  - Framing/Envelope
  - Plumbing
  - HVAC
  - Electric
  - Moisture management
  - Concrete
  - Caulking





# IECC and IBC



- ▶ Chapter 13 in the International Building Code (IBC) references the energy efficiency requirements found in the IECC

# IECC and IMC

- ▶ Whole-house mechanical ventilation required by energy code
- ▶ Ventilation rate and equipment requirements in the International Mechanical Code (IMC)



# Looking Ahead:



- ▶ IECC changes to The National Energy Standard as of 2024.
- ▶ Uses 2021 IECC as a baseline.
- ▶ Introduces Carbon Impact into the conversation.
- ▶ On a trajectory for Net Zero Energy as of 2030.

# Questions?

- Submit a question in the chat or unmute yourself to ask a question



# Review Questions – Session 1

Why was the energy code originally created?

- a. To increase sale of insulation
- b. To modernize codes
- c. To manage the energy use of buildings
- d. To increase construction of power plants





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How often are the ICC Codes updated?

- a. Every two years
- b. Every three years
- c. Every four years
- d. Every five years



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Which of these are an “Above Code” Standard?

- a. EnergySTAR
- b. ANSI
- c. BOCA
- d. Morse Code



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# Review Questions – Session 1

Why Do “Above Code” Standards Exist?

- a. To separate good builders from bad ones
- b. To create guidance for incorporating new technology
- c. To generate additional tax revenue
- d. To give building officials more options



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- a. To separate good builders from bad ones
- b. To create guidance for incorporating new technology**
- c. To generate additional tax revenue
- d. To give building officials more options



# Continuing Education Credits

- ▶ Participants will receive continuing education credits from the **International Code Council** and **American Institute of Architects**.
- ▶ AIA LU|HSWs: 2.0
- ▶ ICC CEUs: 0.20



# Next Week

- ▶ January 17, 6-8p.m.
- ▶ Topic: Commercial Energy Code Basics
- ▶ Contact Matt with questions:  
[matt@verda-solutions.com](mailto:matt@verda-solutions.com)



# Upcoming Training: The Intersection of Building Codes and Energy Codes

- ▶ Free
- ▶ Virtual
- ▶ **Thursday, January**
- ▶ **10a.m. – 11:30a.m.**
- ▶ ICC and AIA CEUs provided

- ▶ Register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/483837660467>



# Duct and Envelope Tightness (DET) Verifier Training and Train-the-Trainer

- ▶ Free
- ▶ In-person in Lincoln, NE
- ▶ Become DET certified in 2 days or learn to train others in 3 days!
- ▶ **Tuesday January 24 - Thursday 26**
- ▶ **9a.m. – 5p.m.**
- ▶ ICC/AIA CEUs and certificate provided



For more info or questions contact Corie Anderson at  
[canderson@mwalliance.org](mailto:canderson@mwalliance.org)

**SEE YOU NEXT WEEK!**

